






# Expert 21

## Aligns to Title I, Part A

The purpose of *Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs* is to ensure that children in high-poverty schools meet challenging State academic content and student achievement standards. These schools must develop a comprehensive plan to improve teaching and learning. The following chart shows how *Expert 21* can support a schoolwide *Title I* program. The criteria are drawn from the Federal *Title I Final Rules and Regulations* posted at:


<http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/reg/title1/fedregister.html>


Key Criteria for Title I, Part A Funding	 Expert 21
<p>1. Provide opportunities for all students to meet the State’s proficient and advanced levels of student academic achievement, particularly in the areas of math, reading/language arts, and science</p>	<p><i>Expert 21</i> is a comprehensive English-Language Arts program designed to accelerate students in grades 6-10 from Basic to Proficient by preparing them with the literacy expertise to thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. <i>Expert 21</i> includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Explicit instruction and application in 21<sup>st</sup> century skills that students will use in college, careers and life</li> <li>▪ Content that students want to read because it’s relevant and contemporary</li> <li>▪ Content that integrates ELA and the content areas</li> <li>▪ <i>Expert Space</i>, the first ever Digital Curriculum and Tools for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century</li> <li>▪ Inquiry-based learning activities that help students gain an understanding of the world in which they live, learn, and work</li> </ul> <p><i>Expert 21</i> includes the following program components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Annual Student Technology, Assessment, and Curriculum Subscription, including a full-year technology subscription to <i>Expert Space</i>, <i>Scholastic Reading Inventory</i>, <i>xSkills</i>, program support and hosting, and Pupil Editions, Volumes 1 and 2</li> <li>▪ <i>The Teacher Bookshelf</i>, including               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Teacher Editions, Volumes 1 and 2</li> <li>○ Pupil Editions, Volumes 1 and 2</li> <li>○ The Professional Development Guide</li> <li>○ Technology Reference Guide</li> <li>○ Anchor DVD</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <i>Expert 21 Toolkit</i>, including 300 <i>Expert Files</i>, and corresponding Teacher Guide</li> <li>▪ Annual Teacher Technology Subscription to the <i>Scholastic Achievement Manager (SAM)</i>, <i>Expert Space</i>, <i>Scholastic Reading Inventory</i>, <i>xSkills</i>, program support and hosting.</li> </ul> <p> For additional information about <i>Expert 21</i>, visit <a href="http://www.scholastic.com/expert21">www.scholastic.com/expert21</a>.</p>


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<p>2. Address the needs of all students in the school, particularly the needs of low-achieving students and those at risk of not meeting the State’s student academic standards</p>	<p><i>Expert 21</i> includes embedded support for differentiated instruction. Through the Teacher’s Edition, teachers are guided on how to differentiate for varying levels of proficiency in the classroom. In addition, teachers are provided with explicit guidance on how to make instruction accessible to English-Language Learners. Prompts throughout the Teacher’s Edition are aligned to <i>Response to Intervention</i> (RTI). Instruction is included for all three RTI tiers, English Language Learners and Students in Special Education, Teachers are also directed to the <i>Scholastic Achievement Manager</i> (SAM) for additional resources for differentiating instruction.</p> <p>Students can explore each workshop in depth and get the scaffolding they need to be successful within <i>Expert Space</i>. Leveraging the principals of Universal Design for Learning (UDL), <i>Expert Space</i> can help make text accessible to all students. <i>Expert Space</i>, a comprehensive digital curriculum, includes more than 100 topics and 125,000 articles, aligned to the most commonly taught subjects in Science and Social Studies. <i>Expert Space</i> includes several supports for students, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Read Aloud—Reluctant readers and English Language Learners can have the text read aloud</li> <li>▪ Leveled Text—Articles are written at three reading levels, which students can adjust themselves. These levels are based on the Lexile Framework for Reading.</li> <li>▪ Spanish Language Support—Many of the articles are available in Spanish.</li> <li>▪ Dictionaries—An embedded dictionary allows students to build their vocabulary by looking up any word in an article.</li> <li>▪ Anchor Videos—Each <i>Expert Space</i> includes an anchor video which helps students build background knowledge and create a mental model of text.</li> </ul>
<p>3. Close the achievement gap between high- and low-performing children, especially the achievement gaps between minority and nonminority students, and between disadvantaged children and their more advantaged peers.</p>	<p>Each workshop in <i>Expert 21</i> follows a consistent pattern designed to lead students through an inquiry process. Students begin by exploring an <i>Expert Question</i> crafted by Dr. Jeffrey Wilhelm, the country’s leading voice on motivation and engagement in reading instruction. Each workshop culminates in a real world case study. To fully engage students in text before they begin reading, <i>Expert 21</i> provides students with the background knowledge they’ll need.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Continued)</p>

Expert 21 Alignment to Title I


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<p>Close the achievement gap between high- and low-performing children, especially the achievement gaps between minority and nonminority students, and between disadvantaged children and their more advantaged peers.</p> <p>Continued</p>	<p>Each workshop is launched with an anchor video that provides an introduction to the Expert as well as a preview of the workshop readings. These videos provide students with background knowledge that will improve comprehension. Adolescents are motivated to read when they have a clear purpose for reading. The <i>Expert Question</i> establishes a relevant, meaningful reason to read. It helps students understand why they are reading before they engage with what they are reading. Unlike traditional literature programs, the <i>Expert Question</i> asks students to apply what they're reading to real world situations.</p> <p>Each workshop in <i>Expert 21</i> features six readings plus an <i>Expert Reading</i>. Half are literary and half are informational. Classic and contemporary fiction offers adolescents a mirror to themselves and a window to the world. Selected for their ability to provoke critical thinking, each literary reading in <i>Expert 21</i> helps students develop the comprehension and literary analysis skills they'll need to be lifelong readers.</p> <p>Adolescents love to learn about their world; they crave nonfiction. Research indicates that exposure to nonfiction can build their literacy skills while simultaneously building bridges to the content areas. Informational, nonfiction text increases students' motivation for reading. At the end of every workshop, students engage in the <i>Expert Project</i>, by applying their newly acquired skills to solve real world problems.</p> <p>Throughout the program, students will encounter several different types of culminating projects—case study, research paper, social action, personal expressions and debate. Each culminating project includes multiple links to relevant <i>Expert Spaces</i>. This encourages students to delve deeper, gather more resources and leverage the research tools in <i>Expert Space</i> to plan and complete longer assignments.</p>
<p>4. Use effective methods and instructional practices that are based on scientifically based research and that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Strengthen the core academic program</li> <li>▪ Provide an enriched and accelerated curriculum</li> <li>▪ Increase the amount and quality of learning time, such as providing an extended school year, before- and after-school programs, and summer programs and opportunities</li> </ul>	<p><i>Expert 21</i> is shaped by the research of the following <i>Expert</i> Faculty researchers and practitioners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dr. Jeffrey Wilhelm, Motivation and Engagement</li> <li>▪ Dr. Bill Daggett, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills</li> <li>▪ Dr. Milton Chen, Educational Media</li> <li>▪ Ruth Culham, Writing</li> <li>▪ Sharon Draper, Literature</li> <li>▪ Dr. Ted Hasselbring, Adaptive Technology</li> <li>▪ Dr. David Rose, Universal Design for Learning</li> <li>▪ Laura Robb, Literature Circles</li> <li>▪ Dr. Janet Zadina, Cognitive Science</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Continued)</i></p>

<b>Key Criteria for Title I, Part A Funding</b>	 <b>Expert 21</b>
<p>Use effective methods and instructional practices that are based on scientifically based research, Continued</p>	<p><b>Strengthen the core academic program</b></p> <p><i>Expert 21</i> teaches reading, writing, and thinking for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century by carefully weaving a comprehensive set of skills strands throughout the program. Reading selections emphasize development of interdisciplinary knowledge in English, Reading, Language Arts, History, Science, Geography, and the Arts. The <i>21 Book</i> emphasizes themes in Health Literacy, Civic Literacy, Financial Literacy, and Global Awareness. The program teaches the following skills and strategies:</p> <p><u>Comprehension and Critical Thinking</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Metacognitive strategies include making inferences, predicting, clarifying, questioning, summarizing, visualizing, and making connections.</li><li>▪ Comprehension strategies include main idea and detail, sequence of events, making inferences, drawing conclusions, fact and opinion, cause and effect, comparing and contrasting, problem and solution, as well as summarizing.</li><li>▪ <i>Expert 21</i> also emphasizes higher-order thinking skills, such as analysis, evaluation, and synthesis throughout the program.</li></ul> <p><u>Vocabulary and Word Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Each <i>Expert 21</i> Workshop introduces students to vocabulary-rich literary and nonfiction texts. Nonfiction texts include academic language that students will encounter across the curriculum as well as content-area words that are specific to science, social studies, literature, and the arts.</li><li>▪ Vocabulary learning is transferred from reading to communicating through writing lessons that focus on the same topics and forms as the readings.</li><li>▪ Literary selections include short stories, novel excerpts, plays, and poetry that are filled with expressive and creative language. These texts build students' word consciousness of how words can be used to create mood, express characterization, and capture images.</li></ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Continued)</i></p>


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<p>Use effective methods and instructional practices that are based on scientifically based research, Continued</p>	<p><u>Writing and Grammar</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The writing lessons include instruction in expository, persuasive, and narrative writing. Students practice writing cause and effect, analytical, compare/contrast, problem/solution, persuasive opinion, and persuasive essays. They also learn to write personal narratives, fictional narratives, science fiction stories, and research papers.</li><li>▪ Each writing lesson introduces the elements of a writing form, provides a model, and then moves through the process of planning, drafting, revising, editing, and presenting.</li><li>▪ Each <i>Expert 21</i> writing lesson includes grammar and usage lessons in the editing stage of the writing process. Students gain effective control of the conventions of written English when they are given frequent opportunities to explore them in their own writing, rather than in isolated exercises.</li></ul> <p><u>Literary Skills and Concepts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Literary terms and concepts are defined and explained in the “Before Reading” section of the lesson.</li><li>▪ During reading, annotations in the sidebar of the reading selections direct students to apply their knowledge in context while interacting with the text.</li><li>▪ After reading students examine the concept by comparing and analyzing its use and application in multiple selections.</li><li>▪ In the <i>Strategy Check</i> students apply their knowledge of workshop skills in a set of activities that precede the formal assessment.</li><li>▪ In the online <i>xSkills Test</i>, students apply skills to a new selection.</li></ul> <p><u>Elements of Nonfiction</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Elements of nonfiction are introduced on the “Before Reading” page, under the heading “Navigating Text,” and then reinforced throughout the reading. They are chosen to highlight the most important aspect of each selection.</li><li>▪ Instruction is divided among format, text structures, patterns of organization, and additional concepts drawn from state standards and/or critical to the understanding of the text.</li></ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Continued)</i></p>

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<p>Use effective methods and instructional practices that are based on scientifically based research, Continued</p>	<p><u>21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Communication and Collaboration, as well as Creativity and Innovation are intrinsic to most activities and projects in <i>Expert 21</i>.</li><li>▪ Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Information and Media Literacy, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Literacy, and Workplace and Life Skills are the focus of direct instruction and application in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills and the <i>Expert Projects</i>.</li><li>▪ The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Toolkit is an easy-to-use student resource that supports, extends, and supplements activities in <i>Expert 21</i>. A set of color-coded cards in six categories allows students to choose the instruction, resources, models, or scaffolding they need to complete a particular project or strengthen skills.</li></ul> <p><b>Provide an enriched and accelerated curriculum</b></p> <p>The goal of <i>Expert 21</i> is to accelerate students from Basic to Proficient with the first contemporary, interactive 21<sup>st</sup> Century English-Language Arts Curriculum. The program is designed for students from basic to above, students exiting <i>READ 180</i>, or Early/Advanced English-Language learners. The three courses span a wide range of abilities in the classroom—from 650 to 1200 Lexiles®. Readings are also available online to read aloud to students who may next additional support and interactive scaffolding.</p> <p><b>Increase the amount and quality of learning time</b></p> <p><i>Expert 21</i> is organized around 8 workshops per course. At each course level, students will explore various kinds of literacy, including personal literacy, content area literacy, social literacy and global literacy. Students learn that literacy has application across multiple genres. Readings are also available online to read aloud to students who may next additional support and interactive scaffolding.</p> <p><i>Inquiry-based instruction</i> engages students in activities and discussion around an organizing question or problem important in the world. In <i>Expert 21</i>, each Workshop begins with an <i>Expert</i>, or essential, <i>Question</i>. During the inquiry process, students explore and address the problem articulated by the question. Everything taught in an inquiry unit—including all attitudes, strategies, and concepts—is in the service of investigating the question, and understanding and doing things related to the question. Through inquiry, students learn how to use accepted problem-solving tools to construct understandings.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Continued)</p>

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<p>Use effective methods and instructional practices that are based on scientifically based research, Continued</p>	<p>Students engage in the same kind of processes and dialogues that practitioners do, and make use of the same tools, as well. They are inducted as apprentices into the ways “experts” know and do things.</p> <p><i>Expert 21</i> is flexible to fit into an existing English-Language Arts schedule.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Teacher-guided Exploration (30-45 minutes)—Model, mentor, monitor</li> <li>2. Small Group/Independent Work (15-30 minutes)—Differentiate, collaborate, communicate</li> <li>3. Whole Group Wrap-up (5-15 minutes)—Reflect, evaluate</li> </ol>
<p>5. Provide high-quality and ongoing professional development that aligns with the State’s academic standards</p>	<p>A comprehensive Professional Development Guide is included for all teachers. This guide includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Program Overview</li> <li>▪ Research Foundations</li> <li>▪ Instructional Routines</li> <li>▪ Literature Circles</li> <li>▪ Expert Space</li> <li>▪ Assessment and Reporting</li> </ul> <p>Start-Up and Follow-Up training is available for all teachers. Start-Up Training includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Program Background</li> <li>▪ Teaching With Expert 21</li> <li>▪ Assessment and Data-Driven Instruction</li> <li>▪ Using the Web-Based Technology</li> <li>▪ Managing a 21st Century Classroom</li> <li>▪ Your First 21 Days</li> <li>▪ Personal Inquiry</li> </ul> <p>Follow-Up Training includes dedicated seminars on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Differentiating Instruction</li> <li>▪ Managing the Instructional Model</li> <li>▪ Inquiry-Based Learning</li> <li>▪ Using Expert Space</li> </ul>
<p>6. Involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the schoolwide program plan</p>	<p>Students are able to access Expert Space any time, any where. They can extend their learning outside the classroom, whether they are at home, at the library or a community center.</p>

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7. If appropriate, coordinate with other funding programs	<p><i>Expert 21</i> can be integrated with funds and money from state, local, and other sources. The funding programs for which it qualifies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Title IA—Improving Basic Programs</li><li>▪ Title IID—Enhancing Education through Technology</li><li>▪ Title III—English Language Acquisition</li><li>▪ Enhancing Education through Technology</li><li>▪ GEAR Up</li><li>▪ Smaller Learning Communities</li><li>▪ IDEA, Part B</li><li>▪ IDEA, <i>Response to Intervention</i></li></ul>