

Background

Beginning in school year 2006-07, the Department of Public Instruction required all approved providers of Supplemental Educational Services (SES) to sign an assurance stating the provider would provide only educational incentives for attendance or achievement. Incentives for signing up to receive services from specific providers (“signing bonuses”) are prohibited.

Incentive Use

Below is a proposed list of acceptable and not acceptable educational incentives. This list is not exhaustive, and it is intended only as a guideline for determining appropriate educational incentives.

Acceptable Educational Incentives	Not Acceptable Educational Incentives
Books	iPods
Educational software	Mall cards
Highlighters, markers, etc	Store gift cards
Magazines, comic books	Movie passes
Museum field trips	Pizza parties
Trips to colleges and universities	Stipends for drivers’ education classes

If a provider receives donations of non-educational items that it would like to distribute as incentives, it may do so. Donated items are only to be used for attendance and achievement. Additionally, the provider must have clear documentation available to demonstrate that incentives were donated and not purchased with federal dollars. Documentation must be maintained by the provider, and documentation should include, at a minimum, a letter stating the type and date of donations. Such letters should be dated and signed by the donor.

If you have any questions about the use of incentives, please contact:

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