Core Components of a Title I Schoolwide Program

1. Comprehensive Needs Assessment

Schools must conduct a thorough needs assessment to identify academic gaps and prioritize areas for improvement. This includes analyzing student performance data, teacher qualifications, and input from families and staff.

2. Schoolwide Reform Strategies

Plans must include evidence-based strategies aligned with the needs assessment. These strategies aim to improve instruction and student outcomes across all grade levels, not just for Title I students.

3. Instruction by Appropriately Certified Staff

All teachers and paraprofessionals working in Title I programs must meet state certification requirements. This is a compliance point monitored during ESSA reviews.

4. High-Quality Professional Development

Ongoing training is required to support instructional improvement. Internal plans emphasize digital integration and collaboration among grade-level teams to enhance teaching practices.

5. Parent and Family Engagement

Schools must actively involve families in the planning and implementation of Title I programs. Policies include regular communication, data sharing (e.g., Acadience scores), and opportunities for input at PTA and board meetings.

6. Transition Support

Strategies to help students transition from early childhood programs to kindergarten are required. This includes coordination with Head Start and other early learning initiatives.

7. Use of Assessments and Data-Driven Decision Making

Teachers must use assessments to guide instruction and monitor student progress.

8. Timely Academic Assistance

Intervention strategies must be in place for students struggling to meet proficiency. Reading specialists and targeted instructional blocks are examples of how this is implemented.

9. Coordination of Resources

Title I programs must integrate federal, state, and local resources to maximize impact. This includes budget alignment and documentation of expenditures in systems like EGrants.