

for the purpose of carrying out common objectives.

*HEA* means the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

*Individuals with disabilities* means individuals who—

- (i) Have physical or mental impairments that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities;
- (ii) Have a record of physical or mental impairments; or
- (iii) Are regarded as having physical or mental impairments.

*Institution of higher education* means an institution of higher education as defined in section 1201(a) of the HEA.

*Local government* means a city, town, township, county, or other unit of general government organized under State laws and given delegated taxing or expenditure authority for providing governmental services to local communities.

*Metropolitan area* means a metropolitan area or a consolidated metropolitan area, as designated by the United States Office of Management and Budget.

*Nonprofit municipal university* means an institution of higher education that—

- (i) Is chartered or otherwise established as a not-for-profit institution by the governing body of the city in which it is located; and
- (ii) Is accredited by an agency or association recognized by the Secretary.

*Planning consortium* means the applicant institution and one or more of the following:

- (i) A community college.
- (ii) An urban school system.
- (iii) A local government.
- (iv) A business or other employer.
- (v) A nonprofit institution.

*Substantial portion of its undergraduate students* means 40 percent or more of the enrolled undergraduate student population.

*Urban area* means—

- (i) A metropolitan area having a population of not less than 350,000;
- (ii) Two contiguous metropolitan areas having a combined total population of not less than 350,000;
- (iii) In any State that does not have a metropolitan area having a population of not less than 350,000, the one urban area designated by the entity of

the State having an agreement under the HEA to make a designation; or

- (iv) If a State entity does not have an agreement under the HEA to make a designation, the one urban area designated by the Secretary.

*Urban infrastructure* means the underlying mechanical or technological networks for providing goods and services, such as transportation systems (including mass transit), water and sewage systems, and communication systems (including telecommunications).

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1136a-1136g)

**Subpart B—How Does One Apply for an Award?**

**§ 636.10 What must an application include?**

An application must include the following:

- (a) A description of the activities for which the grant is sought.
- (b) The plan agreed to by each of the members of the planning consortium.
- (c) An assurance that the applicant and the local governments associated with the application will contribute to the conduct of the project supported by the grant an amount, in cash or in-kind, from non-Federal funds equal to at least one-fourth of the amount of the grant.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1136b)

**§ 636.11 How does an applicant request a waiver of the planning consortium requirement?**

(a) An applicant may request that the Secretary waive the requirement for a planning consortium by submitting as part of the application a request that includes the following:

- (1) The reasons why the applicant seeks the waiver.
- (2) Detailed information evidencing the applicant's integrated and coordinated plan to work with private and civic organizations to meet the pressing and severe problems of the urban community.

(b) The Secretary may grant the request for a waiver if the Secretary finds that—

- (1) The applicant has shown an integrated and coordinated plan to meet

the purposes of the Urban Community Service Program; and

(2) A planning consortium would not substantially improve the applicant's proposed project.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1136b)

### Subpart C—How Does the Secretary Make an Award?

#### § 636.20 How does the Secretary evaluate an application?

(a) The Secretary evaluates an application on the basis of the selection criteria in § 636.21.

(b) The Secretary awards up to 100 points for these selection criteria.

(c) The maximum possible score for each criterion is indicated in parentheses.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1136b)

#### § 636.21 What selection criteria does the Secretary use to evaluate an application?

The Secretary uses the following criteria to evaluate an application under this part:

(a) *Determination of need for the project.* (10 points). The Secretary reviews each application to assess the effectiveness of the procedures used by the applicant in determining need for the project, including consideration of—

(1) The process used to ensure that the pressing and severe problems that are identified are in fact high priority problems for the urban area;

(2) The priority relationship of the problems addressed by the project to other pressing and severe problems identified for the urban area;

(3) The extent to which the problems addressed by the project represent pressing and severe problems in urban areas nationally;

(4) The process by which project participants review and comment on proposed project goals, objectives, and strategies; and

(5) The specific benefits to be gained by meeting the identified problems.

(b) *Quality of the applicant's organization for operation.* (20 points). The Secretary reviews each application to determine the quality of the organization for operation, including consideration

of how the application describes the following:

(1) The cooperative arrangement between the applicant and any of the following that are appropriate for the conduct of the proposed project:

(i) Agencies of local government.

(ii) Public and private elementary and secondary schools.

(iii) Business organizations.

(iv) Labor organizations.

(v) Community service and advocacy organizations.

(vi) Community colleges.

(2)(i) Any previous working relationships between the applicant and the entities listed in paragraph (b)(1) of this section; and

(ii) The outcomes of those relationships.

(3) The agreement among project participants to commit their own resources in carrying out proposed project goals, objectives, and strategies.

(c) *Quality of project objectives.* (10 points). The Secretary reviews each application to determine the extent to which the objectives for each project component activity meet the purposes of the program, are realistic, and are defined in terms of measurable results.

(d) *Quality of implementation strategy.* (20 points). The Secretary reviews each application to determine the extent to which—

(1) The implementation strategy for each key project component activity is—

(i) Comprehensive;

(ii) Based on a sound rationale; and

(iii) Is a cost-effective approach for accomplishing project goals and objectives; and

(2) The described timetable for each project component and for the overall project is realistic.

(e) *Quality of evaluation plan.* (15 points). The Secretary reviews each application to determine the quality of the evaluation plan for the project, including the extent to which the applicant's methods of evaluation—

(1) Relate to the objectives of the project;

(2) Describe both process and product evaluation measures for each project component activity and outcome;