

Federal Programs



Overview

Tennessee School for the Deaf Federal Programs utilize federal funding as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide educational opportunities for deaf and hard-of-hearing students all across the state of Tennessee. Additionally, Federal funds provide professional development to all teachers across the school district to enhance teacher quality and student achievement.

Title I is the largest federally funded program for our nation's schools. The purpose of this program is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging State academic achievement standards and state academic assessments. Our school-wide programs are based on effective means of improving student achievement through the use of technology, supplies and materials, professional development, and include strategies to support parental involvement.

Title II focuses on improving teacher quality. These funds provide additional highly qualified teachers a support for professional development in order to enhance educational growth that will impact student achievement.

Federal Programs Calendar

[TN Dept of Education ESEA & IDEA 2015-16 School Year Calendar for LEAs](#)

Homeless Family Services

Title I funds also support homeless youth as defined by the **McKinney-Vento Homeless Act**, which was created to assist qualifying students. Each school has a homeless liaison dedicated to offering assistance in meeting the basic needs of identified at-risk students in order to achieve academic success.

Homeless students are children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Unaccompanied youth includes a youth who is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. Homeless children and youth include those students who are as follows:

- sharing the house of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- living in motels, hotels, transient trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- awaiting foster care placement;
- living in a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings;
- living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations or similar settings; or
- living in a migratory situation that qualifies as homeless because the child lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

Please contact the McKinney-Vento Liaison at your school, Judi Brookshire j.brookshire@tsd.k12.tn.us for more information.

Federal Program Parent Involvement

Parent Support Meetings

Support meetings for parents conducted in various locations across the state throughout the school year. Current locations: Knoxville, Nashville, Chattanooga, Jackson, and Memphis. These meetings are established to provide parents and families opportunity to collaborate with other parents, professionals, and organizations supporting families of students who are deaf or hard of hearing. If you are interested in starting a parent support group or attending one in your area contact Paula Wagner, Parent Outreach Coordinator.

Email: pwagner1@tsd.k12.tn.us

Phone: (865) 579-2500 ext 2507

Family Learning Weekend

An annual event providing a fun filled weekend involving activities for the entire family. Programs and activities are provided for all ages designed to give both parents and siblings opportunity to increase the understanding and knowledge necessary for meeting the needs of deaf and hard of hearing children. For more information contact Paula Wagner, Parent Outreach Coordinator.

Email: pwagner1@tsd.k12.tn.us

Phone: (865) 579-2500 ext 2507

Parent Newsletter

Newsletters are published monthly from August through June presenting peer reviewed parenting tips provided by The Parent Institute. Monthly publications focus on early childhood, elementary, middle and high school students. Important dates for upcoming parent support meetings and student/school activities are included in each issue. Quarterly activity calendars are also available for download at our website. Copies are available by request in hardcopy, electronic submission or by downloading from tsd website. Click here:

tsdeaf.org/publications/pmnews.pdf. Contact Paula Wagner, Parent Outreach Coordinator for more information or to be added to our distribution list.

Email: pwagner1@tsd.k12.tn.us

Phone: (865) 579-2500 ext 2507

Summer Camp

Tennessee School for the Deaf offers three summer camp opportunities. Junior camp is for students entering grades 5, 6, 7, and 8. Senior Camp is for students entering grades 9, 10, 11, and 12. Camp Courage is designed to meet the needs of those Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing students with one or more disabilities. Students entering grades 7-12 are accepted. For more information about locations and dates contact Scott Skelton, Camp Director.

Email: s.skelton@tsd.k12.tn.us

Phone: (865) 978-6022 VP

Shared Reading Project

[The Shared Reading Project](#) ✕ [videos - ASL](#) (SRP) is a highly acclaimed national program for parents and caregivers. SRP matches participating families with Deaf tutors. A Deaf tutor visits with the family of a deaf or hard of hearing child and demonstrates how to read a popular children's book in American Sign Language (ASL). Family members practice signing the book and receive feedback from the tutor. Family members then read the book to the child in ASL as the tutor watches and offers helpful hints. At the end of each weekly session, the tutor provides the family with a book bag. The book bag contains a copy of the book, a DVD of the storybook being read in ASL that family members can use for practice, a bookmark with tips on reading to deaf children, and a guide with family activities relating to the particular book for that week.

Sibshops

Sibshops are high-energy, pedal to the metal, fun programs for siblings of children with special needs. While they are not therapy, many parents report that they are therapeutic in nature. We play fun games, create delicious meals or snacks together, and share in peer-support activities. Geared for sibs ages 8 — 13, Sibshops provide a safe haven to talk about the good and not-so-good aspects of life with a sibling with special needs.

For many of the sibs, it's often the first time they meet other kids whose lives are similar to their own. When asked about Sibshops, most attendees would say they are just plain FUN! Contact Tina Prochaska.

Email: tinap@tsd.k12.tn.us

Phone: 865-579-2429

SibShop website: siblingsupport.org

Teen Sibshops

Teen Sibshops are similar to the ones for younger children in that they offer fun, food and fellowship for teenagers ages 14 — 18 who have siblings with special needs. We still play games, but they are geared towards the older sibs. Talking is the main focus of a Teen Sibshop (along with the food, of course!), and it's often done in a recreational setting. Just like the regular Sibshops for younger sibs, Teen Sibshops provide a safe haven to talk about the good and not-so-good aspects of life with a sibling with special needs. Contact Tina Prochaska for more information.

Email: tinap@tsd.k12.tn.us

Phone: 865-579-2429

SibShop website: siblingsupport.org

SibCamp

SibCamp is a two day sleep-over camp held during June. Just like Sibshops, SibCamp is designed for children ages 8 — 13 who have siblings with special needs. To be eligible for SibCamp, children must be involved in a local sibling support program and be between the ages of 8 and 13 on the first day of camp. SibCamp application forms are available from the sponsoring sibling support programs or by emailing Tina Prochaska at tinap@tsd.k12.tn.us

SibShop website: siblingsupport.org

Federal Program Professional Development

Tennessee School for the Deaf High provides professional development opportunities through federal funding that helps increase teacher knowledge. Tennessee School for the Deaf teachers are encouraged to participate in Professional Learning Communities (PLC) throughout the school year that will be offered by Tennessee School for the Deaf (TSD). Professional Development opportunities will be offered during the summer which includes but is not limited to: Data and Technology (Measures of Academic Progress, Woodcock Johnson IV, Edulastic, and Office 365), and Curriculum Development in Reading.

Additionally, Federal funding encourages subject area teachers to attend regional core content meetings in order to stay connected with other subject area teachers within their region. Both administrators and teachers are involved in the regional core data meetings hosted once a month by the state. The TSD administrators and teachers participate in the TNReady Assessment Regional Trainings and attend the Partnership in Education Conferences (PIE), Legal Conference, and the Tennessee Educational Leadership Conference (LEAD) Conference.

Federal Program Projects

WIRELESS SYSTEM	IPADS	LAPTOPS
PROMETHEAN PANELS	MESSAGE NET	STUDIO EQUIPMENT
WEBCAMS	FM HEARING SYSTEM	THIRD PARTY CONTRACTS
PARENT INVOLVEMENT	PROFESSIONAL DEV	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS