

**MEMO TO:** Title I Authorized Representatives/Coordinators/Teachers  
**FROM:** Laurie Matzke, Title I Director  
**DATE:** March 10, 2009  
**RE:** Title I Stimulus Funds

In an effort to keep school personnel apprised of new developments regarding the Economic Stimulus Bill, the state Title I office has created a dedicated website to house all information pertaining to the additional funds that we will receive. Information regarding the Economic Stimulus Bill can be accessed at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/index.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/index.shtm) on the Title I website.

The state Title I office held two audio conferences within the past few weeks. It is our intent to hold additional audio conference calls in the near future to provide further updates.

At this time, I would like to highlight pertinent information that you need to be aware of, as there is still a lot of misinformation and confusion regarding these additional Title I funds.

- The Title I stimulus funds become available to the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction on March 19, 2009.
- The department is hoping to make available Title I stimulus allocations for eligible districts by the beginning of April 2009. **Disregard any district level allocations that are currently posted on various websites as they are not accurate.** North Dakota has an approved Title I formula that will be used.
- The department is working on a separate electronic application very similar to the existing consolidated application that districts will use to apply for the Title I stimulus funds.
- The North Dakota State Legislature will need to provide spending authority for these additional stimulus funds in HB 1013, which is the Department of Public Instruction's funding bill. This bill is typically one of the last bills approved, at the end of April.
- The department is tentatively setting May 1, 2009, as the date that the electronic application for the Title I stimulus funds will be available to school personnel.
- These additional Title I funds will follow the same rules and regulations as the regular Title I funds. Targeted assistance schools must follow the Title I targeted assistance regulations and schoolwide programs must follow the schoolwide regulations.
- Districts will receive a separate grant award for the additional funds for the time frame of May 2009 – September 30, 2011.
- Districts will need to track these funds separately from your regular Title I allocation, as you will need to complete periodic reports on the stimulus funds.
- A handout outlining recommended ways to use the additional Title I stimulus funds has been created at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/stimulus/additional\\_funds.pdf](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/stimulus/additional_funds.pdf) on the Title I website.
- Districts need to keep in mind that how these funds are spent must be transparent to the public. The state and every district must report on their websites explicitly how these funds are being utilized.
- The USDE released a guidance document on the Title I stimulus funds on March 7, 2009. This guidance can be accessed at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/index.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/index.shtm) on our website.

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed information, please contact me at [lmatzke@nd.gov](mailto:lmatzke@nd.gov) or (701) 328-2284.