Pixton

Alignment to U.S. Federal Funding Priorities

Pixton can easily be purchased with federal funds allotted to schools and districts. This document explains how Pixton aligns with various federal programs. This is not an exhaustive list, and you may wish to seek additional guidance from your school or district's federal program administrator.

Title I: Improving the Academic Achievment of the Disadvantaged

- **Title I, Part A**: *Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies*
  - Schools may use Title I, Part A funds for the purchase of instructional tools and materials such as Pixton, as well as professional development to support the implementation of these tools.

- **Title I, Part C**: *Education of Migratory Children*
  - Pixton is an ideal tool for outreach and communication. Educators can create engaging comics in multiple languages and at various reading levels to ensure that migratory children and their families gain information and access to essential services.
  - Pixton can help meet the unique educational needs of migratory children by adding fun to summer or afterschool programs, strengthening students' understanding of core subjects, and building interest in reading and writing. Pixton can be used on virtually any device with a browser, ensuring that technology access is not a barrier to learning.

- **Title I, Part D**: *Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth who are Neglected, Delinquent, or At Risk*
  - Pixton includes more than 50 engaging Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Lesson Ideas that can be used to support at-risk youth.
  - Child and family therapy professionals use Pixton in a variety of ways to promote social emotional development. Children can engage directly in their narratives using their own character, or they can maintain emotional distance by employing different characters or imagining different experiences that enable them to feel safe and supported.

Title II: Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High Quality Principals and Teachers

- **Title II, Part A:** *Supporting Effective Instruction*
  - States and districts may use Title II, Part A funds to support professional learning including helping teachers use technology to support teaching and learning. Pixton provides numerous on-demand professional learning experiences including:
    - » Research-backed webinars aimed at helping teachers use Pixton effectively to improve student outcomes across the curriculum.
    - » Self-paced Pixton Certified Educator course.
    - » Video tutorials.
    - » Help center with articles and instructional comics containing general information and specific classroom applications.
    - » Comic School to help users learn to effectively create and communicate through comics.

Title III: Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students

- There is a growing body of independently conducted research demonstrating Pixton's effectiveness as a learning tool, particularly for English learners. Pixton has been shown to significantly improve grammar, vocabulary, and overall writing skills.
- Pixton provides culturally responsive content, making it possible for learners to see themselves and their communities fully and accurately in the comics they create.
- Pixton includes many features particularly important for English learners including:
  - » Lesson ideas and activities with strategies for scaffolding and differentiation.
  - » Support for the creation of comics in virtually any language.
  - » Speech-to-text and text-to-speech (read aloud) to help improve pronunciation and fluency.
  - » The ability to display and use the application in English, Spanish, or French.

Title IV: 21st Century Schools

- **Title IV, Part A:** *Student Support and Academic Enrichment*

  - Pixton provides a foundation for a well-rounded education through a vast library of content and digital creation tools.

  - Comic making with Pixton supports student success by promoting constructive student engagement and problem solving. More than 300 standards-aligned Lesson Ideas are designed to build knowledge and improve student achievement across the curriculum.

  - More than 50 CASEL-aligned Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Lesson Ideas help students build conflict resolution skills, practice empathy, cope with anxiety, and set goals.

  - Pixton enables students to make unique and personal avatars from more than 1,000 skin tones, hairstyles, and outfits, helping teachers create an inclusive, identity-affirming environment.

  - Dozens of literature-related content packs promote reading and encourage writing.

  - Pixton makes it easy for teachers to discover, use, and share digital content. Teacher-created comics can be used to explain complex concepts, help struggling readers, or simply to engage and motivate students.

- **Title IV, Part B:** *Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers*:

  - Pixton is an ideal tool for after-school environments. Comic making provides a fun and effective way to extend learning beyond the school day and reinforce core academic instruction. Pixton is safe, secure, and works on virtually any device with a browser.

  - Pixton reinforces the core academic program by including more than 6,000 backgrounds, characters, and props that can be used to create stories and explanations on virtually any topic. Math symbols and accents can easily be inserted into speech bubbles, enabling learners to build literacy and numeracy skills across various subjects.

- **Title V:** *State Innovation and Local Flexibility*

  - These funds support rural education and can be used for activities such as those authorized under Title I, Part A; Title II, Part A; and Title III, Part A as well as professional development for teachers.

- **Title VI:** *Indian, Native Hawaiian and Alaska Native Education*

  - Comic making enhances reading and literacy.

  - Pixton reflects the diversity of its users by providing options for skin color, hair, clothing, backgrounds, and culturally relevant assets.

  - Providing visual representations in the form of comics can help students feel represented in the curricula, enhancing their engagement and prompting more meaningful conversations and learnings.

Title IX, Part A: Homeless Children and Youth

- Districts may use a portion of these funds to meet the needs of homeless students.

  » Pixton can be used to increase the meaningful involvement of parents. Create comics in virtually any language. Combine text and images to create easy-to-understand parent communications.

  » Comic creation with Pixton can engage and motivate learners to read, write, and express their understandings and feelings.

  » Pixton enables the creation of comics on any device with a browser—including cell phones—which are often the only computing devices available to homeless youth.

  » Pixton provides a fun and engaging way to encourage reading and writing beyond the school day.