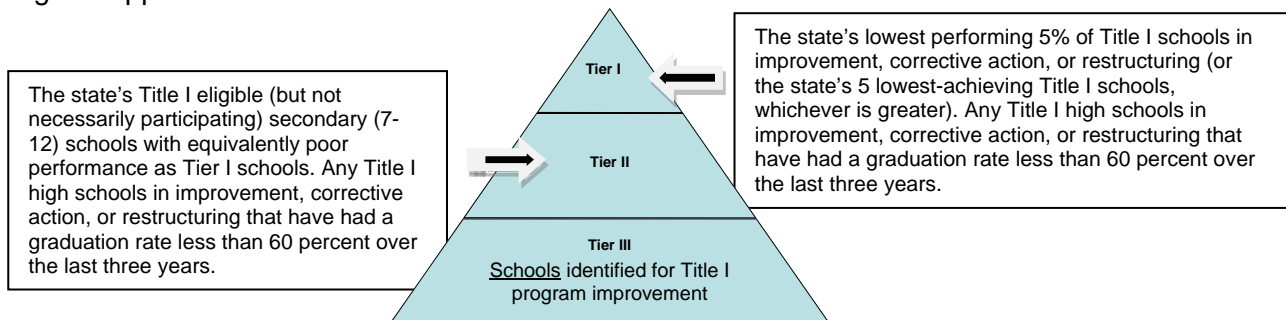


TITLE I SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT OVERVIEW

On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was signed into law by President Obama. This legislation created an unprecedented opportunity to improve teaching and learning for at-risk students. Record setting funding was appropriated for schools to implement innovative practices through various grant opportunities, some of which include:

- State Fiscal Stabilization
- Race to the Top
- School Improvement Grants (SIG)

Within each of these grants, the US Department of Education (USDE) aligned a requirement for states to identify low performing schools. These schools were then categorized in Tiers I, II, and III. The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction included the schools identified in these three tiers in their grant applications for these funds.



Schools in Tiers I and II who apply for these school improvement funds are **required** to implement one of the four models outlined below in their school. Schools in Tier III who apply for these school improvement funds do not have to implement one of the four models.

Turnaround Model

Replace principal and at least 50% of the staff, adopt new governance, and implement a new or revised instructional program.

Restart Model

Close the school and restart it under the management of a charter school operator, a charter management organization (CMO), or an educational management organization (EMO). A restart school must admit, within the grades it serves, any former student who wishes to attend.

Close/Consolidate Model

Close the school and enroll the students who attended the school in other, higher-performing schools in the LEA.

Transformation Model

1. Develop teacher and leader effectiveness
2. Comprehensive instructional programs using student achievement data
3. Extend learning time and create community-oriented schools
4. Provide operating flexibility and intensive support

The department has created a state SIG webpage. All SIG related information and documents can be accessed at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/sig/index.shtm on the department's website.