



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

April 24, 2009

MEMORANDUM

To: Public School District Superintendents
Early Childhood Program Administrators
Title I Directors

From: Nancy Konitzer, Deputy Associate Superintendent
Title I and NCLB Consolidated Activities
Academic Achievement Division

Amy Corriveau, Deputy Associate Superintendent
Early Childhood Education
School Effectiveness Division

Subject: Title I dollars to support Early Childhood Education

Many schools will be receiving additional Title I dollars to support the education of students. Both President Obama and Secretary Arne Duncan have advocated for the need to invest in young children. This is the opportunity to begin to invest in young children and have an impact on child outcomes through quality preschool programs.

Quality preschool experiences are an education issue as these students will soon be entering the K-12 education system. Research from the fields of Education, Medicine and Business all confirm that quality preschool, as part of a Prek-3rd grade continuum, will favorably impact results for districts. Title I funds can and should be used to support Early Childhood Programs within your school.

Schools may consider utilizing this money to support the young children in their community by:

- Providing preschool services
- Professional development for Early Childhood instructors and collaborating partners who provide ECE services within the community
- Supporting comprehensive services

There are two documents available to assist decision makers in supporting Early Childhood Programs. I have attached those as part of this Memo:

1. Center for Law and Social Policy ~ Title I and Early Childhood Programs: A Look at Investments in the NCLB Era
2. USDOA ~ Serving Preschool Children Under Title I: Non-Regulatory Guidance

Please refer to the Arizona Department of Education ~ Early Childhood Education website for information on Early Childhood Education at <http://www.ade.state.az.us/earlychildhood/>