



SCHOOL COUNSELING CURRICULUM



Funding IMPACT with Federal, State and Local Funds

Where IMPACT fits in Title IV-A, Title I, Title II-A, IDEA and state programs, plus purchasing rules and paste-ready language for your plan.

INSIDE THIS DOCUMENT

- Which funds fit
- Title IV-A: safe and healthy students (ESEA section 4108)
- Title I schoolwide, Title II-A and IDEA early intervening services
- State programs to know about
- Local foundations and school groups
- Sole source and a paste-ready budget justification

Paying for IMPACT

Most districts pay for IMPACT with funds they already have for school counseling and student wellbeing. This guide shows where IMPACT fits, what to check with your federal programs office, and the language you can paste into your plan.

\$390

per counselor license for 12 months, with lower district pricing for 5 or more licenses

§ 4108

Title IV-A safe and healthy students, which names school counseling for all students

Tier IV

federal ESSA evidence level, documented in the IMPACT Research Summary

Which funds fit

Funding source	How IMPACT fits	Best for
Title IV-A ESEA section 4108	"Mentoring and school counseling to all students," relationship-building skills and bullying prevention are named allowable activities.	Most purchases, from one counselor to a whole district
Title I, Part A schoolwide programs	Counseling, school-based mental health programs and a schoolwide tiered model for behavior, when IMPACT is part of the schoolwide plan.	Schools operating a Title I schoolwide program
Title II, Part A	Monthly professional development trainings with certificates for school counselors.	The professional development component
IDEA, Part B early intervening services	Tier 2 small groups and progress monitoring for students who need extra behavioral support but are not identified for special education.	Tier 2 and Tier 3 support
State programs	School safety, mental health and student support funds in several states allow counseling programs and curricula.	Varies by state; see State programs
Local funds	Education foundation mini-grants, PTA and PTO funds, community foundations.	Single-school purchases

I wrote this guide because counselors kept asking me the same question: "I love IMPACT, but how do I pay for it?" I hope it saves you time. If you need a quote, a W-9 or a written overview for your federal programs office, email me at rachel@brightfutures-counseling.com and I will send it.

Rachel

Rachel Davis, MA PPS
Founder, Bright Futures Counseling

Title IV, Part A: Student Support and Academic Enrichment

Title IV-A is usually the simplest way to fund IMPACT. Congress funded Title IV-A for the 2026-27 school year at \$1.38 billion, and formula funds reached states on schedule in July 2026. Federal budgets for 2027-28 are still being decided, so many districts are putting their 2026-27 funds to work this year.

Where IMPACT fits: safe and healthy students

Position IMPACT under **safe and healthy students, ESEA section 4108** (20 U.S.C. 7118). The allowable activities listed there include:

- "mentoring and school counseling to all students"
- "relationship-building skills, such as effective communication"
- programs that "help prevent bullying and harassment"
- "schoolwide positive behavioral interventions and supports"

IMPACT's Tier 1 classroom lessons, Tier 2 small groups, Tier 3 individual counseling resources and progress monitoring tools map directly to these activities. IMPACT's career awareness lessons can also support **well-rounded education (section 4107)**, which names "college and career guidance and counseling programs."

The technology cap. Section 4109 limits spending on technology infrastructure to 15 percent of a district's Title IV-A technology funds. IMPACT is a school counseling curriculum of printable resources and trainings that counselors use with students, so when it is purchased under section 4108 as curriculum and printable resources, it is not subject to that cap. Coding practices vary by state and district, so please confirm the budget code with your federal programs office.

Good to know

- **The 20 percent minimum.** A district that receives \$30,000 or more in Title IV-A must spend at least 20 percent on safe and healthy students. An IMPACT purchase counts toward that minimum.
- **Supplement, not supplant.** Title IV-A must add to what the district already pays for with state and local funds. If your district already buys IMPACT with local funds, check with your federal programs office before moving the purchase to Title IV-A.
- **Parental consent for assessments.** When Title IV funds pay for a mental health assessment or service for a student under 18, ESEA section 4001 requires prior written, informed parental consent. If you plan to use IMPACT self-assessments or screening forms with Title IV-A funds, follow your district's consent procedures.
- **Evidence.** Title IV-A activities can use evidence at ESSA Tier IV, "demonstrates a rationale." The IMPACT Research Summary (logic model, research basis and evaluation plan) is published for your application.
- **Flexibility.** ESEA allows districts to transfer Title II-A and Title IV-A funds to other titles, which some districts use to braid funding for a program.

Title I, Title II-A and IDEA

Title I, Part A: schoolwide programs

Schools that operate a Title I schoolwide program (generally schools with 40 percent or more low-income students, or with a state waiver) can use Title I funds for "counseling, school-based mental health programs, specialized instructional support services, mentoring services" and a "schoolwide tiered model to prevent and address problem behavior" (20 U.S.C. 6314(b)(7)(A)(iii)). IMPACT fits when it appears in the school's schoolwide plan and comprehensive needs assessment.

- **Targeted assistance schools** can serve only identified students, so tie IMPACT to Tier 2 and Tier 3 work with those students.
- **School improvement funds** under section 1003 require stronger evidence than ESSA Tier IV, so plan on other Title I funds for IMPACT.

Title II, Part A: the professional development component

Each IMPACT license includes monthly professional development trainings with certificates. Title II-A allows training for school personnel on recognizing when students need support and how to refer them, and on conditions for learning such as safety, peer interaction and chronic absenteeism (20 U.S.C. 6613(b)(3)(I)).

- Title II-A is aimed mainly at teachers, principals and other school leaders. Whether a counselor training purchase qualifies varies by state, so check with your state or district Title II office.
- Title II-A is funded for 2026-27, and these funds can be obligated through September 30, 2028. Its funding beyond this year is under debate in Congress, so it is best used for current-year purchases.
- Ask me about documenting training hours and certificates for your Title II-A records.

IDEA, Part B: coordinated early intervening services

A district may use up to 15 percent of its IDEA Part B funds for coordinated early intervening services: support for K-12 students who are not identified for special education but need additional academic and behavioral support, including staff professional development and "behavioral evaluations, services, and supports." IMPACT's Tier 2 small groups and progress monitoring tools fit this use well.

For students with IEPs who receive counseling as a related service, IMPACT's Tier 3 individual counseling resources can support that work from the special education budget.

State programs to know about (October 2026)

Several states fund school safety, mental health and student support in ways that can pay for a school counseling curriculum. These are the strongest current fits; Pennsylvania, Oregon, California and Washington are especially flexible.

Check current rules. Program details below are as of October 2026. State rules, amounts and deadlines change, so check the current guidance from your state education agency or grant office before you apply. In applications, describe IMPACT in terms of school counseling, coping skills, student wellbeing, school safety and positive behavior.

State	Program	How IMPACT may fit	Notes
Pennsylvania	PCCD School Safety and Mental Health Grants	\$138 million noncompetitive formula funding for public schools announced in August 2026. Guidelines name violence prevention curricula, mental health early intervention, bullying prevention and counseling services; schools need a school counseling program in place.	Apply through PCCD Egrants. Check PCCD for the current application deadline.
Oregon	Student Investment Account (Student Success Act), 2025-27	Allowable health and safety uses include student mental and behavioral health.	Districts with approved SIA plans and growth targets.
California	Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant	Allowable uses include evidence-based pupil supports "such as the provision of health, counseling, or mental health services."	Funds can be spent through 2027-28. Requires a needs assessment and evidence-based choices.
California	Student Support and Professional Development Discretionary Block Grant	Large one-time block grant (2026-27 enacted budget) allocated by ADA, with flexible local use for student support and professional development.	All LEAs; CDE does not approve individual uses.
Washington	Learning Assistance Program (LAP)	Supplemental services may be academic, nonacademic or both, and must be data-informed and evidence-based. A good fit for Tier 2 and Tier 3 support.	See the OSPI Menus of Best Practices for behavior supports.
Michigan	Section 31aa mental health and school safety funds	Per-pupil funds (FY2026-27 enacted July 2026); the mental health portion allows evidence-based trainings to support mental health, which fits IMPACT's professional development.	Formula funds to districts, ISDs and nonpublic schools.
Texas	School Safety Allotment	Allowable uses include mental health personnel and support and behavioral health services. Districts also choose programs from the state best-practice list for skill-building, positive behavior supports and school climate (TEC 38.351).	Formula funds to every district; competes with security requirements.
Ohio	Student Wellness and Success Funds	At least 50 percent must go to mental and physical health services; the rest can be used more broadly.	FY26 funds must be spent by June 30, 2027. Requires community partners.
Massachusetts	DESE grants to strengthen multi-tiered systems of support (line item 7061-0028)	Competitive grants to adapt, expand or strengthen multi-tiered systems of support for students' social-emotional and behavioral health, including professional development.	\$3.5 million in FY27. Districts, charters and collaboratives.
Florida	Mental Health Assistance Allocation	Mainly services, staffing and staff training. Florida also requires at least 5 hours of mental health instruction each year in grades 6-12, which IMPACT's middle school lessons can help meet.	District plans are due to FDOE by August 1 each year.

Local funds and sole source

Local foundations and school groups

Local education foundations

Many district foundations run educator mini-grant cycles once or twice a year. A single counselor license fits easily within a typical mini-grant.

PTA, PTO and booster funds

A common choice for single-school purchases. A School Team license covers up to three counselors at one school.

Community partners

Community foundations, United Way chapters and local hospital community benefit funds often prioritize youth wellbeing and suit multi-school orders.

Sole source

IMPACT is developed, published and sold only by Thrive International LLC dba Bright Futures Counseling, with no resellers. If your procurement office asks, my signed sole source statement is in the IMPACT Procurement Packet. Your procurement office makes the sole source determination. In Texas, TEC 44.031(j) exempts items available from only one source because of copyright.

This guide is general information about common funding sources as of October 2026, not legal or financial advice. Your district's federal programs office and state education agency make the final decisions on allowable uses.

How I can help

Email me at rachel@brightfutures-counseling.com for a written quote, a W-9, my sole source statement, the research summary or sample resources for your application. Purchasing questions and purchase orders can go to payments@brightfutures-counseling.com.

Rachel

Rachel Davis, MA PPS
Founder, Bright Futures Counseling

Paste-ready language

Copy and adapt these paragraphs. Replace the bracketed items with your school's details.

Sample budget justification

[School or district name] requests \$[amount] to purchase [number] 12-month IMPACT School Counseling Curriculum licenses from Bright Futures Counseling for school counselors serving grades PK-8. IMPACT provides ready-to-use Tier 1 classroom lessons, Tier 2 small group plans, Tier 3 individual counseling resources and progress monitoring tools built around the ASCA National Model and the ASCA Student Standards, along with monthly professional development trainings with certificates. Counselors will teach one classroom lesson per class each month on coping skills, self-regulation, relationship skills, bullying prevention and school success behaviors, and will run small groups for students identified through referrals and academic, behavior and attendance data. Pre and post self-assessments and teacher and parent behavior surveys will measure student growth, and results will be reviewed regularly. This purchase supports safe and healthy students under ESEA section 4108 by providing school counseling to all students, building relationship skills and helping prevent bullying. IMPACT is supported by a published ESSA Tier IV logic model, research basis and evaluation plan. The cost is \$[price] per counselor license for 12 months.

Suggested budget line

School counseling curriculum and progress monitoring resources: IMPACT School Counseling Curriculum (Bright Futures Counseling), 12-month licenses for [number] school counselors, \$[amount]. Title IV, Part A, ESEA section 4108, safe and healthy students.

Short program description

IMPACT is a PK-8 school counseling curriculum from Bright Futures Counseling. Each counselor license includes Tier 1 classroom lessons, Tier 2 small group plans, Tier 3 individual counseling resources, data collection and progress monitoring tools, and monthly professional development trainings with certificates. IMPACT is built around the ASCA National Model and the ASCA Student Standards, and many resources support CASEL competencies. IMPACT collects no student data.

Evidence statement

IMPACT is designed to meet the ESSA Tier IV ("demonstrates a rationale") definition, with a published logic model, a research basis for each key component and an ongoing evaluation plan (IMPACT Research Summary, October 2026, Bright Futures Counseling).