

Department of Grant Compliance and Administration

Statewide Training Series

Questions & Answers

Training Title: 2021-2022 Program Monitoring— Random Validations Overview Training Date: 09/27/2021

For additional information, please contact us at <u>ESSASupport@tea.texas.gov</u>.

- Q1: Will the 80 LEAs chosen for the 2020-2021 random validation process administered by the Federal Program Compliance Division not be chosen at all in 2021-2022 or just not chosen for that particular program for the 2021-2022 random validation process?
- A1: The 80 LEAs that were part of the 2020-2021 random validation process for the programs administered in the Federal Program Compliance Division will not be selected for any of the random validations administered in the Federal Program Compliance Division in 2021-2022.
- Q2: Will the documentation requested for the 2021-2022 random validation process need to be submitted for the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 school years or only for the 2021-2022 school year?
- A2: The review process is conducted in real time to provide LEAs with an opportunity to correct any non-compliance issues identified before the end of the grant period. All documentation requested will be for the current school year. Please note that it is customary for an LEA to have begun and completed certain processes in the months preceding the 2021-2022 school year. Documentation dated in the months preceding the 2021-2022 school year is acceptable as long as the documentation shows evidence that the LEA was engaging in the process for the current school year, which in this case is the 2021-2022 school year.
- Q3: How will LEAs be notified of selection to participate in the 2021-2022 random validation process?
- A3: LEA notification emails are sent to the LEA Superintendent's email address listed in <u>AskTed</u>, and the Primary and Secondary Contacts listed on the 2021-2022 ESSA Consolidated Federal Grant Application are copied on the notification emails. Regional Education Service Center (ESC) program contacts are also copied.

Q4: Could LEAs in a Shared Services Arrangement (SSA) be selected?

A4: Yes.

Q5: If we are in an SSA with an ESC, is the ESC selected? Would we submit our LEA's documentation to the ESC?

A5: Each LEA is required to submit its documentation in ESSA Reports under their LEA name. Based on the SSA agreement between the fiscal agent and the LEA, the fiscal agent may assist the LEA with the documentation submission process.

Q6: For Migrant is the local needs assessment (LNA) the comprehensive needs assessment (CNA)?

A6: Yes.

Q7: If an LEA choses to transfer 100% of its Title II, Part A and Title IV, Part A funds through Funding Transferability, does that mean that the LEA will not be selected for Random Validation for those programs?

A7: We do look at the PS3109 on the ESSA Consolidated Application when randomly selecting LEAs for each of the programs. If an LEA transfers 100% of their Title II, Part A or Title IV, Part A funds into another program through funding transferability and/or the Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP), or combination of the two, the LEA will not be selected for the Title II, Part A or Title IV, Part A program random validations.

Q8: If an LEA is selected for a program in Phase 1, is it possible for the same LEA to be selected for a program in Phase 2?

A8: We have done our best to ensure that LEAs selected for Phase 1 are not selected for Phase 2. However, due to the timing for the submission of the LEA application for the Title V, Part B—Rural and Low-Income School (RLIS) program, it is possible that an LEA selected for a program in Phase 1 could be selected for the Title V, Part B – RLIS program random validation. That is the only circumstance in which an LEA could be selected to participate in Phase 1 and Phase 2.

Q9: How many requirements will be validated for Private School Equitable Services (PNP)?

A9: There will be 4 requirements validated for Private School Equitable Services (PNP).

Q10: Can ESCs assist LEAs in preparing for the random validation process.

A10: ESCs receive the ESC ESSA Basic Services grant which includes providing technical assistance and support to LEAs selected for random validation. ESC program contacts will be reaching out to the LEAs selected to provide complimentary technical assistance prior to documentation submission.

Q11: Is there any consideration for LEAs who have been validated on ESSER 1 and/or ESSER III?

A11: The random validation process shared in the training and referenced in the responses to these questions only includes the programs that we administer in the Federal Program Compliance Division. ESSER I and ESSER III are not administered in the Federal Program Compliance Division. Thus, there is a possibility that LEAs could be selected for a program administered in our Division and other programs administered in other areas of the Agency.