The Even Start Family Literacy Program-Title I, Part B, Subpart 3 is a Federal discretionary grant program reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The primary purpose of Even Start is to help break the intergenerational cycle of poverty and low-literacy in the nation. To do this, Even Start programs are required to integrate early childhood education services, adult education services, interactive parent and child literacy activities, and parenting education into a unified family literacy program. Eligible participants are parents and their children identified as families most in need of services. Needs-related indicators include but are not limited to a low level of income, a low level of adult literacy, and limited English proficiency of parents.

Local education agencies in partnership with community-based entities are eligible to apply for subgrants to provide an Even Start Family Literacy Program. Each local Even Start program is expected to build on existing high-quality community resources where appropriate. The availability of funds for programs is subject to a state’s Even Start allocation.