



## NCLB Programs

### Title I, Part B: Student Reading Skills Improvement Grants (Even Start)

Even Start is an education program for the nation's low-income families that is designed to improve the academic achievement of parents and their young children from birth to 7 years of age. Even Start integrates Early Childhood Education, Adult Literacy, Parenting Education, and Parent and Child Interactive Literacy Program (PCILA) into a single unified family literacy program.

#### **Identification of Students**

The District must target families who are most in need of literacy services as indicated by a low level of income, adult literacy, or English language proficiency and other need based indicators. Only Title I schools are eligible to participate.

#### **District Services/Products**

The District will offer services that best supplement the four Even Start core components: Early Childhood Education (a pre-school must be on site), Adult Education, Parenting Education and Interactive Literacy between parents and their children. Referrals for social services are made by Even Start and staff to participating Even Start families. Books are provided for parent's home library. Professional Development activities such as Parents As Teachers, Desired Results, and National Center for Family Literacy are provided to all Even Start staff.

#### **Timeline for Delivery of District Services/Products**

Even Start is a four-year grant. Funding decreases 10% each year. Evaluation reports are submitted to the State each September. Delivery of services to families will commence when eligibility is determined.

#### **Delivery Logistics of District Services/Products**

The District will provide services to the school site designated by the grant, to eligible families that meet enrollment criteria and with a co-applicant if so named in the Even Start Family Literacy Grant. Even Start typically serves 30 families attending Title I schools. The district operates the Jumpin' Jack Even Start Program at Jackson Elementary School in the Midcity area. There are other Even Start Programs at King, Kimbrough and Sherman Elementary Schools.

#### **Academic Assessment of District Services and Impact (if any) on Improvement to Title I Services**

The grant is required to be evaluated each year by the State. An independent evaluator is contracted by the grant is responsible for compiling and disseminating the information and reporting the results to the state. If the requirements for the grant are not met, an intervention plan is developed to bring quality indicators to standards.

#### **Size/Scope of Resources Allocated by District to Deliver Services/Products**

The District can use collaborating partners to make sure that intensity and duration of services are met. There is no per-student funding. The State allocates funds according to the specifics of the grant. The District can use any resources to provide a quality program under the federal guidelines for Even Start.

#### **Determination of Private School Children from Low-Income Families**

If private school children are able to meet the criteria for Even Start services, they will be able to enroll in the program providing there is space. A waiting list is maintained and will be accessed as space becomes available.

#### **District Services for Teachers and Families**

Teachers will be provided with staff development opportunities that are literacy based. Even Start collaborates with the Community Based English Tutoring Program (CBET). CBET provides ESL classes that assist adult participants in their acquisition of the English language. Social service referrals are provided to Even Start Families as needed.