



# NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND: A Parent Guide

## Understanding NCLB



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is No Child Left Behind?

No Child Left Behind (NCLB) is an education law that was passed in 2001.

### What are the goals of No Child Left Behind?

NCLB seeks to achieve four main goals:

1. ALL children will receive a high quality education.
2. ALL students will perform on grade level in reading and math by the year 2014.
3. The achievement gap between disadvantaged and advantaged students will close.
4. Parents will have more choices regarding their child's education.

### What are Title I Schools?

Title I schools are schools that receive federal funds based on a high percentage of disadvantaged students.

### What is Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)?

AYP is the government's measurement of a school's overall success. Progress is measured by how well individual students and student subgroups perform on state tests. **(see also: *No Child Left Behind: Accountability*)**

### What are Supplemental Educational Services (SES)?

SES provides free additional instruction offered outside of the school day by state-approved providers in the form of tutoring, remediation, or academic intervention. **(see also: *Supplemental Educational Services*)**

### What does NCLB mean to my child's teacher?

- Teachers must be "highly-qualified," meaning that they must possess a bachelor's degree and full state certification and demonstrate knowledge of the subject area taught.
- Teachers must use teaching methods that are proven effective by research.
- Parents have the right to know about the qualifications of their child's teacher.

### What does NCLB mean to my child's school?

- Schools must provide a safe learning environment.
- Schools receive more federal funding under NCLB, and they are given greater flexibility on how the money is spent.
- Schools are held accountable for each student's academic progress. **(see also *No Child Left Behind: Accountability*)**
- Schools are required to make Adequate Yearly Progress as defined by the state.

### What does NCLB mean to my family?

- All states, districts, and schools must work to increase parental involvement in education.
- If your child attends a Title I school that has not made AYP for two years or longer your child might be eligible to transfer to another public school with the transportation paid for by the district. **(see also: *School Choice*)**
- If your child attends a Title I school that has not made AYP for three or more years your child may be eligible to receive Supplemental Educational Services. **(see also: *Supplemental Educational Services*)**
- You have access to local report cards prepared by the district that provide information on how schools performed on state tests. **(see also: *No Child Left Behind Accountability*)**
- In Florida, students take the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) annually in grades three through eleven. The FCAT is Florida's state-developed test. **(see also: *No Child Left Behind: Accountability*)**

### Where can I find more information about NCLB?

Contact your child's school, school district, or one of the following organizations:

**The Florida Parental Information and Resource Center (PIRC) at USF:**

Toll free: (866) 775-8661 or [www.floridapirc.usf.edu](http://www.floridapirc.usf.edu)

**Florida Department of Education:**

(850) 245-0509 or [www.fldoe.org/NCLB](http://www.fldoe.org/NCLB)

**United States Department of Education:**

Toll free: (800) 872-5237 or [www.ed.gov/nclb](http://www.ed.gov/nclb)