

proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) title; (3) summary of the collection; (4) description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) reporting and/or recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: March 3, 2005.

Angela C. Arrington,

Leader, Information Management Case Services Team, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

Type of Review: Revision.

Title: Part B State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR).

Frequency: State Performance Plan—every 6 years; Annual Performance Report—annually.

Affected Public: State, local, or tribal gov't, SEAs or LEAs; Federal government.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 60.

Burden Hours: 18,000.

Abstract: The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, signed on December 3, 2004, became Public Law 108-446. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. 1416(b)(1), not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, each State must have in place a performance plan that evaluates the States efforts to implement the requirements and purposes of Part B and describe how the State will improve such implementation. This plan, referenced here-to-after, is called the Part B State Performance Plan (Part B—SPP). In accordance with 20 U.S.C. 1416(b)(C)(ii) the State shall report annually to the public on the performance of each local educational

agency located in the State on the targets in the State's performance plan. The State shall report annually to the Secretary on the performance of the State under the State's performance plan. This report, referenced here-to-after, is called the Part B Annual Performance Report (Part B—APR).

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2705. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20202-4700. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov or faxed to 202-245-6621. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Sheila Carey at her e-mail address Sheila.Carey@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 05-4453 Filed 3-7-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education; Overview Information; Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Program; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2005

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.206A.

DATES: *Applications Available:* March 8, 2005.

Deadline for Notice of Intent To Apply: April 4, 2005.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 22, 2005.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 21, 2005.

Eligible Applicants: State educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), or both.

Estimated Available Funds for New Awards: \$3,522,122. Contingent upon the availability of funds and quality of applications, the Secretary may make additional awards in FY 2006 from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition.

Estimated Range of Awards:

\$200,000–\$400,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$270,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 13.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The purpose of this program is to carry out a coordinated program of scientifically based research, demonstration projects, innovative strategies, and similar activities designed to build and enhance the ability of elementary and secondary schools nationwide to meet the special educational needs of gifted and talented students.

Priority: In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(iv), this priority implements section 5464(c) of the Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. 7253 *et seq.*).

Absolute Priority: For FY 2005 and any subsequent year in which we make awards based on the list of unfunded applicants from this competition, this priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) we consider only applications that meet this priority.

This priority is based on the "Special Rule" in section 5464(c) of the statute, which provides that in a year in which the Javits appropriation exceeds the appropriation for FY 2001, the Secretary must use such excess funds to award grants, on a competitive basis, to State educational agencies, local educational agencies, or both, to implement activities described in section 5464(b). In accordance with section 5464(c) and because the FY 2001 Javits appropriation was \$7.5 million and the FY 2005 appropriation is \$11 million, the Secretary will utilize approximately \$3.5 million to fund new awards under the "Special Rule." Therefore, the Secretary establishes an absolute priority for this competition such that applications submitted in response to this announcement must propose to carry out one or more of the following 5464(b) activities:

(1) Conducting—

(A) Scientifically based research on methods and techniques for identifying and teaching gifted and talented students and for using gifted and talented programs and methods to serve all students; and

(B) Program evaluations, surveys, and the collection, analysis, and development of information needed to

accomplish the purpose of the Javits program.

(2) Carrying out professional development (which may include fellowships) for personnel (which may include leadership personnel) involved in the education of gifted and talented students.

(3) Establishing and operating model projects and exemplary programs for serving gifted and talented students, including innovative methods for identifying and educating students who may not be served by traditional gifted and talented programs (such as summer programs, mentoring programs, service learning programs, and cooperative programs involving business, industry, and education).

(4) Implementing innovative strategies, such as cooperative learning, peer tutoring, and service learning.

(5) Carrying out programs of technical assistance and information dissemination, including assistance and information with respect to how gifted and talented programs and methods, where appropriate, may be adapted for use by all students.

(6) Making materials and services available through State regional educational service centers, institutions of higher education, or other entities.

(7) Providing funds for challenging, high-level course work, disseminated through technologies (which may include distance learning), for individual students or groups of students in schools and local educational agencies that would not otherwise have the resources to provide such course work.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7253 *et seq.*

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 97, 98, and 99.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: \$3,522,122. Contingent upon the availability of funds and quality of applications, the Secretary may make additional awards in FY 2006 from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$200,000–\$400,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$270,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 13.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

III. Eligibility Information

1. **Eligible Applicants:** State educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), or both.

2. **Cost Sharing or Matching:** This program does not involve cost sharing or matching.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. **Address To Request Application Package:** Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794–1398. Telephone (toll free): 1–877–433–7827. Fax: (301) 470–1244. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call (toll free): 1–877–576–7734.

You may also contact ED Pubs at its Web site: <http://www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html> or you may contact ED Pubs at its e-mail address: edpubs@inet.ed.gov.

If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this competition as follows: CFDA number 84.206A.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice.

You may also obtain an application package for this program via the Internet at the following address: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/javits/applicant.html>.

2. **Content and Form of Application Submission:** Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for this program.

Notice of Intent to Apply: We strongly encourage each potential applicant to notify us by April 4, 2005, of its intent to submit an application for funding. We will be able to develop a more efficient process for reviewing grant applications if we have an estimate of the number of entities that intend to apply for funding under this competition. Notifications should be sent by e-mail to the following Internet address: javits@ed.gov. Please put “Notice of Intent” in the subject line. Applicants that do not provide this e-mail notification may still apply for funding.

Page Limit: It is recommended that the program narrative not exceed 20 pages, size 12 font, double-spaced.

3. **Submission Dates and Times:**
Applications Available: March 8, 2005.

Deadline for Notice of Intent to Apply: April 4, 2005.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 22, 2005.

Applications for grants under this competition may be submitted electronically using the Electronic Grant Application System (e-Application) accessible through the Department’s e-Grants system, or in paper format by mail or hand delivery. For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically, or by mail or hand delivery, please refer to section IV. 6. **Other Submission Requirements** in this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 21, 2005.

4. **Intergovernmental Review:** This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for this competition.

5. **Funding Restrictions:** We reference regulations outlining funding restrictions in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

6. **Other Submission Requirements:** Applications for grants under this competition may be submitted electronically or in paper format by mail or hand delivery.

a. **Electronic Submission of Applications.** If you choose to submit your application to us electronically, you must use e-Application available through the Department’s e-Grants system, accessible through the e-Grants portal page at: <http://e-grants.ed.gov>.

While completing your electronic application, you will be entering data online that will be saved into a database. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

Please note the following:

- Your participation in e-Application is voluntary.

- You must complete the electronic submission of your grant application by 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. The e-Application system will not accept an application for this competition after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the application process.

- The regular hours of operation of the e-Grants Web site are 6 a.m. Monday until 7 p.m. Wednesday; and 6 a.m.

Thursday until midnight Saturday, Washington, DC time. Please note that the system is unavailable on Sundays, and between 7 p.m. on Wednesdays and 6 a.m. on Thursdays, Washington, DC time, for maintenance. Any modifications to these hours are posted on the e-Grants Web site.

- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you submit your application in paper format.

- You must submit all documents electronically, including the Application for Federal Education Assistance (ED 424), Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.

- Any narrative sections of your application should be attached as files in a .DOC (document), .RTF (rich text), or .PDF (Portable Document) format.

- Your electronic application must comply with *any* page limit requirements described in this notice.

- Prior to submitting your electronic application, you may wish to print a copy of it for your records.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgement that will include a PR/Award number (an identifying number unique to your application).

- Within three working days after submitting your electronic application, fax a signed copy of the ED 424 to the Application Control Center after following these steps:

- Print ED 424 from e-Application.

- The applicant's Authorizing Representative must sign this.

- Place the PR/Award number in the upper right hand corner of the hard-copy signature page of the ED 424.

- Fax the signed ED 424 to the Application Control Center at (202) 245-6272.

- We may request that you provide us original signatures on other forms at a later date.

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of System Unavailability: If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because the e-Application system is unavailable, we will grant you an extension of one business day in order to transmit your application electronically, by mail, or by hand delivery. We will grant this extension if—

- You are a registered user of e-Application and you have initiated an electronic application for this competition; and

- (a) The e-Application system is unavailable for 60 minutes or more between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date; or

- (b) The e-Application system is unavailable for any period of time between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.

We must acknowledge and confirm these periods of unavailability before granting you an extension. To request this extension or to confirm our acknowledgement of any system unavailability, you may contact either (1) the person listed elsewhere in this notice under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** (see VII. Agency Contact) or (2) the e-Grants help desk at 1-888-336-8930. If the system is down and therefore the application deadline is extended, an e-mail will be sent to all registered users who have initiated an e-Application.

Extensions referred to in this section apply only to the unavailability of the Department's e-Application system. If the e-Application system is available, and, for any reason, you are unable to submit your application electronically or you do not receive an automatic acknowledgement of your submission, you may submit your application in paper format by mail or hand delivery in accordance with the instructions in this notice.

Submission of Paper Applications by Mail: If you submit your application in paper format by mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier), you must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the applicable following address:

By mail through the U.S. Postal Service: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: CFDA Number 84.206A, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-4260; or

By mail through a commercial carrier: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center—Stop 4260, Attention: CFDA Number 84.206A, 7100 Old Landover Road, Landover, MD 20785-1506.

Regardless of which address you use, you must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark;

- A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service;

- A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier; or

- (4) Any proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark, or

- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

c. Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery. If you submit your application in paper format by hand delivery, you (or a courier service) must deliver the original and two copies of your application by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address:

U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: CFDA Number 84.206A, 550 12th Street, SW., Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-4260.

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications: If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department:

- You must indicate on the envelope and—if not provided by the Department—in Item 4 of the ED 424 the CFDA number—and suffix letter, if any—of the competition under which you are submitting your application.

- The Application Control Center will mail a grant application receipt to you. If you do not receive the grant application receipt acknowledgement within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245-6288.

V. Application Review Information

1. **Selection Criteria:** We use the following selection criteria from 34 CFR 75.210 to evaluate applications for new grants under this competition. The maximum score for each criterion is indicated in parenthesis.

We evaluate an application by determining how well the proposed project meets the following criteria:

- (a) *Need for project (20 points).* The Secretary considers the need for the proposed project. In determining the

need for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project, including the nature and magnitude of those gaps or weaknesses.

(b) *Quality of the project design (25 points)*. The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

i. The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable.

ii. The extent to which the design of the proposed project is appropriate to, and will successfully address, the needs of the target population or other identified needs.

iii. The extent to which the proposed project represents an exceptional approach for meeting statutory purposes and requirements.

(c) *Quality of project personnel (10 points)*. The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project. In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability. In addition, the Secretary considers the following:

i. The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of the project director or principal investigator.

ii. The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.

(d) *Quality of the management plan (20 points)*. The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project. In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.

(e) *Quality of the project evaluation (25 points)*. The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the following factors:

i. The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project.

ii. The extent to which the evaluation will provide guidance about effective strategies suitable for replication or testing in other settings.

VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices*: If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN). We may also notify you informally.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements*: We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Reporting*: At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as specified by the Secretary in 34 CFR 75.118.

4. *Performance Measures*: Pursuant to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), the Department developed two measures for evaluating the overall effectiveness of projects funded under the Javits program. These measures gauge project quality and improvements in professional knowledge for teachers and academic achievement in students served by the projects by assessing: (1) The number of project designs that are rated by an independent review panel of qualified scientists and practitioners as being of "high or above" quality; and (2) the number of projects that have evidence of significant gains in teacher knowledge or student achievement, or both.

The Department will collect data for these measures from grantees' annual performance reports and other existing data sources.

VII. Agency Contact

For Further Information Contact:
Danita Woodley, U.S. Department of

Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 3W253, Washington, DC 20202-6200. Telephone: (202) 260-8735 or by e-mail: Danita.Woodley@ed.gov. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact person listed in this section.

VIII. Other Information

Electronic Access to This Document: You may view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>.

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Dated: March 3, 2005.

Raymond Simon,

Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 05-4436 Filed 3-7-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Innovation and Improvement Program (OII); Overview Information; Star Schools Program; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2005

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.203G.

DATES: Applications Available: March 8, 2005.

Date of Pre-Application Meeting: March 11, 2005 (webcast).

Deadline for Notice of Intent to Apply: April 7, 2005.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 9, 2005.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 6, 2005.

Eligible Applicants: Eligible entities, which include any one of the following