

October 2, 2007

VIA FACSIMILE AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Kerri L. Briggs
Assistant Secretary
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Assistant Secretary Briggs:

I am writing to obtain clarification on an issue related to Title I, Part A schoolwide programs under the No Child Left Behind Act.

As you are aware, there are circumstances in which the U.S. Department of Education (USED) allows a local educational agency (LEA) to charge parents of non-Title I-eligible students tuition to participate in targeted assistance Title I programs (also attended by Title I students).

In this context, we ask the following:

For Title I, Part A schoolwide programs, operated within an LEA, may an LEA charge tuition to parents of students (who otherwise would not be Title I-eligible), based on parental income, to fund part of the program? Our question assumes that there are no State or local legal prohibitions to charging parents tuition for public school education.

I greatly appreciate your attention to this question. Thank you in advance for your prompt assistance.

Sincerely,

Kristen Tosh Cowan

KTC/cwp