

OSPI's Private Schools Unit for Federal ESEA Programs

Since the passage of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) in 1965, school districts have been required to provide equitable services to private school students, teachers, and in some cases, other education personnel, and parents under a number of ESEA programs.

OSPI is establishing a Private Schools Unit to support the work of federal ESEA programs. This unit will include the responsibilities of the Ombuds detailed in ESEA, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

The unit will consist of a team of two people: Julie Chace and Mary Jo Johnson. This team approach allows for more consistent coverage and responsiveness to the needs of private schools and districts.

This office will be responsible for:

- Serving as the initial point of contact for questions and concerns regarding equitable services for Federal ESEA programs. This includes:
 - Title I, Part A
 - Title I, Part C
 - Title II, Part A
 - Title III, Part A
 - Title IV, Part A (not yet funded)
 - Title IV, Part B 21st Century
- Offering up-to-date technical assistance on the consultation process for districts and private schools, including the written Affirmation of Consultation forms (all federal ESEA programs) and the Record of Agreed Upon Services for Title I, Part A Equitable Services.
- Disseminating relevant federal program communications and information to private schools and districts throughout the year.
- Serving as an ESEA Federal Program liaison for private schools through communication with OSPI's Private Schools Advisory Council, Washington Federation of Independent Schools, and the Archdioceses of Seattle and Spokane.
- Coordinating the process for completing the Private Participation in Federal Programs application in EDS, including training. The application includes:
 - Private Schools intent to participate in federal programs.
 - The district's log of contact with private schools regarding their intent to participate.
- The submittal of Affirmation of Consultation (all federal ESEA programs) and the Record of Agreed Upon Services for Title I, Part A Equitable Services.
- Annually reviewing the Affirmation of Consultation and the Record of Agreed Upon Services for Title I, Part A Equitable Services submitted by districts once consultation

is complete, and conducting technical assistance and/or enhanced monitoring if necessary.

- Conducting Consolidated Performance Reviews (CPR) of the ESEA equitable services requirements.
- Primary point of contact for responding to and resolving any complaints regarding equitable services submitted under OSPI's ESEA complaint procedures. Before filing a complaint, OSPI encourages private schools and districts to work together to resolve the disagreement.
- Coordinate the resolution of any findings regarding equitable services. These findings may emerge from CPR, calls to the office, or through formal complaint procedures.

Contact the ESEA Federal Programs Private Schools Unit at 360-725-6100, or through email:
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