



Los Angeles Unified School District  
Office of the Inspector General  
Audit Unit

# Internal Audit Report

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*Special Review of Archdiocese of Los Angeles  
Nonpublic Schools - Title I Funding Eligibility*



# Los Angeles Unified School District Office of the Inspector General

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*Interim Inspector General*

January 28, 2019

Ms. Karen Ryback, Executive Director  
Federal and State Education Programs  
Los Angeles Unified School District  
333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 16<sup>th</sup> floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Ryback,

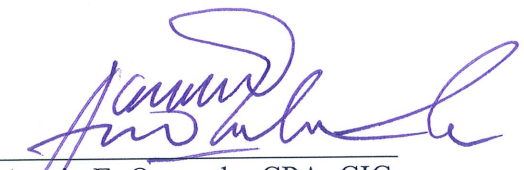
This is the report on our review of Title I funding eligibility for fourteen Archdiocese of Los Angeles nonpublic schools.

We appreciate your continued support of our services.

Sincerely,

  
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Jas Ahmed, CFSA  
Deputy Inspector General (Interim)

Attachment

  
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Austin E. Onwualu, CPA, CIG  
Inspector General (Interim)

## **About the Office of the Inspector General**

The Office of the Inspector General reports directly to the Board of Education. We conduct independent audits, reviews and investigations of District operations, contracts and vendors in order to:

- ✓ Find ways to improve processes, programs, functions and activities.
- ✓ Provide information that supports effective decision making.
- ✓ Identify real or potential misuse of District resources.
- ✓ Prevent and detect waste, fraud and abuse within the District.

Through our work, we strive to encourage a culture of accountability, transparency, collaboration and excellence and to assist the Board and the Superintendent in their efforts to provide a high quality education for the students and parents of the Los Angeles Unified School District.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

We performed a review to determine if the funding eligibility of the students reported by 14 Archdiocese of Los Angeles (Archdiocese) nonpublic schools (schools) on their 2017-2018 Title I Funding Eligibility Form A (Form A) or Form B (Form B) was supported by the results of the schools' family surveys or the students' Applications for Free and Reduced-Price meal.

The 14 Archdiocese schools reported 2,094 eligible students. Our review determined that the schools maintained acceptable eligibility documentation for 877 (42%) out of the 2,094 students.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Los Angeles Unified School District (District) is required under Title I Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to make available equitable Title I services to low-achieving nonpublic school students who reside within a District school attendance area that receives Title I funds. The District's Federal and State Education Programs Branch (FSEP) allocates funding for services to nonpublic schools based on the number of funding eligible students reported by the nonpublic schools on their Title I Funding Eligibility Forms. Students are determined to be funding eligible if they are low income, between the ages of 5 to 17, and reside within a District school attendance area that receives Title I funds.

Nonpublic schools may submit Title I Funding Eligibility Form - Form A (Form A) or Title I Funding Eligibility Form - Form B (Form B) depending on how the schools collect poverty data. Nonpublic schools submitting Form A are required to collect poverty data by conducting family surveys using the FSEP's Family Survey Form and to maintain the survey forms on file. Nonpublic schools opting to use the number of students participating in the National School Lunch Program as the Title I funding eligibility student count should submit Form B and maintain on file the students' Applications for Free and Reduced-Price Meals.

One hundred and nine Archdiocese schools reported 12,736 funding eligible students. This review covered 14 of the 109 Archdiocese schools, which reported 2,094 eligible students: 1,763 eligible students were reported by 12 schools that submitted Form A, and 331 eligible students were reported by 2 schools that submitted Form B.

## **SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE**

The objective of our review was to determine if the funding eligibility of the students reported by 14 Archdiocese of Los Angeles (Archdiocese) nonpublic schools (schools) on their 2017-2018 Title I Funding Eligibility Form A (Form A) or Form B (Form B) was supported by the results of the schools' family surveys or the Applications for Free and Reduced-Price Meal.

## **METHODOLOGY**

For the students identified on the eligible student list accompanying the schools' Form A or Form B, we performed the following: agreed the students' dates of birth and addresses to their Family Survey Forms or Applications for Free and Reduced-Price Meal; reviewed their Family Survey

Forms or Applications for Free and Reduced-Price Meal to confirm that the income eligibility was supported; recalculated the students' age as of October 4, 2017, to verify age eligibility; confirmed that the students' addresses are within the boundaries of a District Title I school; and reviewed school records to verify the students' enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year.

**RESULTS OF REVIEW**

Schools that Submitted Form A

Of the 1,763 reported eligible students, 661 students' eligibility was supported by Family Survey Forms that are acceptable to the District. With respect to the remaining 1,102 students, the Family Survey Form could not be located for 621 students, the Family Survey Forms for 75 students were incomplete because the grade and/or address was missing, one or more eligibility criteria was not met for 386 students, and 20 students were reported more than once in the eligibility spreadsheet.

Schools that Submitted Form B

Of the 331 eligible students reported on the Form B, 216 students' eligibility was supported by properly completed Applications for Free and Reduced-Price Meal. For the remaining 115 students, no Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meal was provided for 2 students and 113 students did not meet one or more eligibility criteria (i.e., 5 to 17 years old, grade K-12, enrolled in the nonpublic school, reside within the boundaries of a District Title I school and meet the low-income eligibility guideline).

The following table summarizes the results of our review.

Archdiocese of Los Angeles Non-public School Name	No. of Eligible Students Reported	Eligibility Supported Based on Our Review
<i>Schools that submitted Form A:</i>		
Bishop Mora Salesian H.S.	225	16
Dolores Mission School	203	173
St. Helen	223	42
St. Bridget of Sweden School	142	-
Verbum Dei H.S.	240	60
Bishop Conaty Our Lady of Loretto H.S.	115	106
Cantwell Sacred Heart of Mary H.S.	103	22
Sacred Heart School	117	52
St. Mary's Academy	113	22
St. Genevieve Elementary	91	88
Mary Star of the Sea H.S.	90	55
St. Ignatius of Loyola Elementary	101	25
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,763</b>	<b>661</b>

<b><i>Schools that submitted Form B:</i></b>		
Our Lady of Loretto	123	84
Ascension	208	132
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>216</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,094</b>	<b>877</b>

**REPORT DISTRIBUTION**

This report is intended for the information and use of the Federal and State Education Programs Branch.

**ENGAGEMENT TEAM**

This review was conducted by the Office of the Inspector’s General Audit Unit team:

- Stella Lai, Audit Manager
- Armando Ng, Principal Auditor
- Liqing Lin, Senior Auditor

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**Maybe you are a School District Employee, or maybe you are a private citizen. Either way, you are a taxpayer.**

**Maybe you know something about fraud, or waste, or some other type of abuse in the School District.**

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**If you wish, we will keep your identity confidential. You can remain anonymous, if you prefer. And you are protected by law from reprisal by your employer.**

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or  
(866) LAUSD-OIG**

### **Write to us:**

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333 S. Beaudry Ave., 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017**

### **Website:**

**<http://achieve.lausd.net/oig>**