

defined by State law, which are not under a public authority, and which either comply with the State compulsory attendance laws or are recognized on the basis of some other State procedure.

They include sectarian schools; nonsectarian schools; privately operated schools for the blind, deaf, mentally retarded, or other physically or mentally exceptional pupils for whom education equivalent to that of the public elementary or secondary schools is provided; private college preparatory schools or military academies; experimental or laboratory schools of private colleges and universities; and privately operated trade and vocational schools.

B. Project Planning in Local Schools

A Title II project is a part of a plan for strengthening and improving educational quality and opportunities in the nation's elementary and secondary schools through the acquisition of school library resources, textbooks, and other instructional materials.

As a first step in planning, a school generally reexamines its instructional resources for adequacy in serving its present and planned instructional program. It then develops a step-by-step plan for filling the gaps, replacing obsolescent materials, and ascertaining which additional materials will be needed for expected curriculum change or program expansion. On the basis of this information the school prepares one or more project applications for quality materials in appropriate quantities. It cannot be stressed too strongly that school librarians and teachers who are to use the materials to be acquired should participate fully in the planning and in the justification of the project proposals.

The local project should include at least the following information:

1. An inventory of the materials needed for each area of instruction, divided by the categories of school library resources, textbooks, and other instructional materials;
2. Cost estimates for the materials;
3. Cost estimates for the cataloging, processing (if the materials requested are not to be shipped already processed), and delivery to the initial place at which they are made available for use;
4. A brief statement describing the educational needs to be served by the materials requested;
5. A brief statement indicating the general strengths and needs in the three categories of materials, based on examination of the resources already available, along with an indication of how the acquisitions fit into the long- and short-term plan for improving the instructional program;