

the other factors included in the solicitation.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6011(i)(2)(D)(i))

PART 701—STANDARDS FOR CONDUCT AND EVALUATION OF ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT (OERI)—DESIGNATION OF EXEMPLARY AND PROMISING PROGRAMS

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AUTHORITY: 20 U.S.C. 6011(i), unless otherwise noted.

SOURCE: 62 FR 61430, Nov. 17, 1997, unless otherwise note.

Subpart A—General

§ 701.1 What is the purpose of these standards?

- (a) The standards in this part implement section 941(d) of the Educational Research, Development, Dissemination, and Improvement Act of 1994.
- (b) These standards are intended to provide quality assurance that educational programs designated by the U.S. Department of Education as either exemplary or promising have met cri-

teria that will allow educators, professional organizations, and others to use these programs with confidence.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6011(i)(2)(B)(iii) and (E), 6041(d))

§ 701.2 What definitions apply?

The following definitions apply to this part:

Assistant Secretary means the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Educational Research and Improvement.

Educational programs mean educational policies, research findings, practices, and products.

Program sponsor means a party submitting an educational program for designation by the Secretary as either promising or exemplary.

Secretary means the Secretary of the Department of Education or an official or employee of the Department acting for the Secretary under a delegation of authority.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6011(i)(2)(B)(iii) and (E), 6041(d))

§ 701.3 Who is eligible to submit an educational program for review?

Any public or private agency, organization or institution, or an individual may submit an educational program for review.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6011(i)(2)(B)(iii) and (E), 6041(d))

§ 701.4 What must a program sponsor submit for review?

(a) To have an educational program considered for designation as exemplary or promising, a sponsor must submit to the Secretary a description of the program, program materials, and a discussion of the program that is responsive to the criteria in § 701.22.

(b) Information submitted must include, to the extent relevant to the particular program,—

- (1) A program abstract of 250 words or less;
- (2) A description of the salient features of the program;
- (3) A description of the program's philosophy and history;
- (4) Site information, including demographics;
- (5) A description of evaluation results;

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(6) Funding and staffing information;
(7) Specific materials relevant to content and methods, as appropriate; and

(8) Organization name, address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address (if available), and contact person.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6011(i)(2)(B)(iii) and (E), 6041(d))

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 62 FR 61430, Nov. 17, 1997, § 701.4 was added, effective July 1, 1998. This section contains information collection and recordkeeping requirements that will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

§ 701.5 What are the procedures for submitting an educational program for review by an expert panel?

(a) An applicant seeking the exemplary or promising designation for its educational program may submit its program at any time for consideration to the Assistant Secretary, who will assign the submitted program to the appropriate expert panel for review.

(b) The Assistant Secretary will periodically establish and announce in the FEDERAL REGISTER specific topic areas of high priority. Sponsors of educational programs in these areas will be invited to submit their programs for consideration.

(c) The individual expert panels will set appropriate timelines for reviewing program submissions.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6011(i)(2)(B)(iii) and (E), 6041(d))

Subpart B—Selection of Panel Members

§ 701.10 How are panels established?

The Assistant Secretary selects individuals, based on their areas of expertise, to serve on expert panels in specific topic areas for the purpose of reviewing and evaluating educational programs and recommending, to the Secretary, those programs that should be designated as exemplary or promising.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6011(i)(2)(B)(iii) and (E), 6041(d))

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§ 701.11 How is the membership of expert panels determined?

(a) For the review of each program or group of programs, the Assistant Secretary establishes an expert panel. The membership of the expert panels will represent both the community of practice and the community of research.

(b) In establishing the membership of each expert panel, the Assistant Secretary—

(1) Selects individuals who have in-depth knowledge of the subject area or content of the program or group of programs to be evaluated;

(2) Selects at least one current teacher, principal, or other school-based or community-based professional;

(3) Selects at least one individual with expertise in evaluating educational programs;

(4) Ensures that no more than one-third of the panel members are employees of the Federal Government; and

(5) Ensures that each panel member does not have a conflict of interest, as determined in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section, with respect to any educational program the panel member is asked to review.

(c) Panel members are considered employees of the U.S. Department for the purposes of conflicts of interest analysis and are subject to the provisions of 18 U.S.C. 208, 5 CFR 2635.502, and the Department's policies used to implement those provisions.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6011(i)(2)(B)(iii) and (E), 6041(d))

Subpart C—The Expert Panel Review Process

§ 701.20 How does an expert panel evaluate programs?

(a) Each panel member shall—

(1) Independently review each program based on the criteria in § 701.22;

(2) Provide written comments based on an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the program according to the criteria;

(3) Participate in site visits or other verification activities, if appropriate; and

(4) Participate in a meeting of the expert panel, if appropriate, to discuss the reviews.