

Title I Policy For Committee of Practitioners

Title I, under the Improving America's Schools Act, requires that the State Title I office establish a Committee of Practitioners. The Title I law is very specific in outlining membership representation for the Committee of Practitioners. The Committee of Practitioners may include:

- Representatives from local educational agencies as a majority of its members
- Administrators, including the administrators of programs described in other parts of this title
- Teachers, including vocational educators
- Parents
- Members of the local school boards
- Representatives of private school children and
- Pupil services personnel

It is the role of the Committee of Practitioners to "...review, before publication, of any proposed or final State rule or regulation" pertaining to Title I. Committee members are often asked to review and be aware of various issues in Title I, including standards development, the state assessment system, and other current issues.

When selected, committee members are asked to consider serving on the team for at least a three-year period, basically to ensure consistency within the team's membership. However, agreeing to be on the team only commits your service for one year; each year the State Title I office contacts each individual on the committee to verify membership for the upcoming school year.

The committee is also asked to assist in selecting the recipients of several awards including the "Title I Outstanding Educator Award", "Title I Distinguished Graduate", and the "Title I Distinguished Schools Award"

Selection for the Members of the Committee of Practitioners

Every year the State Title I office updates the list of members for the Committee of Practitioners.

1. A Letter of Intent is sent to all individuals presently serving as a member of the Committee of Practitioners requesting their intent on continuing to serve on the committee for the upcoming school year.
2. If any member wishes to withdraw their membership, a certificate of recognition in appreciation for their service and thank you letter for their efforts are sent on behalf of the North Dakota Title I Committee of Practitioners.

3. For those members continuing their membership, a letter of gratitude is sent for accepting the position for another year.
4. Positions that will need to be refilled, are done so by the following process:
 - The State Title I office makes requests of organizations/agencies by requesting the names and contact information of individuals that may be willing to serve.
 - Dr. Sanstead, North Dakota State Superintendent of Public Instruction, is then informed of the names submitted to the Title I office as potential members.
 - A letter is sent to the potential new members inviting them to serve on the committee.

Involvement of the Title I Committee of Practitioners

1. The members on the Committee of Practitioners are placed on a listserv and are provided updates throughout the year, including memos, letters, and the monthly Title I Newsletter.

The Title I Newsletter includes updated information on Title I issues, including the following:

- Title I funding
 - North Dakota School and District Profiles/Report Cards
 - NCLB Legislative Committee
 - Teacher Quality Provision
 - AYP requirements and reports
 - Program Improvement status
 - After-school programs
 - Topics on other Title I programs, comprising of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Program, Migrant Education, Reading First, and the Neglected and Delinquent Program
2. The Committee of Practitioners assists in selecting the Title I Distinguished Graduate.
 3. In January of 2003, the Committee of Practitioners was given a draft of the Accountability Workbook and invited to review and comment on the working draft. It is the position of the Committee of Practitioners to continue to review, update, and provide suggestions and/or comments on the progress of the State's accountability issue.
 4. The Committee of Practitioners assists in selecting the North Dakota Title I Distinguished Educator.
 5. The Committee of Practitioners assists in the selection of the Title I Distinguished School.