



Funding for Social Emotional Learning

There are several funding sources for Social Emotional Learning (SEL) including federal, state, and local funding, as well as private funding. This summary will provide an overview of funding opportunities for SEL programs such as BASE Education.

FEDERAL FUNDING

ESSA calls for a holistic view of education and shifts away from the sole focus on academics. In this view, ESSA provides the opportunity for districts and schools to focus on and fund SEL programs.

Title I – Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged

Title I provides supplemental funding for low-income students; it benefits the highest poverty schools and districts in each state. Under Title I, there are three potential sources for SEL funding: (1) Improving Basic Programs, (2) Education of Migratory Children, and (3) Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth Who Are Neglected, Delinquent, or At-Risk.

- *Part A – Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies*
 - Schoolwide Programs
 - Funds may be used for counseling, school-based mental health programs, specialized instructional support services, mentoring services, other strategies to improve students' skills outside the academic subject areas, and implementation of a schoolwide tiered model to prevent and address problem behaviors and support early intervention services.
 - Targeted Assistance Schools
 - Funds may be used toward a schoolwide tiered model to prevent and address behavior problems and early intervention services, violence prevention programs, integrated student supports, and the professional development necessary.
- *Part C – Education of Migratory Children*
 - Funds may be used to help these students overcome educational disruption, cultural and language barriers, social isolation, various health-related problems, and other factors that inhibit their ability to succeed in school.
- *Part D – Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth Who Are Neglected, Delinquent, or At-Risk*
 - Funds may be used to prevent at-risk youth from dropping out of school and provide dropouts, as well as children and youth returning from correctional facilities or institutions for neglected or delinquent children and youth, with a support system to ensure their continued education and the coordination of health and social services for such children, including daycare, drug and alcohol counseling, and mental health services.

Title II – Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High-Quality Teachers, Principals, or Other School Leaders

Title II authorizes funding to support the preparation, training, and recruitment of educators at all levels of the school system. Title II provides one potential source for SEL funding: Supporting Effective Instruction.

- *Part A – Supporting Effective Instruction*
 - Funds may be used toward training for school personnel, addressing issues related to school conditions for student learning, such as safety, peer interaction, drug and alcohol abuse, and chronic absenteeism.

Title IV – 21st Century Schools

Title IV authorizes funding to support a variety of programs aimed at improving the educational opportunities of students. Title IV provides two potential sources for SEL funding: (1) Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants and (2) 21st-Century Community Learning Centers.

- *Part A – Student Support and Academic Enrichment*
 - Funds may be used towards activities to support safe and healthy students, including:
 - Drug and violence prevention activities and programs that are evidence based.
 - School-based mental health services, including early identification of mental health symptoms, drug use, and violence as well as appropriate referrals to direct individual or group counseling services.
 - Programs that help prevent bullying and harassment.
 - Programs or activities that improve instructional practices for developing relationship-building skills, such as effective communication, and improve safety through the recognition and prevention of coercion, violence, or abuse.
 - Training for school personnel, including specialized instructional support personnel in suicide prevention, trauma-informed practices, crisis management, conflict resolution, and school-based violence prevention.
- *Part B – 21st Century Community Learning Centers*
 - Funds may be used towards programs that provide assistance to students who have been truant, suspended, or expelled to allow the students to improve their academic achievement, as well as, drug and violence prevention programs and counseling programs.

Medicaid

Medicaid Funding may be used for school-based health and mental health services. Rules and regulations vary by state, so your local Medicaid agency is the best source of information.

STATE FUNDING & LOCAL FUNDING

There are also state and local funding opportunities for SEL. This funding can come from a variety of sources including general fund revenues or dedicated revenues such as taxes. Availability of the funding will depend on the specific state. Additionally, many states have competitive grants programs which may be used for SEL programs, examples include:

- Colorado’s School Bullying Prevention and Education Grant
- Indiana’s Comprehensive Counseling Initiative
- Massachusetts’ Safe and Supportive Schools Grant
- Pennsylvania’s Safe Schools Initiative
- Texas’ Communities in Schools Grant

PRIVATE FUNDING

Private funding is also available for SEL. Sources include corporate grants, community funds, and family foundations. Third-party websites such as Edutopia and Fundsnet include resources where you can search for grant opportunities.