ALL Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas

EVERY Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career

EVERY Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program

EVERY School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders

EVERY Community Effectively Uses a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes

EVERY School and District is Rated “C” or Higher
VISION

To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens

MISSION

To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community
Session Overview

We will review:

Equitable Services Background

School Year 2022-23 Equitable Services Cycle

• Timeline and deadlines – Where are we now?
• Contact, Consultation, Plan Creation and Affirmation
• Potential pitfalls
• Special situations
• Updated MDE forms
Equitable Services Background
What Are Equitable Services?

Federal education funding aims to increase the educational achievement of all students. “Equitable share” represents the portion of federal funding generated by participating private school students.

When applying for its federal program allocations, the LEA signs assurances promising to provide equitable services according to law.

For First Amendment reasons, Congress decided the LEA would act as program administrator for the equitable services provided to participating private schools in the LEA’s attendance area.
Programs Requiring Equitable Services

Major programs:

• Title I, Part A (Educational Assistance to At-risk Students)
• Title II, Part A (Professional Development)
• Title IV, Part A (Well-rounded Education / Safe and Healthy Students / Supporting the Effective Use of Technology)
Programs Requiring Equitable Services

Other potential programs:

• Title I, Part C (Education of Migratory Children); [Mississippi Migrant Education Service Center (MMESC)]
• Title III, Part A (English Learners and Immigrant Students)
• Title IV, Part B (21st Century Community Learning Centers)
Equitable Services Ombudsman duties include:

• Monitoring and enforcing the equitable services requirements of ESEA
• Being a neutral point of contact for LEAs and private schools
• Providing technical support to LEAs and private schools
• Facilitating the effective interaction of LEAs and private schools
• Deciding equitable services disputes according to ESEA’s requirements
Basic Parameters

Educational services provided must be “secular, neutral and non-ideological,” and must meet the specific needs of the private school’s students. Religious instruction may not be delivered.

Private school leaders are ideally positioned to know and express these educational needs and do so during the consultation process resulting in Equitable Services Plan formation.
Basic Parameters

Any equipment, property or materials provided that are not consumed during use remain the property of LEA, entered in the LEA’s inventory records, and must be recovered and secured by the LEA when not in programmatic use (for example, if not used during the summer).
SY 22-23
Equitable Services Cycle
Equitable Services Process at a Glance

- Search
- Initial Contact
- Participation?
- Consultation – Equitable Services Plan – Affirmation (Disputes?)
- Service Provision
- Ongoing Assessment and Monitoring
Equitable Services Timeline for School Year 2022-23 (FY23)
(click to download Timeline with more detailed information)

By January 31: Search for private schools complete, and SY22-23 (FY23) Initial Contact Letter and Intent to Participate mailed. If no response within two weeks, begin additional contact attempts (emails, phone calls) and retain evidence.
Timeline – Search, Initial Contact, Participation

By March 11: Upload all returned Intent to Participate forms to MCAPS. If no response, upload proof of contact. If no private schools in your LEA, type “No Private Schools” on LEA letterhead, and upload.
Timeline – Consultation, Title I-A matters, Plan

March 2022: Begin consultation with each participating private school, using SY22-23 Consultation Checklist. When needed to determine qualification for Title I-A funding generation. Use:

- SY22-23 Household Income, Address and Grade Survey, or
- Need-based financial aid data, or
- Free/Reduced Price Lunch (FRPL) data is an option, if available
Timeline – Consultation, Title I-A matters, Plan

By April 15: Qualification data should be returned to LEA; if a low-income qualifying student would have attended a Title I-A served school and grade, the student generates a share of I-A funding.

By April 29: Contact any outside districts of residence for verification.
Timeline – Revise Plan, Begin Services, Assess

By May 27: Estimated (or actual) Equitable Services Plans uploaded

Summer 2022: As FY23 allocations become available, Revised Equitable Services Plans uploaded to MCAPS with correct equitable share amounts identified. SY22-23 (FY23) Equitable Services Plan and Written Affirmation (model Plan template)
Closer Look: SY 22-23 Process

With selected pitfalls highlighted in red…
Search

By January 31, the LEA must have completed its diligent search. Perform multiple internet searches – including for the county and municipalities – and tap district office personnel knowledge of the region by circulating an office email. Upload your search evidence to your MCAPS LEA Doc Library Intent-to-Participate folder for monitoring.
Search

Only private schools operated by a nonprofit corporation registered with the MS Secretary of State qualify for equitable services, but do not try to make this determination during the Search phase.

Every private school gets an Initial Contact Letter and Intent to Participate form. When this form is received back from the private school, check for nonprofit status (more on this below).

K-5 kindergartens qualify. Pre-K (K-4 or younger) does not qualify, but do not overlook church early childhood programs that include a qualifying kindergarten class.
The Initial Contact Letter & Intent to Participate form has been updated: **School Year 2022-23 Initial Contact Letter and Intent to Participate** form. Use the updated form.

By January 31, each private school identified in the LEA’s diligent search must be mailed this form, requesting return of the *Intent to Participate* portion. In addition to email, LEAs should use certified mail and retain proof of mailing. Upload proof of mailing materials to your MCAPS LEA Doc Library, Intent-to-Participate folder, for monitors.
Initial Contact Letter and Intent to Participate

If a private school has not responded within two weeks of mailing, the LEA must begin additional contact attempts, including phone calls and emails, and retain phone log and email evidence (upload to MCAPS).

A private school remaining unresponsive past the 30-day deadline will be considered non-participating for SY22-23, absent good cause.
Initial Contact Letter and Intent to Participate

The *Initial Contact Letter* gives the private school an overview of equitable services, including brief snapshots of the various Title programs that require equitable services.

The private school is invited to participate in programs of its choice and asked to return the last page of the form – the *Intent to Participate* portion – indicating whether or not it will participate, and in which programs. Program choice is tentative at this point and must be discussed in more detail during consultation.
Initial Contact Letter and Intent to Participate

To qualify for equitable services, **the business entity operating the private school** must be a nonprofit corporation registered with the MS Secretary of State. This business entity might be the school itself, a church operating the school, or the operating entity for a number of churches or schools.
Initial Contact Letter and Intent to Participate

The nonprofit corporation should be checked on the MS Sec. of State website’s business search feature. A business name that will be findable by this search must be supplied. If there is a problem, double check with the private school. Contact the Ombudsman for oversight.
Initial Contact Letter and Intent to Participate

If the private school is participating, it should indicate the number of students in each grade level. These attendance numbers can be adjusted if needed during March consultation to match March attendance, from which equitable shares are calculated.
Let’s take a brief look at the form.
Initial Contact Letter and Intent to Participate

By March 11, LEAs must have uploaded all returned Intent to Participate forms to MCAPS.

If a private school never responded, the LEA must upload proof of mailing and scanned documentation of additional contact attempts.
Initial Contact Letter and Intent to Participate

If an LEA's search has revealed no private schools in its attendance area, the LEA must type “no private schools in district” on the LEA letterhead and upload to MCAPS. Upload search evidence with the letter.
Initial Contact Letter and Intent to Participate

Upload materials to: LEA Document Library (2023 root folder) > 2023 > Equitable Services to Private Schools > FY22 Private School Intent to Participate

If the 2023 root folder is not available, email the returned form(s) (or the “no private schools” letter), and all evidence, to the Ombudsman: BLieb@mdek12.org
Consultation

By March, the LEA will know which private schools have elected to participate. **Promptly** begin consultation with each individual private school, in order to have *Equitable Services Plans* completed by May 27.

Consultation is the discussion between the LEA and private school with the goal of reaching agreement on how to provide equitable services.

OFP’s *Equitable Services Consultation Checklist* has been updated for SY2022-23 and is available for download. **Use the updated form.**
Let’s take a brief look.
Focus on: Title I-A

What is Title I-A? … Educational Assistance to At-risk Students.

Who are the at-risk students?

• That sub-set of students most at-risk of failing.

• This subset is determined when school starts, based on a ranking system applied to all students. A logical cut-off is chosen. The private school and the LEA collaborate in the ranking system design.
Example of a ranking system (decide on point values):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier I (1-5 points per)</th>
<th>Tier II (5-10 points per)</th>
<th>Tier III (20 points each)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent Request</td>
<td>Prior Year Retention</td>
<td>Multiple Retentions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Referral (observation)</td>
<td>Teacher Referral (term grades)</td>
<td>Performs two+ years below grade level on screening results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Progress Report</td>
<td>Year-end Assessment Results</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Beginning-of-year screening</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Focus on: Title I-A

A letter should be sent home by the private school, describing the I-A program and allowing parents of children on the at-risk list to opt-in for services.

What kinds of services are available?
Focus on: Title I-A

Tutoring is a major feature of Title I-A equitable services.

Private school teachers – contracted and paid by the LEA – can tutor before or after school (or home tutoring), but not during school. If a state teacher’s license is required for LEA tutors, the same requirement applies to private school teachers contracted to tutor.

School district teachers and third-party contractors can also be tutors and can work with students during non-instructional time during school (i.e., during a “study hall” period).
Other allowable I-A services include:

- In-school tutoring (I-A tutoring period or study period) by LEA or third-party contracted tutors (private school teachers cannot tutor during school time – must be before or after school).

- Computer-assisted instruction

- Instruction using take-home computers

- Counseling (but see Title IV-A)
Focus on: Title I-A

How is the private school’s **equitable share** funding proportion calculated? (What is the funding level?)

- **Title I-A** funding is **unique** in its funding generation method.

- Funding is generated exclusively by **low-income qualifying** students enrolled in the LEA’s Title I schools and at the private school, and then divided proportionally.
Focus on: Title I-A

Students who qualify for reduced-price (or free) lunch in the LEA’s Title I schools form the school district’s proportion. Low-income qualifying students at the private school must be identified to form the private school’s proportion.
Focus on Title I-A: Low-income Student Count

How are low-income students at the private school identified?

- Household Income, Address and Grade Level Survey sent home during March consultation. If a student’s household income would qualify her for (at least) a reduced-price lunch under the federal parameters, she is a low-income qualifying student – the key element for generating Title I-A funding.

- Need-based financial aid data

- If the private school uses the federal Free/Reduced Price Lunch (FRPL) program, use this data to identify qualifying students.
Focus on Title I-A: Low-income Student Count

SY21-22 Household Income, Address and Grade Survey

The form is “email-optimized” for distribution by the private school to its families, on-screen completion, and return to the private school by email. Other methods of distribution/completion are acceptable.

Per federal guidance, Household Income Surveys are anonymous, to protect the privacy of families. The student(s) residence address and grade level must be provided, but not student/family names.

Qualifying forms are provided by the private school to the LEA by April 15.
Determining a low-income student count by referencing need-based financial aid data available from private schools that provide need-based financial aid is a method recognized by US ED’s equitable services guidance and was introduced with success during CARES/ESSER equitable services.

The quick turnaround using centralized data already on hand is a preferred feature of this method.

Consult with the private school about whether the Family Income Surveys or the Need-Based Financial Aid Data method is preferred.
Low-income Count: Financial Aid Data Method

For the Need-based Financial Aid Data method, need-based financial aid application data available in the private school’s business office or from its third-party provider handling financial aid (e.g., FACTS, FAST, etc.) is used to assemble the identical anonymous income level information sought in the Household Income Surveys.
Low-income Count: Financial Aid Data Method

The private school will present the LEA with a data table, on school letterhead, signed by the school administrator including the following columns for qualifying students (do not show student / family names):

- residence address,
- number of student(s) & grade level(s), residing at address
- household size
- household income
Low-income Count: Financial Aid Data Method

Students qualify as “low-income” when data shows household size and income at or below the levels in the Household Income Survey table appearing in that Survey.

The LEA’s retention of the table provided by the private school is sufficient to demonstrate the low-income student identification to future monitors.
Low-income Count: Check the Map

Using the list of addresses of low-income students provided by either the Survey or Need-based Financial Aid Data method:

The LEA checks its attendance-area map (a bussing map, etc.) and verifies that:

• residence addresses are inside the LEA’s attendance area, and
• the student(s) would be attending a Title I served school in the LEA if attending public school.

If so, the student(s) count toward the private school’s low-income student total.
Low-income Count: Outside LEAs

If the address is outside the LEA’s attendance area, contact the outside LEA.

By April 29, the LEA contacts outside LEAs for potential share contribution. The outside LEA verifies that if the child went to public school - based on address and grade - he would attend a Title I-A served school and grade.
Low-income Count: Outside LEAs

A Memorandum of Understanding form is available for LEAs:

**SY22-23 Title I-A Equitable Services Inter-District MOU**

Students meeting these three elements (low-income, I-A served address, and I-A served grade level) form the private school’s proportion generating its share of Title I-A funding.
Focus on Title I-A: Funding Calculation

Funding calculation example:

Small LEA: 1200 total public school students. 990 qualify as low-income. All schools and grade levels are Title I-A served.

One private school. 10 of its 100 total students qualify as low-income. All 10 would have attended a Title I-A served school and grade level if attending public school.

Note: It is only necessary to plug in the correct low-income counts in the LEA’s MCAPS funding application. MCAPS performs the calculation.
Focus on Title I-A: Funding Calculation

990 public low-income + 10 private low-income = 1000 total low-income.

$500,000.00 Title I-A allocation to the LEA / 1000 total low-income students = $500.00 per pupil.

$500 per pupil x 10 private school low-income = $5,000.00 Title I-A equitable share

Note: “Low-income” students who generate funding may or may not be the most at-risk students who receive services. It is the ranked-list, at-risk group that receives services.
Focus on Title I-A: Administrative Costs

An administrative cost may be deducted from the I-A equitable share.

An admin-cost percentage typically mirrors the LEA’s own administrative costs taken from its own Title I-A funding but must be justifiable as reasonable and necessary to perform the work involved in administering the I-A equitable services program.

If taking an administrative cost, mention this during consultation and include in the Equitable Services Plan.
Title II-A & IV-A: Equitable Share Calculation

For Titles II-A (professional development) and IV-A (well-rounded education, safe & healthy students, and supporting the effective use of technology), the equitable share calculation is straightforward.

Unlike Title I-A’s low-income counting, II-A and IV-A use total K-12 public attendance and total K-12 private attendance as the proportions for dividing the Program Allocation funds.

When correct total attendance numbers are entered, MCAPS calculates the equitable share.
Title II-A & IV-A: Equitable Share Calculation

In our example LEA with one private school:

1200 public school K-12 students + 100 private school K-12 students = 1300 total attendance

$100,000.00 Title II-A allocation / 1300 = $76.92 per pupil x 100 private school students = $7,692.00 equitable share

$25,000.00 Title IV-A allocation / 1300 = $19.23 per pupil x 100 private school students = $1,923.00 equitable share

~2-5% (II-A) and 2% (IV-A) administrative cost may be assessed.
Title II-A: What is allowable?

II-A: Professional development for teachers and educational/administrative staff. Examples:

- Improving the knowledge of teachers, principals, and other educational personnel in core academic subjects and in effective instructional teaching strategies, methods, and skills;

- Training in effectively integrating technology into curricula/instruction (but see Title IV-A)
Focus on: Title II-A

• Training in how to teach students with different needs, including students with disabilities or limited English proficiency, and gifted and talented students;

• Training in methods of improving student behavior, identifying early and appropriate interventions, and effectively involving parents in their children’s education;
Focus on: Title II-A

• Leadership development and management training to improve the quality of principals; and
• Training in the use of data and assessments to improve instruction and student outcomes
Focus on: Title II-A

The foregoing list is not exclusive.

Activities must be targeted to address specific student needs.

In-house PD, outside PD, and imbedded, in-class PD are all possible, including reasonable travel costs.

Class-size reduction is not an allowed use for equitable services funds.

To be allowable, activities selected must be reasonable and necessary.
Focus on Title II-A: Paying for Services

The LEA should endeavor to pre-pay all possible costs of PD. If some cannot be pre-paid, teachers/staff may be reimbursed directly for allowable travel, hotel, meal and conference costs.

Do not reimburse the private school directly.

More-restrictive LEA requirements (such as roommates at a hotel, or carpooling) may not be enforced against private school staff engaging in otherwise allowable PD (single travel and single occupancy hotel rooms are allowable).
Focus on: Title IV-A

Title IV-A provides funding for three categories of activity:

• Well-rounded Educational Opportunities
• Safe and Healthy Students
• Supporting the Effective Use of Technology

U.S. Dept. of Education - Title IV-A Guidance
Excellent IV-A guidance for idea-generation, with detailed treatment of the many possibilities in each category of activity (see next slide).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Well-Rounded Educational Opportunities (ESEA section 4107)</th>
<th>Safe and Healthy Students (ESEA section 4108)</th>
<th>Effective Use of Technology (ESEA section 4109)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Improving access to foreign language instruction, arts, and music education</td>
<td>• Promoting community and parent involvement in schools</td>
<td>• Supporting high-quality professional development for educators, school leaders, and administrators to personalize learning and improve academic achievement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Supporting college and career counseling, including providing information on opportunities for financial aid through the early FAFSA</td>
<td>• Providing school-based mental health services and counseling</td>
<td>• Building technological capacity and infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Providing programming to improve instruction and student engagement in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), including computer science, and increasing access to these subjects for underrepresented groups</td>
<td>• Promoting supportive school climates to reduce the use of exclusionary discipline and promoting supportive school discipline</td>
<td>• Carrying out innovative blended learning projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Promoting access to accelerated learning opportunities including Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs, dual or concurrent enrollment programs and early college high schools</td>
<td>• Establishing or improving dropout prevention</td>
<td>• Providing students in rural, remote, and underserved areas with the resources to benefit from high-quality digital learning opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Strengthening instruction in American history, civics, economics, geography, government education, and environmental education</td>
<td>• Supporting re-entry programs and transition services for justice-involved youth</td>
<td>• Delivering specialized or rigorous academic courses and curricula using technology, including digital learning technologies and assistive technology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Title I-C, III-A and IV-B

Though possible in theory, equitable services will be rare in these Title programs.

I-C: There is only one (1) known child of migrant farm or fishery workers enrolled in a private school in Mississippi. If a private school enrolls such a student, contact the Ombudsman and ask the LEA to alert the Mississippi Migrant Education Service Center (MMESC), so that the student can receive I-C services.
III-A: In LEAs that receive a III-A grant, any English Learner (EL) and/or Immigrant students enrolled in local private schools can receive III-A equitable services. If so, qualifying private school ELs/Immigrants will receive proportional funding on a per-student basis, relative to the number of public school district ELs/Immigrants.
IV-B: An LEA or other entity qualifying for a IV-B grant and establishing a 21st Century Community Learning Center program (often, an after-school program) must offer equitable participation to private school students, including the opportunity for individual students to qualify for first-tier spots, or otherwise attend as space permits if the private school elects to participate.
Consultation culminates in a written Equitable Services Plan. Though not unalterable, the Plan should be as specific as possible.

If program allocations have yet to be released, use an estimate to facilitate planning (85% of the prior year’s amount is suggested).

Deadline for LEA upload is May 27, 2022. Upload to LEA Documents Library.

Let’s look at the consolidated model Plan template.

**SY22-23 (FY23) Equitable Services Plan and Written Affirmation**
Service Provision

Equitable services begin when the school year begins.

*Substantial approval* of an LEA’s funding application allows an LEA to spend, including on equitable services as needed. The lack of *final* approval of an LEA’s application does not block or delay spending on equitable services.

When the LEA’s application receives final approval, the LEA can then file *requests for funds* for all budgeted items, including equitable services.
Service Provision

The private school’s portion of funds – the equitable share – is not spent by the private school, but by the LEA to fund the activities and services provided.

The LEA must maintain control of the federal funds. Thus, reimbursement of a private school is never proper, and it is important to emphasize this to the private school.
The sole exception is the reimbursement of individual teachers/staff for expenses arising from professional development activities. These reimbursements can be handled in the same manner that LEA employees are reimbursed for PD expenses.
Service Provision

LEA staff must perform the administrative work of the program.

Private school staff must not be delegated administrative tasks, for example, the task of finding multiple quotes for requested services / equipment / materials. Such delegation would represent both unfunded work, and a loss of administrative control by the LEA.

LEA staff must handle all aspects of quotes and ordering in accordance with LEA policies and procedures. A reasonable and necessary admin cost to cover time spent may be assigned if desired (discussed earlier).
Assessment of equitable services should occur throughout the school year, and any needed changes implemented. A final assessment at year end should inform the next round of equitable services.

Retain documentation of assessments. Something as simple as a short narrative may cover many situations. More complex assessments, such as the documentation tracking progress (grades/test results) of tutored students, may be appropriate in those more complex cases.

It is important to avoid having no program assessment whatsoever.
Carryover

The goal of Equitable Services Plan formation is to methodically expend the equitable share during the year in which allocated. If funds remain unspent due to delays or remainder amounts, the funds will carry over for a single additional year.

These carryover funds must be first in line for spending on the private school’s equitable services program, followed seamlessly by newly incoming funds. If any carryover funds remain unspent after the single bonus year, the unspent funds revert to the federal government.

The consolidated Equitable Services Plan template provides clarity on the amount of remaining carryover funds.
Partial Participation

Partial Participation is an elective option for a private school not desiring to use its entire equitable share, including possible carryover.

- If a private school determines its educational needs are met by using a certain portion of its equitable share, it may elect to participate to the partial extent of the dollar amount it desires to use.

- The remainder is re-distributed; however, guidance indicates that under certain circumstances the remainder may go entirely to other participating private schools, if present – so contact the Ombudsman.

- The required form is available for download from the OFP website (Private Schools section). Contact the Ombudsman, who must approve this transaction.
Transferability (ESEA Title V-A)

Title V-A Transferability is a tool by which LEAs can transfer funding from Title II-A or IV-A to other Title programs (I-A, I-C, I-D, II-A, III-A, IV-A, and V-B). If equitable services are not involved, transfers pose no problems.
Transferability (continued)

When equitable services are involved, the private school’s equitable share(s) would be affected.

Administrative decisions issued by the U.S. Dept. of Ed. indicate that the LEA’s desired transfer will survive a private school complaint if consultation was conducted about the transfer with the affected private school, and that consultation:

(1) was *timely* – conducted before the transfer decision was made,

(2) was *meaningful*, and

(3) shows *due consideration* of the private school’s views
Transferability (continued)

LEAs consulting about transfers should be mindful of documentation:

• Prior to deciding to submit a funding application incorporating transfer(s), first engage in the required consultation with affected private schools in order to further inform the LEA’s transfer considerations. Document the meeting/communications.

• Consider the private school’s views. Consider and discuss alternative courses of action. Document this process.
Transferability (continued)

• Use the **Affirmation of Consultation for Transfer** form when the final decision is made, showing the funding consequences of the transfer. Attach all documentation of prior discussions.

• The private school will sign this form and agree or disagree with the transfer decision represented on the Affirmation of Consultation for Transfer form. If disagreeing, the private school’s complaint will be resolved using the Dispute Resolution Procedure.

• Upload the form and all attached documentation to your LEA Doc Library in MCAPS, to the Equitable Services Plan subfolder.
A private school’s complaint about a transfer decision will initiate the Equitable Services Dispute Resolution Procedure, and a fact-based examination of the three foregoing criteria will occur, with the Ombudsman issuing a written decision.

Appeals may be taken (consecutively) to the State Superintendent, US ED, and to the federal courts.
For all equitable services matters, an Equitable Services Dispute Resolution Policy has been created, adopted by the Mississippi State Board of Education, and entered into the Mississippi Administrative Code at *Title VII, Pt. 3, Ch. 80, Rule 80.4*. 
Disputes and Dispute Resolution

Procedures include:

• Private school indication of “disagreement” on an Affirmation of Consultation form (Plan or Transfer), or other private school complaint concerning equitable services, triggers the dispute resolution process.

• Step 1: Informal settlement conference, attempting to resolve the dispute in an OFP-moderated setting (virtual meeting, etc.).

• Step 2: Formal Complaint and Response.

• Step 3: Consideration and written decision by Ombudsman.

• Step 4: Appeals are possible.
Resources
Equitable Services forms are available for download from the MCAPS MDE Document Library, Equitable Services to Private Schools (SY2022-23 folder), or from the Office of Federal Programs website, Private Schools section, here:

https://www.mdek12.org/OFP/private-schools
Resources

U.S. Dept. of Education - Title IV-A Guidance
Excellent IV-A guidance for idea-generation, with detailed category uses

Mississippi Administrative Code at Title VII, Part 3, Chapter 80, Rule 80.4
Equitable Services Dispute Resolution Policy
Questions?
Bryan P. Lieb, Esq.

Equitable Services Ombudsman

blieb@mdek12.org
Judy Nelson, Executive Director of Federal Programs
jnelson@mdek12.org

Chad Daniels, Bureau Director
cdaniels@mdek12.org

Bryan P. Lieb, Esq., Equitable Services Ombudsman | Migrant Ed. Coord.
blieb@mdek12.org

Office Phone: (601) 359-3499