

No Child Left Behind Public School Choice Options Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Frequently Asked Questions

What are Supplemental Educational Services (SES)?

The term Supplemental Educational Services refers to free tutoring services in reading, math, and/or science. This extra help is provided after school, before school or on weekends by private tutoring agencies.

Why do we have SES?

It is mandated by the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).

Can my child be transfer to another school under NCLB Choice and get SES?

No. You can choose only one option.

Who is eligible to apply for SES?

Students who are approved to receive free or reduced-price meals and who attend a Title I school identified as a School In Need of Improvement (SINI) are considered eligible to apply.

Where does the tutoring take place?

The location is up to the provider. Some providers lease classrooms at the school. Others meet at their offices or at a community center. Some providers offer in home or online tutoring.

How do I choose a good SES provider?

The School District of Palm Beach County will provide a directory of tutoring agencies that contains information about all of the state-approved tutoring providers. Parents must choose a provider for their child from the directory. Parents are encouraged to attend a Provider Fair at the beginning of the school year to meet with providers before making their selection.

Will all students who apply for SES receive services if their parents choose this option?

There is a set amount of money for this program. If there is not enough money to serve all the students who apply, priority will be given to the lowest performing eligible students. Palm Beach County has been required to prioritize services for the past two years.

What is the timeline for SES services?

In late summer SES enrollment packets and a provider directory are mailed to parents of eligible students. During the first week of school, another enrollment packet is sent home with eligible students. Provider Fairs are held during the first month of school so parents can meet with providers before making their selection. Enrollment forms are due by the deadline stated on the form and tutoring begins October 15, 2010.

What are the benefits of SES?

The program offers children who may be struggling in school an opportunity to get extra academic help and individual instruction. Studies suggest that academic programs offered outside the school day can help students improve their achievement and work habits. Tutoring can help children improve achievement by building on the learning that takes place during the school day. Students at risk of academic failure have the most to gain from tutoring programs. Some of these students may not be successful in traditional classrooms and may be able to learn in different ways through tutoring. By helping individual students improve, supplemental educational services support teachers' and principals' efforts to improve their schools.

How do I get more information on SES?

Each Title I school offering SES services has an SES contact. You may receive more information about SES by calling the school and asking for the SES contact. Parents may also view a Parent Guide on SES at www.fldoe.org/flbpo/nclbchoice/ses/parentoutreach.asp.