

Joe Lombardo  
Governor

Dr. Victor Wakefield  
Superintendent of Public  
Instruction



Southern Nevada Office  
2080 E. Flamingo Rd, Ste 210  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119-0811  
Phone: (702) 486-6458  
Fax: (702) 486-6450

**STATE OF NEVADA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
700 E. Fifth St. | Carson City, Nevada 89701-5096  
Phone: (775) 687-9200 | www.doe.nv.gov | Fax: (775) 687-1116

**GUIDANCE MEMORANDUM 26-02**

**TO:** All Local Education Agencies  
**FROM:** Dr. Victor Wakefield, Superintendent of Public Instruction   
**DATE:** February 23, 2026  
**SUBJECT:** Updates to the Title III Allocation Methodology for Fiscal Year 2027

**BACKGROUND**

The Nevada Department of Education (NDE or Department) is updating the methodology by which Title III – Immigrant (TIII-Imm) funds will be allocated for State Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) to align with the core intent of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Historically, NDE has distributed TIII-Imm funding via formula, which resulted in small allocations spread across several awards. However, this approach diluted the impact of the funding, making it difficult for Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) to implement the substantial, high-quality interventions necessary to support immigrant children and youth as intended under federal requirements that Title III-Imm awards be of “sufficient size and scope” per ESSA Section 3114(d).

**CHANGES TO FY27 ALLOCATIONS**

Effective FY27, the TIII-Imm allocation will shift from a formula-based entitlement to a competitive award supporting comprehensive plans to substantively address the unique needs of immigrant student populations. While this will result in fewer total awards to LEAs, it will increase the total amount of each award for greater impact. The Department will reserve 5% of the total State Title III allocation for Immigrant subawards. Based on FY26 levels, the total amount of funding available for application under TIII-Imm is estimated at approximately \$400,000. Please see the following table for details regarding eligibility factors and selection criteria for the competitive award of TIII-Imm funding.

*Table 1: Eligibility Factors and Selection Criteria*

Factor	Criterion
<b>Eligibility</b>	An LEA must demonstrate a “significant increase” of 0.5% or greater in immigrant student enrollment compared to the average of the two preceding fiscal years to be eligible to apply for TIII-Imm funding.
<b>Selection</b>	A review committee will score applications using a rubric that evaluates the quality of the Local Context and Statement of Need, Project Design, and Sustainability plan pursuant to details within the Notice of Funding Opportunity.
<b>Allocation</b>	To ensure awards are of sufficient size and scope, NDE will fund applications in rank order of their rubric scores, awarding the full requested amount (if reasonable and necessary) to the highest-scoring applicants until the 5% set-aside is exhausted.

Please note that all eligible LEAs, to include school districts and charter schools, may apply for this opportunity; funding will be awarded based on the quality of the proposal. LEAs will no longer receive automatic allocations based on student counts.

## ELIGIBLE LEAS

The following table identifies which LEAs have met the eligibility threshold based on state-validated 12-month unduplicated data. LEAs with a positive percentage in the final column are eligible to submit a competitive application for FY27.

**Table 2: FY27 Eligibility Determination by LEA**

<i>LEA</i>	<i>FY 25 Count</i>	<i>FY 26 Count</i>	<i>Two-Year Average</i>	<i>FY 27 Count</i>	<i>FY 27 % Change</i>
<i>Carson City</i>	198	226	212	191	(9.9%)
<i>Churchill</i>	22	29	25.5	27	5.9%
<i>Clark</i>	5702	7921	6811.5	9144	34.2%
<i>Douglas</i>	45	41	43	37	(14.0%)
<i>Elko</i>	111	143	127	177	39.4%
<i>Esmeralda</i>	0	2	1	3	200.0%
<i>Eureka</i>	0	2	1	2	100.0%
<i>Humboldt</i>	46	47	46.5	78	67.7%
<i>Lander</i>	6	9	7.5	10	33.3%
<i>Lincoln</i>	2	3	2.5	3	20.0%
<i>Lyon</i>	72	87	79.5	74	(6.9%)
<i>Mineral</i>	0	17	8.5	14	64.7%
<i>Nye</i>	58	55	56.5	85	50.4%
<i>Pershing</i>	7	7	7	0	(100.0%)
<i>SPCSA</i>	341	422	381.5	867	127.3%
<i>Storey</i>	0	0	0	2	100.0%
<i>Washoe</i>	1477	1801	1639	2088	27.4%
<i>White Pine</i>	12	6	9	17	88.9%

## NEXT STEPS

The Department anticipates releasing the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the competitive FY27 TIII-Imm grant on February 27, 2026. Applicants should begin gathering data **as soon as possible** to address the four key narrative areas:

- Local Context and Statement of Need
- Project Design & Authorized Activities
- Demonstrated Effectiveness & Evaluation
- Budget & Sustainability

The Department will be hosting two technical assistance webinars to discuss the change in methodology, the anticipated funding amount, eligibility criteria, and details related to the NOFO application. Recordings of these webinars, supporting slides, and a compiled FAQ document will be made available on March 5.

- Monday, March 2 at 2:00 P.M.
  - Meeting link: [bit.ly/T3IMMMarch22PM](https://bit.ly/T3IMMMarch22PM)
- Wednesday, March 4 at 9:00 A.M.
  - Meeting link: [bit.ly/T3IMMMarch49am](https://bit.ly/T3IMMMarch49am)

If you have any questions regarding this guidance, please reach out to Sarah Russell at [sarah.russell@doe.nv.gov](mailto:sarah.russell@doe.nv.gov).