

Archived Information

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION & REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

**FISCAL YEAR 2008
APPLICATION FOR NEW GRANTS UNDER THE
INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA)**

**PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT TO IMPROVE SERVICES AND RESULTS
FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
(CFDA 84.325)**

**PREPARATION OF LEADERSHIP PERSONNEL
(CFDA 84.325D)**

**COMBINED PRIORITY FOR PERSONNEL PREPARATION
(CFDA 84.325K)**

**NATIONAL OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER ON
DISCRETIONARY AWARDS FOR MINORITY INSTITUTIONS
(CFDA 84.325R)**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION PRESERVICE TRAINING
IMPROVEMENT GRANTS
(CFDA 84.325T) (Note: extended closing date)**



**DATED MATERIAL - OPEN IMMEDIATELY
CLOSING DATES: SEE ENCLOSED CHART FOR CLOSING DATES**

FORM APPROVED - OMB No. 1820-0028, EXP. DATE: 01/31/09

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Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1820-0028. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 45 hours and 40 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-2600. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to: Office of Special Education Programs, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, D.C. 20202-2600.

Dear Applicant:

This application packet contains information and the required forms for you to use in submitting a new application for funding under one program authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This packet covers four competitions under the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities (CFDA 84.325) Program.

An application for an award must be: (1) hand-delivered, submitted electronically or mailed by the closing date; and, (2) for paper applications, have an original signature on at least one copy of the assurances and certifications (Part IV of the application form). It is also important to include the appropriate Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) numeric and alpha in Item #4 on ED Form 424 (e.g., CFDA No. 84.325K) for paper applications.

Please note the following:

- **APPLICATION SUBMISSION.** Based on the precautionary procedures the U.S. Postal Service is using to process mail, we are experiencing delays in the delivery of mail to the Department. Therefore, you may want to consider sending your application by overnight courier or submitting your application electronically.
- **GRANTS.GOV APPLICATION SUBMISSION.** Applications for grants under this competition may be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site (www.Grants.gov). Please read carefully the document that we have included on page A-46, which includes helpful tips about submitting electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site. Please note that you must follow the Application Procedures as described in the Federal Register notice announcing this grant competition. Information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically, or by mail or hand delivery, can also be found in section E-1 Application Transmittal Instructions and Requirements for Intergovernmental Review of this application package.
- **MAXIMUM AWARD AMOUNT.** In addition to providing detailed budget information for the total grant period requested, the competition included in this package has a maximum award amount. Please refer to the specific information for the priority/competition to which you are submitting an application (i.e., Section B of this package). Please be advised that for the priority in this package, the maximum award amount covers all project costs including indirect costs.
- **STRICT PAGE LIMITS.** The competition included in this package limits the Part III Application Narrative to a specified number of double-spaced pages. This page limitation applies to all material presented in the application narrative -- including, for example, any charts, tables, figures, and graphs. (Please refer to the specific requirements on page limits for the priority/competition to which you are submitting an application - i.e., Section B of this package). The Department will reject, and will NOT consider an application that does not adhere to the page limit requirements for the competition.

- **FORMAT FOR APPLICATIONS.** Please note that additional information regarding formatting applications has been included on Pages D-2 and 3 of the “General Information on Completing An Application” section of this package.
- **PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS IN RESEARCH.** The discretionary grant Application Form 424 (ED supplement to the SF 424 on Grants.gov) requires applicants to indicate whether they plan to conduct research involving human subjects at any time during the proposed project period. The Protection of Human Subjects in Research Attachment is an integral part of the ED 424 form (ED supplement to the SF 424 on Grants.gov). It includes information that applicants need to complete the protection of human subjects item and, as appropriate, to provide additional information to the Department regarding human subjects research projects. Additional information on completing the protection of human subjects item is also available and can be accessed on the INTERNET at:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/gcsindex.html>
<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/humansub.html>

- **RESPONSE TO GPRA.** As required by the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993 OSEP has developed a strategic plan for measuring GPRA performance. The program included in this announcement is authorized under Part D - National Activities to Improve Education of Children with Disabilities of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) will collect information to assess progress and performance. See Performance Measures included in the Priority Description section of this application package. Applicants are encouraged to consider this information, as applications are prepared.
- **COPIES OF THE APPLICATION.** Current Government-wide policy requires that an original and two copies need to be submitted. OSEP would appreciate receiving three additional copies to facilitate the peer review process. This means an original and two copies are required but we would appreciate your voluntarily submitting an additional three copies (six applications in all). If you are submitting your application electronically, you do not need to submit paper copies of the application. Please note: If an application is recommended for funding and a grant award is issued, we will contact the applicant to request a copy of the application on a diskette or CD. The Department is moving toward an electronic grant filing system and an electronic copy of all applications that are being funded will facilitate this effort.

A program officer is available to provide information to you regarding this competition. Please refer to the name of the program contact at the end of the priority description. For information about other U.S. Department of Education grant and contract opportunities, we encourage you to use the Department's grant information web page which can be accessed on the INTERNET at:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/gcsindex.html>

We appreciate your efforts to improve the provision of services for individuals with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Louis C. Danielson, Ph.D.
Director
Research to Practice Division
Office of Special Education Programs

4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

Overview Information

Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2008.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers:

84.325D, 84.325K, 84.325R, and 84.325T.

Note: This notice invites applications for four separate competitions. For key dates, contact person information, and funding information regarding each of the four competitions, see the chart in the Award Information section of this notice.

Dates:

Applications Available: See chart.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: See chart.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: See chart.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The purposes of this program are to (1) help address State-identified needs for highly qualified personnel--in special education, related services, early intervention, and regular education--to work with infants, toddlers and children with disabilities; and (2) ensure that those personnel have the necessary skills and knowledge, derived from practices that have been determined through scientifically based research and experience, to be successful in serving those children.

Priorities: In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(iv), these priorities are from allowable activities specified in the statute (see sections 662 and 681 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)). Each of the absolute priorities announced in this notice corresponds to a separate competition as follows:

Absolute Priority	Competition CFDA Number
Preparation of Leadership Personnel	84.325D
Combined Personnel Preparation	84.325K
National Outreach and Technical Assistance Center on Discretionary Awards for Minority Institutions	84.325R
Special Education Preservice Training Improvement Grants	84.325T

Absolute Priorities: For FY 2008 and any subsequent year in which we make awards based on the list of unfunded applications from these competitions, these priorities are absolute priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), for each competition, we consider only applications that meet the absolute priority for that competition.

The priorities are:

Absolute Priority 1--Preparation of Leadership Personnel (84.325D).

Background:

Training of special educators and related services personnel at the highest levels, including both the doctoral and post-doctoral levels, is critical to ensure the continued development and availability of quality services for children with disabilities. Over the last several decades, research has consistently suggested that there is a persistent need for additional special education and related services personnel who have been trained at the doctoral and post-doctoral levels. Such personnel play a critical role in ensuring the availability of, and improving the quality of, services for

children with disabilities and their families. Accordingly, the Department seeks to support programs that provide doctoral, post-doctoral, and advanced graduate level training that is designed to prepare professionals to work in special education as researchers, teacher educators, administrators, and direct service providers.

Priority:

The Preparation of Leadership Personnel priority supports and is limited to projects that train personnel at the preservice doctoral or post-doctoral level in early intervention, special education or related services, and at the advanced graduate level (masters and specialists) in special education administration/supervision. In order to be eligible under this priority, programs must provide training and support for scholars to complete their training within the project period of the grant. Therefore, only the following types of programs of study will meet the requirements of this priority:

1. A major in special education, related services or early intervention at the doctoral or post-doctoral level; and
2. Training at the advanced graduate level (masters and specialists programs) in special education administration/supervision.

Note: Training that leads to a Doctor of Audiology (DAud) degree is not included as part of this priority because training programs that lead to a DAud degree are eligible to apply for funding under the Combined Personnel Preparation priority (CFDA 84.325K) announced elsewhere in this notice.

To be considered for funding under the Preparation of Leadership Personnel absolute priority, applicants must meet the application requirements contained in the priority. All projects funded under the absolute priority also must meet the programmatic and administrative

requirements specified in the priority. The application, programmatic, and administrative requirements are as follows:

(a) Demonstrate, in the narrative section of the application under "Quality of Project Services," how--

(1) The program prepares personnel to address the specialized needs of children with disabilities from diverse cultural and language backgrounds, including limited English proficient children with disabilities, by--

(i) Identifying the competencies needed by leadership personnel to understand and work with culturally and linguistically diverse populations (the competencies identified should reflect the current knowledge base); and

(ii) Preparing personnel to use those competencies through early intervention, special education, and related services training programs;

(2) All relevant coursework for the proposed program reflects current research and pedagogy on--

(i) Participation and achievement in the general education curriculum and improved outcomes for all children with disabilities; and

(ii) The provision of coordinated services in natural environments to improve outcomes for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families;

(3) The program is designed to offer integrated training and practice opportunities that will enhance the competencies of all personnel who share responsibility for providing effective services for children with disabilities;

(4) For programs that train personnel in early intervention, special education or related services, the program ensures that scholars are knowledgeable about: (i) the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB); (ii) the IDEA and NCLB requirement that teachers be highly qualified; and (iii) the need to foster collaboration between regular and special education teachers; and

(5) The proposed training program includes training on State academic achievement standards for children, if applicable.

(b) Submit electronically annual data on each scholar who receives grant support within 60 days after the end of each grant budget year. Applicants are encouraged to visit the Personnel Prep Data (PPD) Web site at www.osepppd.org for further information about this data collection requirement. This data collection is in addition to and does not supplant the annual grant performance report required of each grantee for continuation funding (see 34 CFR 75.590).

(c) Budget for attendance at a three-day Project Director's meeting in Washington, DC, during each year of the project.

(d) If the project maintains a Web site, include relevant information and documents in a format that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility.

(e) Include, in the application appendix, all course syllabi for the proposed training program. Course syllabi must clearly reflect the incorporation of research-based curriculum and pedagogy as required under paragraph (a) of this priority.

(f) Provide, in the application narrative, a detailed description of the program, including the sequence of the courses offered in the program, that describes the comprehensive curriculum designed to meet program goals and obtain mastery of the following required professional domains:

- (1) Research methodology.
- (2) Personnel preparation.
- (3) Policy/advocacy or professional practice.

(g) Include, in the application narrative under "Quality of Project Evaluation," a clear and effective plan for evaluating the extent to which graduates of the training program have the knowledge and competencies

necessary to provide research-based instruction and services that result in improved outcomes for children with disabilities.

(h) Communicate the results of the evaluation conducted in accordance with paragraph (g) of this priority to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) in required annual performance reports for continuation funding and the project final performance report.

(i) Certify that all scholars will be recruited into the program with the intention of graduating from the program during the performance period of the grant.

(j) Certify that the institution will not require scholars recruited into the program to work as a condition of receiving a scholarship, e.g., as graduate assistants, unless the work is required to complete their training program.

(k) If the program is addressing national or regional needs, demonstrate in the application narrative the existence of the needs through appropriate research data.

(l) Ensure that at least 65 percent of the total requested budget per year be used for student support or provide justification in the application narrative for any designation less than 65 percent. Examples of sufficient justification for proposing less than 65 percent of the budget for student support might include:

(1) A project servicing rural areas that provides long distance training, and that may require Web Masters, adjunct professors, or mentors to operate effectively.

(2) A project that is expanding or adding a new area of emphasis to the program, and as a result of this expansion, may need additional faculty or other resources such as expert consultants, additional training supplies, or equipment that would enhance the program.

Note: Applicants proposing projects to develop, expand, or add a new area of emphasis to special education or related services programs must provide, in their applications, information on how these new areas will be sustained once Federal funding ends.

(m) Meet the statutory requirements contained in section 662(e) through 662(h) of IDEA.

Absolute Priority 2 -- Combined Personnel Preparation (84.325K).

Background:

State agencies, university training programs, local schools, and community-based entities have indicated the importance and difficulty of improving training programs for personnel to serve infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities.

The national demand for fully credentialed early intervention, special education, and related services personnel to serve infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities exceeds available supply. Thus, Federal support is required to improve both the quality and supply of these personnel.

Priority:

The purpose of the Combined Personnel Preparation priority is to improve the quality, and increase the number, of personnel who are fully credentialed to serve infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities--especially in areas of chronic personnel shortage--by supporting projects that prepare early intervention, special education, and related services personnel at the associate, baccalaureate, master's, and specialist levels. In order to be eligible under this priority, programs must provide training and support for students to complete, within the project period of the grant, a degree, State certification, professional license, or State endorsement in early intervention, special education or related services. Programs preparing students to be special education paraprofessionals, related

services assistants or educational interpreters are also eligible under this priority.

To be considered for funding under the Combined Personnel Preparation absolute priority, applicants must meet the application requirements contained in the priority. All projects funded under the absolute priority also must meet the programmatic and administrative requirements specified in the priority. The application, programmatic, and administrative requirements are as follows:

(a) Demonstrate, in the narrative section of the application under "Quality of Project Services", how--

(1) Training requirements and required coursework for the proposed training program incorporate research-based practices that improve outcomes for children with disabilities (including relevant research citations);

(2) The program is designed to offer integrated training and practice opportunities that will enhance the competencies of all personnel who share responsibility for providing effective services for children with disabilities;

(3) The program prepares personnel to address the specialized needs of children with disabilities from diverse cultural and language backgrounds, including limited English proficient children with disabilities, by--

(i) Identifying the competencies needed by personnel to understand and work with culturally and linguistically diverse populations (the competencies identified should reflect the current knowledge base); and

(ii) Preparing personnel to use those competencies through early intervention, special education, and related services training programs;

(4) If preparing beginning special educators, the program is designed to provide extended clinical learning opportunities, field experiences, or supervised practica (such as an additional year) and ongoing high quality mentoring and induction opportunities;

(5) The program includes field-based training opportunities for scholars (as defined in 34 CFR 304.3(g)) in diverse settings including schools and settings in high-poverty communities, rural areas, and urban areas;

(6) The proposed training program will enable scholars to be highly qualified, in accordance with section 602(10) of IDEA, in the State(s) to be served by the applicant;

(7) The training program equips scholars with the knowledge and skills necessary to assist children effectively in achieving State academic achievement standards; and

(8) The training program provides student support systems (including tutors, mentors, and other innovative practices) to enhance student retention and success in the program.

(b) Include, in the narrative section of the application under "Quality of Project Evaluation," a clear, effective plan for evaluating the extent to which graduates of the training program have the knowledge and skills necessary to provide scientifically based or evidence-based instruction and services that result in improved outcomes for children with disabilities. Applicants also must clearly describe, under "Quality of Project Evaluation," how the project will report these evaluation results to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) in the grantee's annual performance reports and final performance report.

(c) Meet the statutory requirements contained in section 662(e) through 662(h) of IDEA.

(d) Ensure that at least 65 percent of the total requested budget per year be used for student support.

(e) Budget for attendance at a three-day Project Director's meeting in Washington, DC, during each year of the project.

(f) If the project maintains a Web site, include relevant information and documents in a form that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility.

(g) Include, in the application appendix, all course syllabi for the proposed training program. Course syllabi must clearly reflect the incorporation of research-based curriculum and pedagogy as required under paragraph (a) of this priority.

(h) Submit electronically annual data on each scholar who receives grant support within 60 days after the end of each grant budget year. Applicants are encouraged to visit the Personnel Prep Data (PPD) Web site at www.osepppd.org for further information about this data collection requirement. This data collection is in addition to and does not supplant the annual grant performance report required of each grantee for continuation funding (see 34 CFR 75.590).

Focus Areas

Within this absolute priority, the Secretary intends to support projects under the following four focus areas: (a) Training Personnel to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Pre-school Age Children with Disabilities, (b) Training Personnel to Serve School Age Children with Low Incidence Disabilities, (c) Training Personnel to Provide Related Services, Speech/Language Services, and Adapted Physical Education to Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities, and (d) Training Personnel in Minority Institutions to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities.

Note: Applicants must identify the specific focus area (i.e., (a), (b), (c), or (d)), under which they are applying as part of the competition title on the application cover sheet (SF form 424, line 4). Applicants may not submit the same proposal under more than one focus area.

Focus Area a: Training Personnel to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Pre-school Age Children with Disabilities.

For the purpose of this focus area, early intervention personnel are those who are trained to provide services to infants and toddlers with disabilities ages birth through two, and early childhood personnel are those who are trained to provide services to children with disabilities ages three through five (in States where the age range is other than ages three through five, we will defer to the State's certification for early childhood). In States where certification in early intervention (EI) is combined with certification in early childhood (EC), applicants may propose a combined EI/EC training project under this focus area. Projects training related services, speech/language, or adapted physical education personnel are not eligible under this focus area (see Focus Area c).

Focus Area b: Training Personnel to Serve School Age Children with Low Incidence Disabilities. For the purpose of this focus area, low incidence personnel are special education personnel, including paraprofessionals, trained to serve school-age children with low incidence disabilities including visual impairments, hearing impairments, simultaneous vision and hearing impairments, significant cognitive impairments (severe mental retardation), orthopedic impairments, autism, and traumatic brain injury. Programs preparing special education personnel to provide services to visually impaired or blind children that can be appropriately provided in Braille must prepare those individuals to provide those services in Braille. Projects training educational interpreters are eligible under this focus area. Projects training other related services, speech/language or adapted physical education personnel are not eligible under this focus area (see Focus Area c). Projects training special education pre-school personnel are eligible under Focus Area a.

Focus Area c: Training Personnel to Provide Related Services, Speech/Language Services, and Adapted Physical Education to Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities. Programs training related services, speech/language or adapted physical education personnel to serve infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities are eligible within this focus area. For the purpose of this focus area, related services include, but are not limited to, psychological services, physical therapy (including therapy provided by personnel trained at the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) level), occupational therapy, therapeutic recreation, social work services, counseling services, audiology services (including services provided by personnel trained at the Doctor of Audiology (DAud) level), and speech/language services. Training programs in States where personnel trained to serve children with speech/language impairments are considered to be special educators are eligible under this focus area. Projects training educational interpreters are not eligible under this focus area, but may apply under Focus Area b.

Focus Area d: Training Personnel in Minority Institutions to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities. Programs in minority institutions are eligible under this focus area if they train: (a) personnel to serve one or more of the following: infants, toddlers, or pre-school age children with disabilities; (b) personnel to serve school age children with low incidence disabilities; or (c) personnel to provide related services, speech/language or adapted physical education to infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities. Minority institutions include institutions with a minority student enrollment of 25 percent or more, which may include Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges, and Predominantly Hispanic Serving Colleges and Universities.

Within this focus area, institutions that are recommended for funding in FY 2008 and that have not received support under the IDEA Personnel

Development Program in FY 2007 will receive 10 competitive preference points. (Programs in minority institutions training personnel in Focus Areas a, b and c are eligible within Focus Area d. Programs that are training high incidence special education personnel are not eligible within Focus Area d. However, programs that are training high incidence special education personnel are eligible under Absolute Priority 4 located elsewhere in this notice.)

Under Focus Area d, a project may budget for less than the required percentage (65 percent) for student support if the applicant can provide sufficient justification for any designation less than 65 percent. Sufficient justification for proposing less than 65 percent of the budget for student support would include support for activities such as program development, program expansion, or the addition of a new area of emphasis. Some examples include the following:

(1) A project that is starting a new program may request up to a year for program development and capacity building. In the initial project year, no student support would be required. Instead, a project could hire a new faculty member or a consultant to assist in program development.

(2) A project that is proposing to build capacity may hire a field supervisor so that additional students can be trained.

(3) A project that is expanding or adding a new area of emphasis to the program may hire additional faculty or obtain other resources such as expert consultants, additional training supplies, or equipment that would enhance the program.

Note: Applicants proposing projects to develop, expand, or to add a new area of emphasis to special education or related services programs must provide information, in their applications, on how these new areas will be sustained once Federal funding ends.

Within this absolute priority, we are particularly interested in applications that address the following invitational priorities.

Invitational Priorities: Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) we do not give an application that meets these invitational priorities a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

These priorities are:

(1) In Focus Areas b and d, the Secretary is particularly interested in programs that prepare special educators who provide instruction in core academic areas to children with disabilities.

(2) The Secretary is also particularly interested in programs that provide enhanced support for beginning special educators (see section 662(b)(3) of IDEA).

Absolute Priority 3--National Outreach and Technical Assistance Center on Discretionary Awards for Minority Institutions (84.325R).

Background:

Section 681(c)(2) of IDEA requires the Secretary to set aside funds to support one or both of the following activities: (1) the provision of outreach and technical assistance to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and to institutions of higher education (IHEs) with minority enrollments of not less than 25 percent to promote their participation in certain activities under IDEA; or (2) the provision of support to enable the institutions to assist other institutions and agencies in improving educational and transitional results for children with disabilities. Consistent with this requirement, this priority is aimed at promoting the participation of HBCUs and IHEs with minority enrollments of not less than 25 percent in discretionary grant competitions conducted by the Department, pursuant to section 662 of IDEA (the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program); and

building the capacity of such institutions to prepare personnel to work effectively with children with disabilities from diverse backgrounds.

The current technical assistance center funded by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) under section 681(c)(2) of IDEA provides technical assistance to IHEs in grant writing and disseminates specific information to aid HBCUs and other minority IHEs in developing applications for grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts. This priority shifts the focus of the center that will be funded by OSEP under section 681(c)(2) of IDEA from that of grant-writing technical assistance to assistance that will help HBCUs and minority IHEs build their capacity to prepare personnel to work effectively with children with disabilities from linguistically and culturally diverse backgrounds.

Priority:

The purpose of the National Outreach and Technical Assistance Center on Discretionary Awards for Minority Institutions (Center) is to increase: (a) the participation of HBCUs and other institutions with a minority student enrollment of at least 25 percent in the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program competitions authorized under section 662 of IDEA; and (b) the capacity of these institutions to prepare personnel to work with children with disabilities from diverse backgrounds.

To be considered for funding under the National Outreach and Technical Assistance Center on Discretionary Awards for Minority Institutions absolute priority, each applicant must demonstrate, in its application, that it will--

- (a) Maintain contacts with HBCUs and other minority institutions;
- (b) Prepare and disseminate grant-writing technical assistance materials that will enable HBCUs and other minority IHEs to become competitive applicants in competitions authorized under section 662 of IDEA;

(c) Prepare and disseminate Web-based program development materials, such as: modules on a variety of research-based pedagogy and practices that are effective in preparing personnel to provide quality service to children with disabilities; a State-by-State directory of resources organized by such topics as State, disability type, personnel supply and demand, etc.; other materials that include information on identifying competencies that personnel need to work effectively with linguistically and culturally diverse populations and how to increase those competencies through personnel preparation programs;

(d) Analyze the results of each applicable discretionary grant competition conducted by the Department under IDEA to determine which HBCUs and minority IHEs applied and whether they were successful, and submit this analysis to the Department;

(e) Provide support and guidance to faculty at HBCUs and other minority IHEs to enhance the capacity of these institutions to design and implement professional education programs that graduate highly qualified special educators;

(f) Ensure that all program development and professional education program enhancements that the Center recommends to HBCUs and minority IHEs include research-based practices, and appropriate competencies that personnel need to work effectively with linguistically and culturally diverse populations to improve outcomes for infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities;

(g) Develop a plan in the first three months of the project period that outlines a comprehensive technical assistance approach based on effective strategies;

(h) Establish, maintain, and meet (at least once a year) with an Advisory Board that includes individuals with disabilities, members from

underrepresented groups, technical assistance providers, and university personnel;

(i) Use a third party evaluator, approved by OSEP, that will conduct a rigorous evaluation of core Center activities, and determine the overall impact of its work;

(j) Budget for attendance at a three-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, DC, the Technical Assistance and Dissemination Project Directors' meeting, and at least 2 one-day planning meetings with the OSEP Project Officer and other appropriate staff in Washington, DC;

(k) If the project maintains a Web site, include relevant information and documents in a form that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility; and

(l) Include a line item in the proposed budget for an annual set-aside of five percent of the grant amount to support emerging needs that are consistent with the proposed project's activities, as those needs are identified in consultation with OSEP.

Note: With approval from the OSEP Project Officer, the Center will reallocate any remaining funds from this annual set-aside no later than the end of the third quarter of each budget period.

Fourth and Fifth Years of Project:

Finally, in deciding whether to continue funding the Center for the fourth and fifth years, the Secretary will consider the requirements of 34 CFR 75.253(a), in addition to the following items:

(a) The recommendation of a review team consisting of experts selected by the Secretary. This review will be conducted in Washington, DC during the last half of the project's second year. Projects must budget for travel expenses associated with this one-day intensive review.

(b) The timeliness and effectiveness with which all requirements of the negotiated cooperative agreement have been or are being met by the Center.

(c) Evidence of changes in capacity at HBCUs and other participating institutions.

(d) Evidence of increased participation of HBCUs and IHEs with minority enrollments of not less than 25 percent in competitions conducted under section 662 of IDEA.

Absolute Priority 4--Special Education Preservice Training Improvement Grants (84.325T).

Background:

State educational agencies, IHEs, and local educational agencies consistently report that it is necessary to restructure or redesign most preparation programs for kindergarten through grade 12 (K-12) special education teachers to ensure that graduates of these programs are able to meet the highly qualified teacher (HQT) requirements in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, as amended by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA). To accomplish this goal, preparation programs must ensure that their graduates who expect to be providing instruction in core academic subjects are not only able to meet State certification or licensure requirements, but that they also have the necessary content knowledge, consistent with the HQT requirements in NCLB and IDEA.

Children with disabilities are now expected to meet high standards for learning in core academic subjects, regardless of classroom setting. Because this is the case, K-12 special education teacher preparation programs must address content knowledge, standards, assessments, and evidence-based practices. Federal support can assist in improving the quality of IHE programs that prepare special education teachers, and help to ensure that

these teachers have the knowledge and skills needed to teach students with disabilities using evidence-based interventions.

Priority:

The purpose of this priority is to improve the quality of K-12 special education teacher preparation programs to ensure that program graduates are able to meet the HQT requirements under sections 602(10) and 612(a)(14) of IDEA, and are well prepared to serve children with high incidence disabilities. For purposes of this priority, the term "high incidence disabilities" refers to learning disabilities, emotional disturbance, or mental retardation. In order to be eligible under this priority, applicants must currently prepare personnel (at the baccalaureate or master's level) to serve school-age children with high incidence disabilities.

Note: This priority only supports the improvement or expansion of existing programs for high incidence personnel, such as the expansion of an elementary program to include a secondary program in high incidence. This priority does not support the development of new programs for high incidence personnel.

To be considered for funding under the Special Education Preservice Training Improvement Grants priority, applicants must meet the application requirements contained in the priority. All projects funded under the absolute priority also must meet the programmatic and administrative requirements specified in the priority. The application, programmatic, and administrative requirements are as follows:

(a) Demonstrate, in the narrative section of the application under "Quality of Project Services," how--

(1) The first year of the project period will be used for planning an improved or restructured K-12 teacher preparation program that includes induction and mentoring components; revising curriculum for, and integrating evidence-based interventions that improve outcomes for children with high incidence disabilities into, the improved or restructured program (including providing research citations for those evidence-based interventions); and coordinating with the National Center to Enhance the Professional Development

of School Personnel on the use of its web-based training modules (see <http://www.iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu>). *Applicants must describe first year activities and include a five-year timeline and implementation plan in their applications.* This plan must describe the proposed project activities associated with implementation of the improved or restructured program that includes the induction and mentoring components, and may not be implemented without the approval of OSEP, if the proposed project is funded under this competition;

(2) The improved or restructured program is designed to offer integrated training and practice opportunities that will enhance the competencies of beginning special education teachers who share responsibility with general education teachers and other personnel for providing effective services and instruction in academic subjects to children with high incidence disabilities in K-12 classrooms;

(3) The improved or restructured program is designed to prepare special education teachers to address the specialized needs of children with high incidence disabilities from diverse cultural and language backgrounds, including limited English proficient children with disabilities, by identifying the competencies that special education teachers need to work effectively with culturally and linguistically diverse populations;

(4) The improved or restructured program is designed to provide extended clinical learning opportunities, field experiences, or supervised practica and ongoing high quality mentoring and induction opportunities in local schools. Applicants also must demonstrate how they will coordinate with the National Center on Policy and Practice in Special Education in designing the program to provide extended clinical learning opportunities, field experiences, or supervised practica;

(5) The improved or restructured program is designed to include field-based training opportunities in diverse settings including schools and

settings in high-poverty communities and in schools not making adequate yearly progress (AYP) under NCLB;

(6) Upon completion of the improved or restructured program, graduates will be able to meet the HQT requirements in accordance with section 602(10) of IDEA and 34 CFR 300.18; and will be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to assist children in achieving State academic achievement standards;

(7) The improved or restructured program is designed to provide support systems (including tutors, mentors, and other innovative practices) to enhance retention and success in the program; and

(8) The improved or restructured program will be maintained once Federal funding ends.

(b) For programs that will be restructured or re-designed to produce graduates who will meet the standards of HQT upon program completion, particularly as those standards relate to certification in core academic subjects, applicants will establish partnerships with appropriate academic departments in schools of arts and sciences. To address this requirement, applications must also--

(i) Demonstrate how such partnerships will include representation by academic departments that have expertise in the core academic subjects being addressed in the application;

(ii) Demonstrate how such partnerships will include a permanent faculty member, from one or more of the corresponding academic departments, who will be involved in developing the overall project and designing the curriculum used to train scholars in core academic subjects;

(iii) Provide evidence of the extent of participation by permanent faculty members from the corresponding academic departments; and

(iv) Provide funding to the core academic subject departments appropriate to the significant involvement outlined in paragraph (4) of this priority;

(c) Include, in the narrative section of the application under "Quality of Project Evaluation," a clear, effective plan for evaluating the extent to which graduates of the training program have the knowledge and skills necessary to provide scientifically based or evidence-based instruction and services that result in improved outcomes for children with disabilities. Applicants also must clearly describe, under "Quality of Project Evaluation," how the project will report these evaluation results to the OSEP in the grantee's annual performance reports and final performance report.

(d) Meet the statutory requirements in section 662(e) through 662(f) of IDEA.

(e) Budget for planning and improvement activities, including activities to be performed by consultants. This priority does not provide for financial support of scholars during any year of the project.

(f) Budget for attendance at a three-day Project Director's meeting in Washington, DC, during each year of the project.

(g) If the project maintains a Web site, include relevant information and documents in a form that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility.

(h) Include, in the application appendix, all course syllabi for the existing teacher preparation program. Revised syllabi for the improved or restructured program must be submitted at the end of the first year of the project period.

Within this absolute priority, we give competitive preference to applications that address the following priority.

Competitive Preference Priority: Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i) we award up to an additional 10 points to an application, depending on how well the application meets this priority.

This priority is:

Competitive Preference Points Based on Number of High Incidence Special Education Teacher Graduates from Program in a Recent Year

In order to earn competitive preference points under this priority, applicants must document the number of K-12 special education teachers who have graduated from a preparation program that prepares personnel (at the baccalaureate or master's level) to serve school-age children with high incidence disabilities in any recent year, regardless of whether the graduates received support from a Federal grant. For purposes of this competitive preference priority, the term "recent year" is defined as any of the past three fiscal years (i.e., FY 2004, FY 2005, or FY 2006). For example, an applicant that documents 10 graduates (new K-12 high incidence special education teachers) during a recent year earns 2 competitive preference points. An applicant that documents 30 graduates (new K-12 high incidence special education teachers) during a recent year earns 6 competitive preference points. An applicant that documents 50 or more graduates (new K-12 high incidence special education teachers) during a recent year earns 10 competitive preference points.

Number of Students Graduating (new K-12 high incidence special education teachers) from Program in a Recent Year (including non-OSEP funded graduates)	Number of Competitive Preference Points Awarded
8 - 19 graduates	2 points
20 - 29 graduates	4 points
30 - 39 graduates	6 points
40 - 49 graduates	8 points
50+ graduates	10 points

The number of students (i.e., new K-12 high incidence special education teachers) graduating from the program must be documented in the application.

A letter from the Dean or Department Chair reporting the number of high incidence graduates in a recent fiscal year is adequate documentation for purposes of this competitive preference.

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking: Under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553) the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed priorities and requirements. Section 681(d) of IDEA, however, makes the public comment requirements of the APA inapplicable to the priorities in this notice.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1462 and 1481.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 304.

II. Award Information

Type of Awards: Discretionary grants for competitions CFDA 84.325D, 84.325K, and 84.325R, and one cooperative agreement for competition CFDA 84.325T.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration has requested \$89,719,000 for the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program for FY 2008, of which we intend to use an estimated \$2,950,000 for the competitions announced in this notice. Please refer to the "Estimated Range of Awards" column of the chart in this section for the estimated dollar amounts for individual competitions. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Contingent upon the availability of funds and the quality of applications for the competitions announced in this notice, we may make additional awards in FY 2009 from the lists of unfunded applicants from individual competitions.

Estimated Range of Awards: See chart.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: See chart.

Maximum Award: See chart.

Estimated Number of Awards: See chart.

Project Period: See chart.

**PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT TO IMPROVE SERVICES AND RESULTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
APPLICATION NOTICE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008**

CFDA Number and Name	Applications Available	Deadline for Transmittal of Applications	Deadline for Intergovernmental Review	Estimated Range of Awards	Estimated Average Size of Awards	Maximum Award	Estimated Number of Awards	Project Period	Contact Person
84.325D Preparation of Leadership Personnel	11/27/07	01/04/08	03/04/08	\$171,969 – \$200,000	\$196,200	\$200,000*	25	Up to 48 mos.	Bob Gilmore (202) 245-7354 Rm 4083
84.325K Combined Personnel Preparation									Maryann McDermott (202) 245-7439 Rm 4062
Focus Area a: Training Personnel to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Pre-school Age Children with Disabilities.	11/27/07	01/11/08	03/11/08	\$150,000 – \$200,000	\$175,000	\$200,000*	14	Up to 48 mos.	
Focus Area b: Training Personnel to Serve School Age Children with Low Incidence Disabilities.	11/27/07	01/11/08	03/11/08	\$150,000 – \$200,000	\$175,000	\$200,000*	23	Up to 48 mos.	
Focus Area c: Training Personnel to Provide Related Services, Speech/Language Services, and Adapted Physical Education to Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities.	11/27/07	01/11/08	03/11/08	\$150,000 – \$200,000	\$175,000	\$200,000*	14	Up to 48 mos.	
Focus Area d: Training Personnel in Minority Institutions to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities.	11/27/07	01/11/08	03/11/08	\$150,000 – \$200,000	\$175,000	\$200,000*	14	Up to 48 mos.	
84.325R National Outreach and Technical Assistance Center on Discretionary Awards for Minority Institutions	11/27/07	01/11/08	03/11/08	—	—	1,500,000*	1	Up to 60 mos.	Ernest Hairston (202) 245-7366 Rm 4070
84.325T Special Education Preservice Training Improvement Grants	11/27/07	01/18/08 <i>Extended to 03/10/2008</i>	03/18/08 <i>Extended to 05/09/2008</i>	\$100,000 - \$150,000(first year of project)	\$125,000 (first year of project)	\$150,000**(first year of project)	21	Up to 60 mos.	Bonnie Jones (202) 245-7395 Rm 4153

* We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding the maximum award for a single budget period of 12 months. The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.

** For the Special Education Preservice Training Improvement Grants, 84.325T competition:

Note: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding \$150,000 for a single budget period of 12 months for the first year of the project; we will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding \$100,000 for a single budget period of 12 months over the last four years of the project; and we will reject any application that exceeds \$500,000 for the five-years of the budget period.

Note: No more than one cooperative agreement will be awarded per IHE. Programs in minority institutions that are preparing special education teachers of children with high incidence disabilities are eligible to apply under this competition. For purposes of this competition, the term “minority institutions” include IHEs with a minority student enrollment of 25 percent or more, which may include Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges, and Predominantly Hispanic Serving Colleges and Universities.

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

III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education (IHEs).

Note: For Absolute Priority 4 (Special Education Preservice Training Improvement Grants, 84.325T), programs in IHEs that are preparing preschool teachers are not eligible to apply under that competition.

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

3. Other: General Requirements-- (a) The projects funded under this program must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities (see section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Each applicant and grant recipient funded under this program must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities ages birth through 26 in planning, implementing, and evaluating the project (see section 682(a)(1)(A) of IDEA).

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), call, toll free: 1-877-576-7734.

You can contact ED Pubs at its Web site, also:
www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html or at its e-mail address: edpubs@inet.ed.gov

If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify the competition to which you want to apply, as follows: CFDA number 84.325D, 84.325K, 84.325R, or 84.325T.

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 person or team listed under Alternative Format in section VIII of this notice.

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 each competition announced in this notice.

Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 50 pages for each absolute priority, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the two-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, the references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject your application if--

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

3. Submission Dates and Times:

Applications Available: See chart.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: See chart.

Applications for grants under this program may be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site (Grants.gov), or in paper format by mail or hand delivery. For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically, or in paper format 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.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the person listed under For Further Information Contact in section VII in this notice. If the Department provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability in connection with the application process, the individual's application remains subject to all other requirements and limitations in this notice.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: See chart.

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 each of the competitions announced in this notice.

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

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

a. Electronic Submission of Applications.

To comply with the President's Management Agenda, we are participating as a partner in the Governmentwide Grants.gov Apply site. The Personnel

Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities competitions, CFDA numbers 84.325D, 84.325K, 84.325R, and 84.325T, announced in this notice are included in this project. We request your participation in Grants.gov.

If you choose to submit your application electronically, you must use the Governmentwide Grants.gov Apply site at <http://www.Grants.gov>. Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

You may access the electronic grant application for the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program competitions--CFDA numbers 84.325D, 84.325K, 84.325R, and 84.325T at <http://www.Grants.gov>. You must search for the downloadable application package for this program by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.325, not 84.325D).

Please note the following:

- Your participation in Grants.gov is voluntary.
- When you enter the Grants.gov site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, as well as the hours of operation.
- Applications received by Grants.gov are date and time stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted and must be date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not consider your application if it is date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. When we retrieve your application from Grants.gov, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because

it was date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.

- The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors, including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the submission process through Grants.gov.

- You should review and follow the Education Submission Procedures for submitting an application through Grants.gov that are included in the application package for the competition to which you are applying to ensure that you submit your application in a timely manner to the Grants.gov system. You can also find the Education Submission Procedures pertaining to Grants.gov at <http://e-Grants.ed.gov/help/GrantsgovSubmissionProcedures.pdf>

- To submit your application via Grants.gov, you must complete all steps in the Grants.gov registration process (see http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp). These steps include (1) registering your organization, a multi-part process that includes registration with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR); (2) registering yourself as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR); and (3) getting authorized as an AOR by your organization. Details on these steps are outlined in the Grants.gov 3-Step Registration Guide (see <http://www.grants.gov/section910/Grants.govRegistrationBrochure.pdf>). You also must provide on your application the same D-U-N-S Number used with this registration. Please note that the registration process may take five or more business days to complete, and you must have completed all registration steps to allow you to submit successfully an application via Grants.gov. In addition you will need to update your CCR registration on an annual basis. This may take three or more business days to complete.

- 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.

- If you submit your application electronically, you must submit all documents electronically, including all information you typically provide on the following forms: Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, Budget Information--Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications. Please note that two of these forms--the SF 424 and the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424--have replaced the ED 424 (Application for Federal Education Assistance).

- If you submit your application electronically, you must attach any narrative sections of your application as files in a .DOC (document), .RTF (rich text), or .PDF (Portable Document) format. If you upload a file type other than the three file types specified in this paragraph or submit a password-protected file, we will not review that material.

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

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. (This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only, not receipt by the Department.) The Department then will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send a second notification to you by e-mail. This second notification indicates that the Department has received your application and has assigned your application a PR/Award number (an ED-specified identifying number unique to your application).

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

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of Technical Issues with the Grants.gov System: If you are experiencing problems submitting your application through Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov Support Desk, toll free, at 1-800-518-4726. You must obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number and must keep a record of it.

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because of technical problems with the Grants.gov system, we will grant you an extension until 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, the following business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically or by hand delivery. You also may mail your application by following the mailing instructions described elsewhere in this notice.

If you submit an application after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date, please contact the person listed under For Further Information Contact in section VII in this notice and provide an explanation of the technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number. We will accept your application if we can confirm that a technical problem occurred with the Grants.gov system and that that problem affected your ability to submit your application by 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. The Department will contact you after a determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

Note: The extensions to which we refer in this section apply only to the unavailability of, or technical problems with, the Grants.gov system. We will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the application deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the Grants.gov system.

b. 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 84.325D, 84.325K, 84.325R, or 84.325T)
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 84.325D, 84.325K, 84.325R, or 84.325T)
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:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier.
- (4) Any other 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.
- (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 84.325D, 84.325K, 84.325R, or 84.325T)
550 12th Street, SW.
Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza
Washington, DC 20202-4260

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8:00 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--

(1) You must indicate on the envelope and--if not provided by the Department--in Item 11 of the SF 424 the CFDA number, including suffix letter, if any, of the competition under which you are submitting your application; and

(2) The Application Control Center will mail to you a notification of receipt of your grant application. If you do not receive this notification 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: The selection criteria for this program are from 34 CFR 75.210 and are listed in the application packages for each competition announced in this notice.

2. Peer Review: In the past, the Department has had difficulty finding peer reviewers for certain competitions, because so many individuals who are eligible to serve as peer reviewers have conflicts of interest. The Standing Panel requirements under IDEA also have placed additional constraints on the availability of reviewers. Therefore, the Department has determined that, for some discretionary grant competitions, applications may be separated into two or more groups and ranked and selected for funding within specific groups. This procedure will make it easier for the Department to find peer reviewers, by ensuring that greater numbers of individuals who are eligible to serve as reviewers for any particular group of applicants will not have conflicts of interest. It also will increase the quality, independence, and fairness of the review process, while permitting panel members to review applications under discretionary grant competitions for which they also have submitted applications. However, if the Department decides to select an equal number of applications in each group for funding, this may result in different cut-off points for fundable applications in each group.

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 Notice (GAN). We may notify you informally, also.

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 in this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the Applicable Regulations section in 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 directed by the Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html>

4. Performance Measures: Under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), the Department has established a set of performance measures, including long-term measures, that are designed to yield information on various aspects of the effectiveness and quality of the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program. These measures include:

<p>For 84.325D, 84.325K and 84.325T</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the percentage of projects that incorporate scientifically based or evidence-based practices; (2) the percentage of scholars who exit training programs prior to completion due to poor academic performance; (3) the percentage of degree or certification recipients who are working in the area(s) for which they were trained upon program completion; (4) the percentage of degree or certification recipients who are working in the area(s) for which they were trained upon program completion and are fully qualified under IDEA; (5) the percentage of scholars completing IDEA-funded training programs who are knowledgeable and skilled in scientifically based or evidence-based practices for infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities; (6) the percentage of low incidence positions that are filled by personnel who are fully qualified under IDEA; and (7) the percentage of program graduates who maintain employment for three or more years in the area(s) for which they were trained.
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84.325R	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the extent to which projects provide high quality products and services; (2) the relevance of project products and services to educational and early intervention policy and practice; and (3) the use of products and services to improve educational and early intervention policy and practice.
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Grantees may be asked to participate in assessing and providing information on these aspects of program quality.

VII. Agency Contact

For Further Information Contact: See chart in the Award Information section in this notice for the name, room number and telephone number of the contact person for each competition. You can write to the contact person at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center Plaza (PCP), Washington, DC 20202-2600.

If you use a TDD, call the FRS at 1-800-877-8339.

VIII. Other Information

Alternative Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 5075, PCP, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 245-7363. If you use a TDD, call the FRS, toll-free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Electronic Access to This Document: You can 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: www.ed.gov/news/fedregister

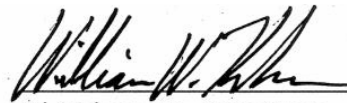
To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government

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: www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html

Dated:



William W. Knudsen,
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Special Education and
Rehabilitative Services.

IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ FIRST
U.S. Department of Education

Grants.gov Submission Procedures and Tips for Applicants

Please note that the Grants.gov site works differently than the U.S. Department of Education’s (Department) e-Application system. To facilitate your use of Grants.gov, this document includes important submission procedures you need to be aware of to ensure your application is received in a timely manner and accepted by the Department of Education.

- 1) **REGISTER EARLY** – Grants.gov registration is a one-time process that may take five or more days to complete. You may begin working on your application while completing the registration process, but you cannot submit an application until all of the Get Started steps are complete. For detailed information on the Get Started Steps, please go to: <http://www.grants.gov/GetStarted>.
- 2) **SUBMIT EARLY** – **We strongly recommend that you do not wait until the last day to submit your application. Grants.gov will put a date/time stamp on your application and then process it after it is fully uploaded.** The time it takes to upload an application will vary depending on a number of factors including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection, and the time it takes Grants.gov to process the application will vary as well. If Grants.gov rejects your application (see step three below), you will need to resubmit successfully before 4:30 pm on the deadline date.

Note: To submit successfully, you must provide the DUNS number on your application that was used when your organization registered with the CCR (Central Contractor Registry).

- 3) **VERIFY SUBMISSION IS OK** – You will want to verify that Grants.gov and the Department receive your Grants.gov submission timely and that it was validated successfully. To see the date/time your application was received, login to Grants.gov and click on the Check Application Status link. For a successful submission, the date/time received should be earlier than 4:30 p.m. on the deadline date, AND the application status should be: Validated, Received by Agency, or Agency Tracking Number Assigned.

If the date/time received is later than 4:30 p.m. Washington, D.C. time, on the closing date, your application is late. If your application has a status of “Received” it is still awaiting validation by Grants.gov. Once validation is complete, the status will either change to “Validated” or “Rejected with Errors.” If the status is “Rejected with Errors,” your application has not been received successfully. Some of the reasons Grants.gov may reject an application can be found on the Grants.gov site: <http://www.grants.gov/assets/ApplicationErrorTips.doc>. If you discover your application is late or has been rejected, please see the instructions below. Note: You will receive a series of confirmations both online and via e-mail about the status of your application. Please do not rely solely on e-mail to confirm whether your application has been received timely and validated successfully.

Submission Problems – What should you do?

If you have problems submitting to Grants.gov before the closing date, please contact Grants.gov Customer Support at 1-800-518-4726 or use the customer support available on the Web site: <http://www.grants.gov/CustomerSupport>.

If electronic submission is optional and you have problems that you are unable to resolve before the deadline date and time for electronic applications, please follow the transmittal instructions for hard copy applications in the Federal Register notice and get a hard copy application postmarked by midnight on the deadline date.

If electronic submission is required, you must submit an electronic application before 4:30 p.m., unless you follow the procedures in the Federal Register notice and qualify for one of the exceptions to the electronic submission requirement and submit, no later than two weeks before the application deadline date, a written statement to the Department that you qualify for one of these exceptions. (See the Federal Register notice for detailed instructions.)

Helpful Hints When Working with Grants.gov

Please note, once you download an application from Grants.gov, you will be working offline and saving data on your computer. Please be sure to note where you are saving the Grants.gov file on your computer. You will need to log on to Grants.gov to upload and submit the application. (This is different from e-Application, where you are working online and saving data to the Department's database.) **You must provide on your application the DUNS number that was used when your organization registered with the CCR.**

Please go to <http://www.grants.gov/ForApplicants> for help with Grants.gov and click on the links in the lower right corner of the screen under Applicant Tips and Tools. For additional tips related to submitting grant applications, please refer to the Grants.gov Submit Application Tips found on the Grants.gov homepage <http://www.grants.gov>.

Dial-Up Internet Connections

When using a dial up connection to upload and submit your application, it can take significantly longer than when you are connected to the Internet with a high-speed connection, e.g. cable modem/DSL/T1. While times will vary depending upon the size of your application, it can take a few minutes to a few hours to complete your grant submission using a dial up connection. **If you do not have access to a high-speed connection and electronic submission is required, you may want to consider following the instructions in the Federal Register notice to obtain an exception to the electronic submission requirement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.** (See the Federal Register notice for detailed instructions.)

MAC Users

If you do not have a Windows operating System, you will need to use a Windows Emulation program to submit an application using Grants.gov. For additional information, review the PureEdge Support for Macintosh white paper published by Pure Edge: http://www.grants.gov/GrantsGov_UST_Grantee!/SSL!/WebHelp/MacSupportforPureEdge.pdf, and/or contact Grants.gov Customer Support (<http://www.grants.gov/CustomerSupport>) for more information. **If you do not have a Windows emulation program and electronic submission is required, please follow instructions in the Federal Register notice to obtain an exception to the electronic submission requirement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.** (See the Federal Register notice for detailed instructions.)

**PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT TO IMPROVE SERVICES AND RESULTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
APPLICATION NOTICE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008**

CFDA Number and Name	Applications Available	Deadline for Transmittal of Applications	Deadline for Intergovernmental Review	Estimated Range of Awards	Estimated Average Size of Awards	Maximum Award	Estimated Number of Awards	Project Period	Contact Person
84.325D Preparation of Leadership Personnel	11/27/07	01/04/08	03/04/08	\$171,969 – \$200,000	\$196,200	\$200,000*	25	Up to 48 mos.	Bob Gilmore (202) 245-7354 Rm 4083
84.325K Combined Personnel Preparation									Maryann McDermott (202) 245-7439 Rm 4062
Focus Area a: Training Personnel to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Pre-school Age Children with Disabilities.	11/27/07	01/11/08	03/11/08	\$150,000 – \$200,000	\$175,000	\$200,000*	14	Up to 48 mos.	
Focus Area b: Training Personnel to Serve School Age Children with Low Incidence Disabilities.	11/27/07	01/11/08	03/11/08	\$150,000 – \$200,000	\$175,000	\$200,000*	23	Up to 48 mos.	
Focus Area c: Training Personnel to Provide Related Services, Speech/Language Services, and Adapted Physical Education to Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities.	11/27/07	01/11/08	03/11/08	\$150,000 – \$200,000	\$175,000	\$200,000*	14	Up to 48 mos.	
Focus Area d: Training Personnel in Minority Institutions to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities.	11/27/07	01/11/08	03/11/08	\$150,000 – \$200,000	\$175,000	\$200,000*	14	Up to 48 mos.	
84.325R National Outreach and Technical Assistance Center on Discretionary Awards for Minority Institutions	11/27/07	01/11/08	03/11/08	—	—	1,500,000*	1	Up to 60 mos.	Ernest Hairston (202) 245-7366 Rm 4070
84.325T Special Education Preservice Training Improvement Grants	11/27/07	01/18/08 <i>Extended to 03/10/2008</i>	03/18/08 <i>Extended to 05/09/2008</i>	\$100,000 - \$150,000(first year of project)	\$125,000 (first year of project)	\$150,000**(first year of project)	21	Up to 60 mos.	Bonnie Jones (202) 245-7395 Rm 4153

* We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding the maximum award for a single budget period of 12 months. The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.

** For the Special Education Preservice Training Improvement Grants, 84.325T competition:

Note: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding \$150,000 for a single budget period of 12 months for the first year of the project; we will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding \$100,000 for a single budget period of 12 months over the last four years of the project; and we will reject any application that exceeds \$500,000 for the five-years of the budget period.

Note: No more than one cooperative agreement will be awarded per IHE. Programs in minority institutions that are preparing special education teachers of children with high incidence disabilities are eligible to apply under this competition. For purposes of this competition, the term “minority institutions” include IHEs with a minority student enrollment of 25 percent or more, which may include Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges, and Predominantly Hispanic Serving Colleges and Universities.

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

**PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT TO
IMPROVE SERVICES AND RESULTS FOR
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM**

PREPARATION OF LEADERSHIP PERSONNEL

(CFDA 84.325D)

DEADLINE: 01/04/08

Background:

Training of special educators and related services personnel at the highest levels, including both the doctoral and post-doctoral levels, is critical to ensure the continued development and availability of quality services for children with disabilities. Over the last several decades, research has consistently suggested that there is a persistent need for additional special education and related services personnel who have been trained at the doctoral and post-doctoral levels. Such personnel play a critical role in ensuring the availability of, and improving the quality of, services for children with disabilities and their families. Accordingly, the Department seeks to support programs that provide doctoral, post-doctoral, and advanced graduate level training that is designed to prepare professionals to work in special education as researchers, teacher educators, administrators, and direct service providers.

Priority:

The Preparation of Leadership Personnel priority supports and is limited to projects that train personnel at the preservice doctoral or post-doctoral level in early intervention, special education or related services, and at the advanced graduate level (masters and specialists) in special education administration/supervision. In order to be eligible under this priority, programs must provide training and support for scholars to complete their training within the project period of the grant. Therefore, only the following types of programs of study will meet the requirements of this priority:

1. A major in special education, related services or early intervention at the doctoral or post-doctoral level; and
2. Training at the advanced graduate level (masters and specialists programs) in special education administration/supervision.

Note: Training that leads to a Doctor of Audiology (DAud) degree is not included as part of this priority because training programs that lead to a DAud degree are eligible to apply for funding under the Combined Personnel Preparation priority (CFDA 84.325K) announced elsewhere in this notice.

To be considered for funding under the Preparation of Leadership Personnel absolute priority, applicants must meet the application requirements contained in the priority. All projects funded under the absolute priority also must meet the programmatic and administrative requirements specified in the priority. The application, programmatic, and administrative requirements are as follows:

(a) Demonstrate, in the narrative section of the application under “Quality of Project Services,” how--

(1) The program prepares personnel to address the specialized needs of children with disabilities from diverse cultural and language backgrounds, including limited English proficient children with disabilities, by--

(i) Identifying the competencies needed by leadership personnel to understand and work with culturally and linguistically diverse populations (the competencies identified should reflect the current knowledge base); and

(ii) Preparing personnel to use those competencies through early intervention, special education, and related services training programs;

(2) All relevant coursework for the proposed program reflects current research and pedagogy on--

(i) Participation and achievement in the general education curriculum and improved outcomes for all children with disabilities; and

(ii) The provision of coordinated services in natural environments to improve outcomes for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families;

(3) The program is designed to offer integrated training and practice opportunities that will enhance the competencies of all personnel who share responsibility for providing effective services for children with disabilities;

(4) For programs that train personnel in early intervention, special education or related services, the program ensures that scholars are knowledgeable about: (i) the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB); (ii) the IDEA and NCLB requirement that teachers be highly qualified; and (iii) the need to foster collaboration between regular and special education teachers; and

(5) The proposed training program includes training on State academic achievement standards for children, if applicable.

(b) Submit electronically annual data on each scholar who receives grant support within 60 days after the end of each grant budget year. Applicants are encouraged to visit the Personnel Prep Data (PPD) Web site at www.osepppd.org for further information about this data collection requirement. This data collection is in addition to and does not supplant the annual grant performance report required of each grantee for continuation funding (see 34 CFR 75.590).

(c) Budget for attendance at a three-day Project Director’s meeting in Washington, DC, during each year of the project.

(d) If the project maintains a Web site, include relevant information and documents in a format that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility.

(e) Include, in the application appendix, all course syllabi for the proposed training program. Course syllabi must clearly reflect the incorporation of research-based curriculum and pedagogy as required under paragraph (a) of this priority.

(f) Provide, in the application narrative, a detailed description of the program, including the sequence of the courses offered in the program, that describes the comprehensive curriculum designed to meet program goals and obtain mastery of the following required professional domains:

- (1) Research methodology.
- (2) Personnel preparation.
- (3) Policy/advocacy or professional practice.

(g) Include, in the application narrative under “Quality of Project Evaluation,” a clear and effective plan for evaluating the extent to which graduates of the training program have the knowledge and competencies necessary to provide research-based instruction and services that result in improved outcomes for children with disabilities.

(h) Communicate the results of the evaluation conducted in accordance with paragraph (g) of this priority to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) in required annual performance reports for continuation funding and the project final performance report.

(i) Certify that all scholars will be recruited into the program with the intention of graduating from the program during the performance period of the grant.

(j) Certify that the institution will not require scholars recruited into the program to work as a condition of receiving a scholarship, e.g., as graduate assistants, unless the work is required to complete their training program.

(k) If the program is addressing national or regional needs, demonstrate in the application narrative the existence of the needs through appropriate research data.

(l) Ensure that at least 65 percent of the total requested budget per year be used for student support or provide justification in the application narrative for any designation less than 65 percent. Examples of sufficient justification for proposing less than 65 percent of the budget for student support might include:

(1) A project servicing rural areas that provides long distance training, and that may require Web Masters, adjunct professors, or mentors to operate effectively.

(2) A project that is expanding or adding a new area of emphasis to the program, and as a result of this expansion, may need additional faculty or other resources such as expert consultants, additional training supplies, or equipment that would enhance the program.

Note: Applicants proposing projects to develop, expand, or add a new area of emphasis to special education or related services programs must provide, in their applications, information on how these new areas will be sustained once Federal funding ends.

(m) Meet the statutory requirements contained in section 662(e) through 662(h) of IDEA.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1462 and 1481.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES: Under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), the Department has established a set of performance measures including, long-term measures, that are designed to yield information on various aspects of the effectiveness and quality of the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program. These measures include: (1) the percentage of projects that incorporate scientifically- or evidence-based practices; (2) the percentage of scholars who exit training programs prior to completion due to poor academic performance; (3) the percentage of degree or certification recipients who are working in the area(s) for which they were trained upon program completion; (4) the percentage of degree or certification recipients who are working in the area(s) for which they were trained upon program completion and are fully qualified under IDEA; (5) the percentage of scholars completing IDEA-funded training programs who are knowledgeable and skilled in scientifically based or evidence-based practices for infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities; (6) the percentage of low incidence positions that are filled by personnel who are fully qualified under IDEA; and (7) the percentage of program graduates who maintain employment for three or more years in the area(s) for which they were trained.

Grantees may be asked to participate in assessing and providing information on these aspects of program quality.

ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUNDS: The Administration has requested \$89,719,000 for the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program for FY 2008, of which we intend to use an estimated \$2,950,000 for the competitions announced in this notice. Please refer to the “Estimated Range of Awards” column of the chart for the estimated dollar amounts for individual competitions. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Contingent upon the availability of funds and the quality of applications for the competitions announced in this notice, we may make additional awards in FY 2009 from the lists of unfunded applicants from individual competitions.

PAGE LIMITS: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 50 pages for each absolute priority, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the two-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, the references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject your application if--

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: (a) Projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see section 606 of IDEA); and

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities ages birth through 26 in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see section 682(a)(1)(A) of IDEA);

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; and (b) The selection criteria for this program are from 34 CFR 75.210.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: Institutions of higher education.

For further information about this priority contact:

Dr. Robert Gilmore, Competition Manager
Research to Practice Division
Office of Special Education Programs

Internet: Bob.Gilmore@ed.gov

Telephone: (202) 245-7354
FAX: (202) 245-7617
TDD: 1-800-877-8339

SELECTION CRITERIA AND FORMAT FOR THE PREPARATION OF LEADERSHIP PERSONNEL (CFDA 84.325D) COMPETITION

Part III of the application form requires a narrative that addresses the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. Applications are more likely to receive favorable reviews by panels when they are organized according to the format suggested below. This format was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER as an appendix to the program regulations, and it addresses all the selection criteria used to evaluate applications required by regulations. If you prefer to use a different format, you may wish to cross-reference the sections of your application to the selection criteria to be sure that reviewers are able to find all relevant information.

The selection criteria that will be used to evaluate applications submitted to the **Preparation of Leadership Personnel (CFDA 84.325D)** competition are the selection criteria for new grants required by the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The maximum score for all of the criteria is 100 points.

An **abstract**, not to exceed two pages, should precede the application narrative of all applications and it would be helpful if it included the following information: Purpose of the project; disability addressed by the project; age group (e.g., 0-3, preschool, elementary school, middle school, high school, secondary transition, and postsecondary); geography (e.g., rural, suburban, urban); severity (e.g., mild, moderate, and severe); proposed products; proposed outcomes; names/affiliations of key collaborators. It would be helpful if the abstract includes: (a) the title of the program, (b) the name of the Absolute Priority, and (c) the CFDA Number (e.g., 84.325D).

For Personnel Preparation applications, the abstract should also include, as appropriate, (a) the degree individuals receive upon completion of the program, (b) type of program offered, (c) number of students who receive support, and (d) percent of total annual funding designated for student support.

(a) Need for project (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the need for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the need for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) 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; or

(ii) The extent to which the proposed project will prepare personnel for fields in which shortages have been demonstrated.

(b) Quality of project services (35 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project, the Secretary considers the quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the professional development to be provided by the proposed project reflect up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice;

(ii) The extent to which the training or professional development services to be provided by the proposed project are of sufficient quality, intensity, and duration to lead to improvements in practice among the recipients of those services;

(iii) The extent to which the training or professional development services to be provided by the proposed project are likely to alleviate the personnel shortages that have been identified or are the focus of the proposed project; and

(iv) The extent to which the professional development to be provided by the proposed project involve the collaboration of appropriate partners for maximizing the effectiveness of project services.

(c) Quality of project personnel (15 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.

(2) 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.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factor:

(i) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.

(d) Quality of the management plan (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) 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;

(ii) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project; and

(iii) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.

(e) Adequacy of resources (15 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization;

(ii) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project;

(iii) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project;

(iv) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the number of persons to be served and to the anticipated results and benefits; and

(v) The potential for continued support of the project after Federal funding ends, including, as appropriate, the demonstrated commitment of appropriate entities to such support.

(f) Quality of project evaluation (15 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project.

(2) 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; and

(ii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.

COMBINED PRIORITY FOR PERSONNEL PREPARATION
(CFDA 84.325K)

DEADLINE: 01/11/08

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY:

Background:

State agencies, university training programs, local schools, and community-based entities have indicated the importance and difficulty of improving training programs for personnel to serve infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities.

The national demand for fully credentialed early intervention, special education, and related services personnel to serve infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities exceeds available supply. Thus, Federal support is required to improve both the quality and supply of these personnel.

Priority:

The purpose of the Combined Personnel Preparation priority is to improve the quality, and increase the number, of personnel who are fully credentialed to serve infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities--especially in areas of chronic personnel shortage--by supporting projects that prepare early intervention, special education, and related services personnel at the associate, baccalaureate, master's, and specialist levels. In order to be eligible under this priority, programs must provide training and support for students to complete, within the project period of the grant, a degree, State certification, professional license, or State endorsement in early intervention, special education or related services. Programs preparing students to be special education paraprofessionals, related services assistants or educational interpreters are also eligible under this priority.

To be considered for funding under the Combined Personnel Preparation absolute priority, applicants must meet the application requirements contained in the priority. All projects funded under the absolute priority also must meet the programmatic and administrative requirements specified in the priority. The application, programmatic, and administrative requirements are as follows:

(a) Demonstrate, in the narrative section of the application under "Quality of Project Services", how--

(1) Training requirements and required coursework for the proposed training program incorporate research-based practices that improve outcomes for children with disabilities (including relevant research citations);

(2) The program is designed to offer integrated training and practice opportunities that will enhance the competencies of all personnel who share responsibility for providing effective services for children with disabilities;

(3) The program prepares personnel to address the specialized needs of children with disabilities from diverse cultural and language backgrounds, including limited English proficient children with disabilities, by--

(i) Identifying the competencies needed by personnel to understand and work with culturally and linguistically diverse populations (the competencies identified should reflect the current knowledge base); and

(ii) Preparing personnel to use those competencies through early intervention, special education, and related services training programs;

(4) If preparing beginning special educators, the program is designed to provide extended clinical learning opportunities, field experiences, or supervised practica (such as an additional year) and ongoing high quality mentoring and induction opportunities;

(5) The program includes field-based training opportunities for scholars (as defined in 34 CFR 304.3(g)) in diverse settings including schools and settings in high-poverty communities, rural areas, and urban areas;

(6) The proposed training program will enable scholars to be highly qualified, in accordance with section 602(10) of IDEA, in the State(s) to be served by the applicant;

(7) The training program equips scholars with the knowledge and skills necessary to assist children effectively in achieving State academic achievement standards; and

(8) The training program provides student support systems (including tutors, mentors, and other innovative practices) to enhance student retention and success in the program.

(b) Include, in the narrative section of the application under “Quality of Project Evaluation”, a clear, effective plan for evaluating the extent to which graduates of the training program have the knowledge and skills necessary to provide scientifically based or evidence-based instruction and services that result in improved outcomes for children with disabilities. Applicants also must clearly describe, under “Quality of Project Evaluation,” how the project will report these evaluation results to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) in the grantee’s annual performance reports and final performance report.

(c) Meet the statutory requirements contained in section 662(e) through 662(h) of IDEA.

(d) Ensure that at least 65 percent of the total requested budget per year be used for student support.

(e) Budget for attendance at a three-day Project Director’s meeting in Washington, DC, during each year of the project.

(f) If the project maintains a Web site, include relevant information and documents in a form that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility.

(g) Include, in the application appendix, all course syllabi for the proposed training program. Course syllabi must clearly reflect the incorporation of research-based curriculum and pedagogy as required under paragraph (a) of this priority.

(h) Submit electronically annual data on each scholar who receives grant support within 60 days after the end of each grant budget year. Applicants are encouraged to visit the Personnel Prep Data (PPD) Web site at www.osepppd.org for further information about this data collection requirement. This data collection is in addition to and does not supplant the annual grant performance report required of each grantee for continuation funding (see 34 CFR 75.590).

Focus Areas

Within this absolute priority, the Secretary intends to support projects under the following four focus areas: (a) Training Personnel to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Pre-school Age Children with Disabilities, (b) Training Personnel to Serve School Age Children with Low Incidence Disabilities, (c) Training Personnel to Provide Related Services, Speech/Language Services, and Adapted Physical Education to Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities, and (d) Training Personnel in Minority Institutions to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities.

Note: Applicants must identify the specific focus area (i.e., (a), (b), (c), or (d)), under which they are applying as part of the competition title on the application cover sheet (SF form 424, line 4). Applicants may not submit the same proposal under more than one focus area.

Focus Area a: Training Personnel to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Pre-school Age Children with Disabilities. For the purpose of this focus area, early intervention personnel are those who are trained to provide services to infants and toddlers with disabilities ages birth through two, and early childhood personnel are those who are trained to provide services to children with disabilities ages three through five (in States where the age range is other than ages three through five, we will defer to the State's certification for early childhood). In States where certification in early intervention (EI) is combined with certification in early childhood (EC), applicants may propose a combined EI/EC training project under this focus area. Projects training related services, speech/language, or adapted physical education personnel are not eligible under this focus area (see Focus Area c).

Focus Area b: Training Personnel to Serve School Age Children with Low Incidence Disabilities.

For the purpose of this focus area, low incidence personnel are special education personnel, including paraprofessionals, trained to serve school-age children with low incidence disabilities including visual impairments, hearing impairments, simultaneous vision and hearing impairments, significant cognitive impairments (severe mental retardation), orthopedic impairments, autism, and traumatic brain injury. Programs preparing special education personnel to provide services to visually impaired or blind children that can be appropriately provided in Braille must prepare those individuals to provide those services in Braille. Projects

training educational interpreters are eligible under this focus area. Projects training other related services, speech/language or adapted physical education personnel are not eligible under this focus area (see Focus Area c). Projects training special education pre-school personnel are eligible under Focus Area a.

Focus Area c: Training Personnel to Provide Related Services, Speech/Language Services, and Adapted Physical Education to Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities. Programs training related services, speech/language or adapted physical education personnel to serve infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities are eligible within this focus area. For the purpose of this focus area, related services include, but are not limited to, psychological services, physical therapy (including therapy provided by personnel trained at the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) level), occupational therapy, therapeutic recreation, social work services, counseling services, audiology services (including services provided by personnel trained at the Doctor of Audiology (DAud) level), and speech/language services. Training programs in States where personnel trained to serve children with speech/language impairments are considered to be special educators are eligible under this focus area. Projects training educational interpreters are not eligible under this focus area, but may apply under Focus Area b.

Focus Area d: Training Personnel in Minority Institutions to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities. Programs in minority institutions are eligible under this focus area if they train: (a) personnel to serve one or more of the following: infants, toddlers, or pre-school age children with disabilities; (b) personnel to serve school age children with low incidence disabilities; or (c) personnel to provide related services, speech/language or adapted physical education to infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities. Minority institutions include institutions with a minority student enrollment of 25 percent or more, which may include Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges, and Predominantly Hispanic Serving Colleges and Universities.

Within this focus area, institutions that are recommended for funding in FY 2008 and that have not received support under the IDEA Personnel Development Program in FY 2007 will receive 10 competitive preference points. (Programs in minority institutions training personnel in Focus Areas a, b and c are eligible within Focus Area d. Programs that are training high incidence special education personnel are not eligible within Focus Area d. However, programs that are training high incidence special education personnel are eligible under Absolute Priority 4 located elsewhere in this notice.)

Under Focus Area d, a project may budget for less than the required percentage (65 percent) for student support if the applicant can provide sufficient justification for any designation less than 65 percent. Sufficient justification for proposing less than 65 percent of the budget for student support would include support for activities such as program development, program expansion, or the addition of a new area of emphasis. Some examples include the following:

(1) A project that is starting a new program may request up to a year for program development and capacity building. In the initial project year, no student support would be

required. Instead, a project could hire a new faculty member or a consultant to assist in program development.

(2) A project that is proposing to build capacity may hire a field supervisor so that additional students can be trained.

(3) A project that is expanding or adding a new area of emphasis to the program may hire additional faculty or obtain other resources such as expert consultants, additional training supplies, or equipment that would enhance the program.

Note: Applicants proposing projects to develop, expand, or to add a new area of emphasis to special education or related services programs must provide information, in their applications, on how these new areas will be sustained once Federal funding ends.

Within this absolute priority, we are particularly interested in applications that address the following invitational priorities.

Invitational Priorities: Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) we do not give an application that meets these invitational priorities a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

These priorities are:

(1) In Focus Areas b and d, the Secretary is particularly interested in programs that prepare special educators who provide instruction in core academic areas to children with disabilities.

(2) The Secretary is also particularly interested in programs that provide enhanced support for beginning special educators (see section 662(b)(3) of IDEA).

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1462 and 1481.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES: Under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), the Department has established a set of performance measures including, long-term measures, that are designed to yield information on various aspects of the effectiveness and quality of the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program. These measures include: (1) the percentage of projects that incorporate scientifically- or evidence-based practices; (2) the percentage of scholars who exit training programs prior to completion due to poor academic performance; (3) the percentage of degree or certification recipients who are working in the area(s) for which they were trained upon program completion; (4) the percentage of degree or certification recipients who are working in the area(s) for which they were trained upon program completion and are fully qualified under IDEA; (5) the percentage of scholars completing IDEA-funded training programs who are knowledgeable and skilled in scientifically based or evidence-based practices for infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities; (6) the percentage of low incidence positions that are filled by personnel who are fully qualified under IDEA; and (7) the percentage of program

graduates who maintain employment for three or more years in the area(s) for which they were trained.

Grantees may be asked to participate in assessing and providing information on these aspects of program quality.

ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUNDS: The Administration has requested \$89,719,000 for the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program for FY 2008, of which we intend to use an estimated \$2,950,000 for the competitions announced in this notice. Please refer to the "Estimated Range of Awards" column of the chart for the estimated dollar amounts for individual competitions. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Contingent upon the availability of funds and the quality of applications for the competitions announced in this notice, we may make additional awards in FY 2009 from the lists of unfunded applicants from individual competitions.

PAGE LIMITS: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 50 pages for each absolute priority, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the two-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, the references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject your application if--

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: (a) Projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see section 606 of IDEA); and

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities ages birth through 26 in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see section 682(a)(1)(A) of IDEA);

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; and (b) The selection criteria for this program are from 34 CFR 75.210.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: Institutions of higher education.

For further information about this priority contact:

Maryann McDermott, Competition Manager
Research to Practice Division
Office of Special Education Programs

Internet: Maryann.McDermott@ed.gov

Telephone: (202) 245-7439
FAX: (202) 245-7617
TDD: 1-800-877-8339

SPECIAL EDUCATION PRESERVICE TRAINING
IMPROVEMENT GRANTS
(CFDA 84.325T)

DEADLINE: 01/18/08

Background:

State educational agencies, IHEs, and local educational agencies consistently report that it is necessary to restructure or redesign most preparation programs for kindergarten through grade 12 (K-12) special education teachers to ensure that graduates of these programs are able to meet the highly qualified teacher (HQT) requirements in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, as amended by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA). To accomplish this goal, preparation programs must ensure that their graduates who expect to be providing instruction in core academic subjects are not only able to meet State certification or licensure requirements, but that they also have the necessary content knowledge, consistent with the HQT requirements in NCLB and IDEA.

Children with disabilities are now expected to meet high standards for learning in core academic subjects, regardless of classroom setting. Because this is the case, K-12 special education teacher preparation programs must address content knowledge, standards, assessments, and evidence-based practices. Federal support can assist in improving the quality of IHE programs that prepare special education teachers, and help to ensure that these teachers have the knowledge and skills needed to teach students with disabilities using evidence-based interventions.

Priority:

The purpose of this priority is to improve the quality of K-12 special education teacher preparation programs to ensure that program graduates are able to meet the HQT requirements under sections 602(10) and 612(a)(14) of IDEA, and are well prepared to serve children with high incidence disabilities. For purposes of this priority, the term “high incidence disabilities” refers to learning disabilities, emotional disturbance, or mental retardation. In order to be eligible under this priority, applicants must currently prepare personnel (at the baccalaureate or master’s level) to serve school-age children with high incidence disabilities.

Note: This priority only supports the improvement or expansion of existing programs for high incidence personnel, such as the expansion of an elementary program to include a secondary program in high incidence. This priority does not support the development of new programs for high incidence personnel.

To be considered for funding under the Special Education Preservice Training Improvement Grants priority, applicants must meet the application requirements contained in the priority. All projects funded under the absolute priority also must meet the programmatic, and

administrative requirements specified in the priority. The application, programmatic and administrative requirements are as follows:

(a) Demonstrate, in the narrative section of the application under “Quality of Project Services,” how--

(1) The first year of the project period will be used for planning an improved or restructured K-12 teacher preparation program that includes induction and mentoring components; revising curriculum for, and integrating evidence-based interventions that improve outcomes for children with high incidence disabilities into, the improved or restructured program (including providing research citations for those evidence-based interventions); and coordinating with the National Center to Enhance the Professional Development of School Personnel on the use of its web-based training modules (see <http://www.iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu>). *Applicants must describe first year activities and include a five-year timeline and implementation plan in their applications.* This plan must describe the proposed project activities associated with implementation of the improved or restructured program that includes the induction and mentoring components, and may not be implemented without the approval of OSEP, if the proposed project is funded under this competition;

(2) The improved or restructured program is designed to offer integrated training and practice opportunities that will enhance the competencies of beginning special education teachers who share responsibility with general education teachers and other personnel for providing effective services and instruction in academic subjects to children with high incidence disabilities in K-12 classrooms;

(3) The improved or restructured program is designed to prepare special education teachers to address the specialized needs of children with high incidence disabilities from diverse cultural and language backgrounds, including limited English proficient children with disabilities, by identifying the competencies that special education teachers need to work effectively with culturally and linguistically diverse populations;

(4) The improved or restructured program is designed to provide extended clinical learning opportunities, field experiences, or supervised practica and ongoing high quality mentoring and induction opportunities in local schools. Applicants also must demonstrate how they will coordinate with the National Center on Policy and Practice in Special Education in designing the program to provide extended clinical learning opportunities, field experiences, or supervised practica;

(5) The improved or restructured program is designed to include field-based training opportunities in diverse settings including schools and settings in high-poverty communities and in schools not making adequate yearly progress (AYP) under NCLB;

(6) Upon completion of the improved or restructured program, graduates will be able to meet the HQT requirements in accordance with section 602(10) of IDEA and 34 CFR 300.18; and will be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to assist children in achieving State academic achievement standards;

(7) The improved or restructured program is designed to provide support systems (including tutors, mentors, and other innovative practices) to enhance retention and success in the program; and

(8) The improved or restructured program will be maintained once Federal funding ends.

(b) For programs that will be restructured or re-designed to produce graduates who will meet the standards of HQT upon program completion, particularly as those standards relate to certification in core academic subjects, applicants will establish partnerships with appropriate academic departments in schools of arts and sciences. To address this requirement, applications must also--

(i) Demonstrate how such partnerships will include representation by academic departments that have expertise in the core academic subjects being addressed in the application;

(ii) Demonstrate how such partnerships will include a permanent faculty member, from one or more of the corresponding academic departments, who will be involved in developing the overall project and designing the curriculum used to train scholars in core academic subjects;

(iii) Provide evidence of the extent of participation by permanent faculty members from the corresponding academic departments; and

(iv) Provide funding to the core academic subject departments appropriate to the significant involvement outlined in paragraph (4) of this priority;

(c) Include, in the narrative section of the application under "Quality of Project Evaluation," a clear, effective plan for evaluating the extent to which graduates of the training program have the knowledge and skills necessary to provide scientifically based or evidence-based instruction and services that result in improved outcomes for children with disabilities. Applicants also must clearly describe, under "Quality of Project Evaluation," how the project will report these evaluation results to the OSEP in the grantee's annual performance reports and final performance report.

(d) Meet the statutory requirements in section 662(e) through 662(f) of IDEA.

(e) Budget for planning and improvement activities, including activities to be performed by consultants. This priority does not provide for financial support of scholars during any year of the project.

(f) Budget for attendance at a three-day Project Director's meeting in Washington, DC, during each year of the project.

(g) If the project maintains a Web site, include relevant information and documents in a form that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility.

(h) Include, in the application appendix, all course syllabi for the existing teacher preparation program. Revised syllabi for the improved or restructured program must be submitted at the end of the first year of the project period.

Within this absolute priority, we give competitive preference to applications that address the following priority.

Competitive Preference Priority: Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i) we award up to an additional 10 points to an application, depending on how well the application meets this priority.

This priority is:

Competitive Preference Points Based on Number of High Incidence Special Education Teacher Graduates from Program in a Recent Year

In order to earn competitive preference points under this priority, applicants must document the number of K-12 special education teachers who have graduated from a preparation program that prepares personnel (at the baccalaureate or master's level) to serve school-age children with high incidence disabilities in any recent year, regardless of whether the graduates received support from a Federal grant. For purposes of this competitive preference priority, the term "recent year" is defined as any of the past three fiscal years (i.e., FY 2004, FY 2005, or FY 2006). For example, an applicant that documents 10 graduates (new K-12 high incidence special education teachers) during a recent year earns 2 competitive preference points. An applicant that documents 30 graduates (new K-12 high incidence special education teachers) during a recent year earns 6 competitive preference points. An applicant that documents 50 or more graduates (new K-12 high incidence special education teachers) during a recent year earns 10 competitive preference points.

Number of Students Graduating (new K-12 high incidence special education teachers) from Program in a Recent Year (including non-OSEP funded graduates)	Number of Competitive Preference Points Awarded
8 – 19 graduates	2 points
20 – 29 graduates	4 points
30 – 39 graduates	6 points
40 – 49 graduates	8 points
50+ graduates	10 points

The number of students (i.e., new K-12 high incidence special education teachers) graduating from the program must be documented in the application. A letter from the Dean or Department Chair reporting the number of high incidence graduates in a recent fiscal year is adequate documentation for purposes of this competitive preference.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1462 and 1481.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES: Under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), the Department has established a set of performance measures including, long-

term measures, that are designed to yield information on various aspects of the effectiveness and quality of the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program. These measures include: (1) the percentage of projects that incorporate scientifically- or evidence-based practices; (2) the percentage of scholars who exit training programs prior to completion due to poor academic performance; (3) the percentage of degree or certification recipients who are working in the area(s) for which they were trained upon program completion; (4) the percentage of degree or certification recipients who are working in the area(s) for which they were trained upon program completion and are fully qualified under IDEA; (5) the percentage of scholars completing IDEA-funded training programs who are knowledgeable and skilled in scientifically based or evidence-based practices for infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities; (6) the percentage of low incidence positions that are filled by personnel who are fully qualified under IDEA; and (7) the percentage of program graduates who maintain employment for three or more years in the area(s) for which they were trained.

Grantees may be asked to participate in assessing and providing information on these aspects of program quality.

ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUNDS: The Administration has requested \$89,719,000 for the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program for FY 2008, of which we intend to use an estimated \$2,950,000 for the competitions announced in this notice. Please refer to the “Estimated Range of Awards” column of the chart for the estimated dollar amounts for individual competitions. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Contingent upon the availability of funds and the quality of applications for the competitions announced in this notice, we may make additional awards in FY 2009 from the lists of unfunded applicants from individual competitions.

PAGE LIMITS: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 50 pages for each absolute priority, using the following standards:

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page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, the references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject your application if--

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: (a) Projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see section 606 of IDEA); and

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities ages birth through 26 in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see section 682(a)(1)(A) of IDEA);

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; and (b) The selection criteria for this program are from 34 CFR 75.210.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: Institutions of higher education (IHE). Note: For Special Education Preservice Training Improvement Grants, 84.325T, programs in IHEs that are preparing preschool teachers are not eligible to apply under that competition.

For further information about this priority contact:

Dr. Bonnie D. Jones, Competition Manager
Research to Practice Division
Office of Special Education Programs

Internet: Bonnie.Jones@ed.gov

Telephone: (202) 245-7395

FAX: (202) 245-7619

TDD: 1-800-877-8339

SELECTION CRITERIA AND FORMAT FOR THE COMBINED PRIORITY FOR PERSONNEL PREPARATION (CFDA 84.325K) AND THE SPECIAL EDUCATION PRESERVICE TRAINING IMPROVEMENT GRANTS (CFDA 84.325T) COMPETITIONS

Part III of the application form requires a narrative that addresses the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. Applications are more likely to receive favorable reviews by panels when they are organized according to the format suggested below. This format was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER as an appendix to the program regulations, and it addresses all the selection criteria used to evaluate applications required by regulations. If you prefer to use a different format, you may wish to cross-reference the sections of your application to the selection criteria to be sure that reviewers are able to find all relevant information.

The selection criteria that will be used to evaluate applications submitted to the **Combined Priority for Personnel Preparation (CFDA 84.325K) and the Special Education Preservice Training Improvement Grants (CFDA 84.325T)** competitions are the selection criteria for new grants required by the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The maximum score for all of the criteria is 100 points.

An **abstract**, not to exceed two pages, should precede the application narrative of all applications and it would be helpful if it included the following information: Purpose of the project; disability addressed by the project; age group (e.g., 0-3, preschool, elementary school, middle school, high school, secondary transition, and postsecondary); geography (e.g., rural, suburban, urban); severity (e.g., mild, moderate, and severe); proposed products; proposed outcomes; names/affiliations of key collaborators. It would be helpful if the abstract includes: (a) the title of the program, (b) the name of the Absolute Priority, and (c) the CFDA Number (e.g., 84.325D).

For Personnel Preparation applications, the abstract should also include, as appropriate, (a) the degree individuals receive upon completion of the program, (b) type of program offered, (c) number of students who receive support, and (d) percent of total annual funding designated for student support.

(a) Need for project (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the need for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the need for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) 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; or

(ii) The extent to which the proposed project will prepare personnel for fields in which shortages have been demonstrated.

(b) Quality of project services (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project, the Secretary considers the quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the professional development to be provided by the proposed project reflect up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice;

(ii) The extent to which the training or professional development services to be provided by the proposed project are of sufficient quality, intensity, and duration to lead to improvements in practice among the recipients of those services;

(iii) The extent to which the training or professional development services to be provided by the proposed project are likely to alleviate the personnel shortages that have been identified or are the focus of the proposed project; and

(iv) The extent to which the professional development to be provided by the proposed project involve the collaboration of appropriate partners for maximizing the effectiveness of project services.

(c) Quality of project personnel (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.

(2) 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.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factor:

(i) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.

(d) Quality of the management plan (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) 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;

(ii) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project; and

(iii) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.

(e) Adequacy of resources (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization;

(ii) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project;

(iii) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project;

(iv) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the number of persons to be served and to the anticipated results and benefits; and

(v) The potential for continued support of the project after Federal funding ends, including, as appropriate, the demonstrated commitment of appropriate entities to such support.

(f) Quality of project evaluation (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project.

(2) 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; and

(ii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.

**NATIONAL OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER ON
DISCRETIONARY AWARDS FOR MINORITY INSTITUTIONS**
(CFDA 84.325R)

DEADLINE: 01/11/08

Background:

Section 681(c)(2) of IDEA requires the Secretary to set aside funds to support one or both of the following activities: (1) the provision of outreach and technical assistance to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and to institutions of higher education (IHEs) with minority enrollments of not less than 25 percent to promote their participation in certain activities under IDEA; or (2) the provision of support to enable the institutions to assist other institutions and agencies in improving educational and transitional results for children with disabilities. Consistent with this requirement, this priority is aimed at promoting the participation of HBCUs and IHEs with minority enrollments of not less than 25 percent in discretionary grant competitions conducted by the Department, pursuant to section 662 of IDEA (the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program); and building the capacity of such institutions to prepare personnel to work effectively with children with disabilities from diverse backgrounds.

The current technical assistance center funded by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) under section 681(c)(2) of IDEA provides technical assistance to IHEs in grant writing and disseminates specific information to aid HBCUs and other minority IHEs in developing applications for grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts. This priority shifts the focus of the center that will be funded by OSEP under section 681(c)(2) of IDEA from that of grant-writing technical assistance to assistance that will help HBCUs and minority IHEs build their capacity to prepare personnel to work effectively with children with disabilities from linguistically and culturally diverse backgrounds.

Priority:

The purpose of the National Outreach and Technical Assistance Center on Discretionary Awards for Minority Institutions (Center) is to increase: (a) the participation of HBCUs and other institutions with a minority student enrollment of at least 25 percent in the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program competitions authorized under section 662 of IDEA; and (b) the capacity of these institutions to prepare personnel to work with children with disabilities from diverse backgrounds.

To be considered for funding under the National Outreach and Technical Assistance Center on Discretionary Awards for Minority Institutions absolute priority, each applicant must demonstrate, in its application, that it will--

- (a) Maintain contacts with HBCUs and other minority institutions;

(b) Prepare and disseminate grant-writing technical assistance materials that will enable HBCUs and other minority IHEs to become competitive applicants in competitions authorized under section 662 of IDEA;

(c) Prepare and disseminate Web-based program development materials, such as: modules on a variety of research-based pedagogy and practices that are effective in preparing personnel to provide quality service to children with disabilities; a State-by-State directory of resources organized by such topics as State, disability type, personnel supply and demand, etc.; other materials that include information on identifying competencies that personnel need to work effectively with linguistically and culturally diverse populations and how to increase those competencies through personnel preparation programs;

(d) Analyze the results of each applicable discretionary grant competition conducted by the Department under IDEA to determine which HBCUs and minority IHEs applied and whether they were successful, and submit this analysis to the Department;

(e) Provide support and guidance to faculty at HBCUs and other minority IHEs to enhance the capacity of these institutions to design and implement professional education programs that graduate highly qualified special educators;

(f) Ensure that all program development and professional education program enhancements that the Center recommends to HBCUs and minority IHEs include research-based practices, and appropriate competencies that personnel need to work effectively with linguistically and culturally diverse populations to improve outcomes for infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities;

(g) Develop a plan in the first three months of the project period that outlines a comprehensive technical assistance approach based on effective strategies;

(h) Establish, maintain and meet (at least once a year) with an Advisory Board that includes individuals with disabilities, members from underrepresented groups, technical assistance providers, and university personnel;

(i) Use a third party evaluator, approved by OSEP, that will conduct a rigorous evaluation of core Center activities, and determine the overall impact of its work;

(j) Budget for attendance at a three-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, DC, the Technical Assistance and Dissemination Project Directors' meeting, and at least 2 one-day planning meetings with the OSEP Project Officer and other appropriate staff in Washington, DC;

(k) If the project maintains a Web site, include relevant information and documents in a form that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility; and

(l) Include a line item in the proposed budget for an annual set-aside of five percent of the grant amount to support emerging needs that are consistent with the proposed project's activities, as those needs are identified in consultation with OSEP.

Note: With approval from the OSEP Project Officer, the Center will reallocate any remaining funds from this annual set-aside no later than the end of the third quarter of each budget period.

Fourth and Fifth Years of Project:

Finally, in deciding whether to continue funding the Center for the fourth and fifth years, the Secretary will consider the requirements of 34 CFR 75.253(a), in addition to the following items:

(a) The recommendation of a review team consisting of experts selected by the Secretary. This review will be conducted in Washington, DC during the last half of the project's second year. Projects must budget for travel expenses associated with this one-day intensive review.

(b) The timeliness and effectiveness with which all requirements of the negotiated cooperative agreement have been or are being met by the Center.

(c) Evidence of changes in capacity at HBCUs and other participating institutions.

(d) Evidence of increased participation of HBCUs and IHEs with minority enrollments of not less than 25 percent in competitions conducted under section 662 of IDEA.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1462 1481(c)(2) and 1481(d).

PERFORMANCE MEASURES: Under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), the Department has developed measures that will yield information on various aspects of the technical assistance and dissemination activities currently being supported under Part D of IDEA. These measures will be used for the National Outreach and Technical Assistance Center on Discretionary Awards for Minority Institutions competition and they focus on: the extent to which projects provide high quality products and services, the relevance of project products and services to educational and early intervention policy and practice, and the use of products and services to improve educational and early intervention policy and practice.

Grantees may be asked to participate in assessing and providing information on these aspects of program quality.

ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUNDS: The Administration has requested \$89,719,000 for the Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program for FY 2008, of which we intend to use an estimated \$2,950,000 for the competitions announced in this notice. Please refer to the "Estimated Range of Awards" column of the chart for the estimated dollar amounts for individual competitions. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Contingent upon the availability of funds and the quality of applications for the competitions announced in this notice, we may make additional awards in FY 2009 from the lists of unfunded applicants from individual competitions.

PAGE LIMITS: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 50 pages for each absolute priority, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the two-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, the references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject your application if--

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: (a) Projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see section 606 of IDEA); and

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities ages birth through 26 in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see section 682(a)(1)(A) of IDEA);

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; and (b) The selection criteria for this program are from 34 CFR 75.210.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs).

For further information about this priority contact:

Ernest Hairston, Competition Manager
Research to Practice Division
Office of Special Education Programs

Internet: Ernest.Hairston@ed.gov

Telephone: (202) 245-7366

FAX: (202) 245-7617

TDD: (202) 205-8170

SELECTION CRITERIA AND FORMAT FOR THE NATIONAL OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER ON DISCRETIONARY AWARDS FOR MINORITY INSTITUTIONS (CFDA 84.325R) COMPETITION

Part III of the application form requires a narrative that addresses the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. Applications are more likely to receive favorable reviews by panels when they are organized according to the format suggested below. This format was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER as an appendix to the program regulations, and it addresses all the selection criteria used to evaluate applications required by regulations. If you prefer to use a different format, you may wish to cross-reference the sections of your application to the selection criteria to be sure that reviewers are able to find all relevant information.

The selection criteria that will be used to evaluate applications submitted to the National Outreach and Technical Assistance Center on Discretionary Awards for Minority Institutions (CFDA 84.325R) competition are the selection criteria for new grants required by the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The maximum score for all of the criteria is 100 points.

An **abstract**, not to exceed two pages, should precede the application narrative of all applications and it would be helpful if it included the following information: Purpose of the project; disability addressed by the project; age group (e.g., 0-3, preschool, elementary school, middle school, high school, secondary transition, and postsecondary); geography (e.g., rural, suburban, urban); severity (e.g., mild, moderate, and severe); proposed products; proposed outcomes; names/affiliations of key collaborators. It would be helpful if the abstract includes: (a) the title of the program, (b) the name of the Absolute Priority, and (c) the CFDA Number (e.g., 84.325R).

For Personnel Preparation applications, the abstract should also include, as appropriate, (a) the degree individuals receive upon completion of the program, (b) type of program offered, (c) number of students who receive support, and (d) percent of total annual funding designated for student support.

For Technology and Technical Assistance and Dissemination applications, the abstract should include (a) design and (b) project evaluation, including measures.

(a) Significance (10)

- (1) The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - (i) The potential contribution of the proposed project to increased knowledge or understanding of educational problems, issues, or effective strategies;
 - (ii) The likelihood that the proposed project will result in system change or improvement;
 - (iii) The extent to which the proposed project is likely to build local capacity to provide, improve, or expand services that address the needs of the target population;

(iv) The likely utility of the products (such as information, materials, processes, or techniques) that will result from the proposed project, including the potential for their being used effectively in a variety of other settings; and

(v) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project.

(b) Quality of project services (25)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project, the Secretary considers the quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project are appropriate to the needs of the intended recipients or beneficiaries of those services;

(ii) The extent to which entities that are to be served by the proposed technical assistance project demonstrate support for the project;

(iii) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project reflect up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice;

(iv) The likely impact of the services to be provided by the proposed project on the intended recipients of those services;

(v) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project involve the collaboration of appropriate partners for maximizing the effectiveness of project services; and

(vi) The extent to which the technical assistance services to be provided by the proposed project involve the use of efficient strategies, including the use of technology, as appropriate, and the leveraging of non-project resources.

(c) Quality of project personnel (20)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.

(2) 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.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel; and

(ii) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of project consultants or subcontractors.

(d) Adequacy of resources (10)

(1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization;

(ii) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project; and

(iii) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the number of persons to be served and to the anticipated results and benefits.

(e) Quality of the management plan (15)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) 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;

(ii) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project;

(iii) The adequacy of mechanisms for ensuring high-quality products and services from the proposed project;

(iv) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project; and

(v) How the applicant will ensure that a diversity of perspectives are brought to bear in the operation of the proposed project, including those of parents, teachers, the business community, a variety of disciplinary and professional fields, recipients or beneficiaries of services, or others, as appropriate.

(f) Quality of project evaluation (20)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project.

(2) 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 methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes

(iii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide timely guidance for quality assurance.

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

(v) The extent to which the methods of evaluation provide for examining the effectiveness of project implementation strategies.

(vi) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.

GENERAL INFORMATION
ON COMPLETING
AN APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION ON COMPLETING AN APPLICATION

Potential applicants frequently direct questions to officials of the Department regarding application notices and programmatic and administrative regulations governing various direct grant programs. To assist potential applicants, the Office of Special Education Programs staff have assembled the following most commonly raised issues. In general, this information applies to the grant competitions covered by this application package.

- **EXTENSION OF DEADLINES**

Waivers for individual applications are not granted, regardless of the circumstances. Under very extraordinary circumstances a closing date may be changed. Such changes are announced in the Federal Register.

- **COPIES OF THE APPLICATION**

Current Government-wide policy is that only an original and two copies need to be submitted. OSEP would appreciate receiving three additional copies to facilitate the peer review process. This would mean an original and two copies need to be submitted and we would appreciate your voluntarily submitting an additional three copies (six applications in all). Copies of the application may be bound, but it is not necessary or required. If bound, one copy should be left unbound to facilitate electronic scanning and any necessary reproduction. Applicants should not use colored paper, foldouts, photographs, or other materials that are hard to duplicate.

Please Note: If an application is recommended for funding and a grant award is issued, we will contact the applicant to request a copy of the application on a diskette or CD. The Department is moving toward an electronic grant filing system and an electronic copy of all applications that are being funded will facilitate this effort.

- **MAKING APPLICATIONS MORE ACCESSIBLE TO REVIEWERS WHO ARE BLIND OR HAVE LOW VISION**

The Department will accept one copy of the application in an accessible format (i.e., IBM PC compatible WordPerfect or ASCII code diskette) along with the original and two print copies of the application. The accessible format copy can be used with available software to convert the text of the application into Braille, or with text to voice applications. If there are any differences in the print original provided on the disk and in print, the print original is assumed to be the correct version. Please note that it is not a requirement that one copy of the application be in an accessible format.

- **MISSED DEADLINES AND SUBMISSION UNDER OTHER COMPETITIONS**

Should an application miss the deadline for a particular competition, it may be submitted to another competition. However, if an application is properly prepared to meet the specifications of one competition, it is extremely unlikely that it would be favorably evaluated under a different competition.

- SUBMISSION TO MORE THAN ONE PROGRAM

Applications may be submitted to more than one Federal program if you are unsure of the most appropriate program. Each application should be prepared following the instructions for that particular program as closely as possible (which may require some reformulation). It is very helpful if each program is notified that an identical or similar application is being submitted to another program.

- HELP PREPARING APPLICATIONS

We are happy to provide general program information. Clearly it would not be appropriate for staff to participate in the actual writing of an application, but we can respond to specific questions about our application requirements and evaluation criteria, or about the announced priorities. Applicants should understand that such previous contact is not required, nor does it guarantee the success of an application.

- NOTIFICATION OF FUNDING

The time required to complete the evaluation of applications is variable. Once applications have been received staff must determine the areas of expertise needed to appropriately evaluate the applications, identify and contact potential reviewers, convene peer review panels, and summarize and review the recommendations of the review panels. You can expect to receive notification within 3 to 6 months of the application closing date, depending on the number of applications received and the number of competitions with closing dates at about the same time. The requested start date can be no later than January 1 of the year following the closing date of the competition.

- POSSIBILITY OF LEARNING THE OUTCOME OF REVIEW PANELS PRIOR TO OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION

Every year we are called by a number of applicants who have legitimate reasons for needing to know the outcome of the review prior to official notification. Some applicants need to make job decisions, some need to notify a local school district, etc. Regardless of the reason, we cannot share information about the review with anyone until the Assistant Secretary has approved a slate of projects recommended for funding. You will be notified as quickly as possible either by telephone (if your application is recommended for funding), or through a letter (if your application is not successful).

- FORMAT FOR APPLICATIONS

The application narrative (Part III of the application form) should be organized to follow the exact sequence of the components in the selection criteria used to evaluate applications. (The selection criteria for the competitions covered by this packet are listed following the specific competition information in section "B" of this packet.) A table of contents, list of priority requirements, and a two-page abstract summarizing the objectives, activities,

project participants, and expected outcomes of the proposed project should precede the application narrative. If you prefer to use a different format, you may wish to cross-reference the sections of your application to the selection criteria to be sure that reviewers are able to find all relevant information.

To aid in screening and reviewing the application, applicants should list in Part II and prior to the abstract, all general, special, and other requirements for the priority and corresponding page number (s) where requirements are addressed within the application.

Page limits do not

apply to this list. (All requirements are found in each priority description included in this application package.) The format included below is an example of how you might provide this information in your application.

Page #	Requirements
_____	(a) Projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities. (See Section 606 of IDEA)
_____	(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities ages birth through 26 in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects. (See Section 682(a)(1)(A) of IDEA)
_____	(c) Applicant must describe steps to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs. (See Section 427, GEPA)
_____	(d) Projects funded under these priorities must budget for a two-day Project's Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

- **PAGE LIMITS**

Please note that all applications submitted under the competition in this application package must adhere to the Part III - Application Narrative page limit requirements that are specified under each priority/competition description. Your application should provide enough information to allow the review panel to evaluate the importance and impact of the project as well as to make knowledgeable judgments about the methods you propose to use (design, subjects, sampling procedures, measures, instruments, data analysis strategies, etc.). It is often helpful to have:

- (l) Staff Vitae--They should include each person's title and role in the proposed project and contain only information that is relevant to this proposed project's activities and/or publications. Vitae for consultants and Advisory Council members should be similarly brief.

- (2) Instruments--except in the case of generally available and well known instruments.
- (3) Agreements--when the participation of an agency other than the applicant is critical to the project. This is particularly critical when an intervention will be implemented within an agency, or when subjects will be drawn from particular agencies. Letters of cooperation should be specific, indicating agreement to implement a particular intervention or to provide access to a particular group of students.

The items listed above are not included under page limits.

- **MAKING SURE APPLICATION IS ASSIGNED TO THE CORRECT COMPETITION**

Applicants should clearly indicate in Item 3 on the application (ED Form 424) the CFDA number of the program priority (e.g., 84.325D, etc.) representing the competition in which the application should be considered. If this information is not provided, your application may inadvertently be assigned and reviewed under a different competition from the one you intended.

- **RETURN OF NON-FUNDED APPLICATIONS**

We do not return original copies of applications. Thus, applicants should retain at least one copy of the application. Copies of reviewer comments will be mailed to all applicants.

- **PROPOSED STAFF AVAILABILITY TO PROJECT**

For each staff person named in the application, please provide documentation of all internal and external time commitments. In instances where a staff person is committed on a federally supported project, please provide the project name, Federal office, program title, the project Federal award number, and the amount of committed time by each project year. This information (e.g., Staff: Jane Doe; Project Name: Succeeding in the General Curriculum; Federal office: Office of Special Education Programs; Program title: Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities; Award number: H326A030002; Time commitments: Year 1—30%; Year 2—25% and Year 3—40%) can be provided as an Appendix to the application.

In general, we will not reduce time commitments on currently funded grants from the time proposed in the original application. Therefore, we will not consider for funding any application where key staff are bid above a time commitment level that staff have available to bid. Further, the time commitments stated in newly submitted applications will not be negotiated down to permit the applicant to receive a new grant award.

- **USE OF PERSON LOADING CHARTS**

It is important for applicants to include proposed time commitments for all project personnel. Also, program officials and applicants often find person loading charts useful formats for showing project personnel and their time commitments to individual activities.

A person loading chart is a tabular representation of major evaluation activities by number of days spent by each key person involved in each activity, as shown in the following example.

**Table #
Person Loading Chart - Time in Day(s) by Person***

Activity	Time in Day(s) by Person			
	Person A	Person B	Person C	Person D
Library Research	15	20	0	0
Hire Staff Prepare Materials	05	025	00	50
Train Raters	0	2	0	0
Data Collection	60	60	0	0
Data Analysis	0	0	25	5
Dissemination (manuscripts, etc.)	0	1	0	10

*Note: All figures represent FTE for the academic year.

- **DELIVERING/SENDING APPLICATIONS TO THE COMPETITION MANAGER**

Applications that are mailed or hand delivered must be sent to the Application Control Center at the address listed in the Application Transmittal Instructions. For applications that are submitted electronically, please refer to the guidelines in the Application Transmittal Instructions. Delivering or sending the application to the competition manager in the program office may prevent it from being logged in on time to the appropriate competition and may result in the application not being reviewed.

- **ALLOWED TRAVEL UNDER THESE PROJECTS**

Travel is allowed if the travel specifically relates to the expressed goals of the project. Travel by students to further their education under the project's goals is also allowed. Travel to conferences is the travel item that is most likely to be questioned during negotiations. Such travel is sometimes allowed when it is for purposes of dissemination, when there will be results to be disseminated, and when it is clear that a conference presentation or workshop is an effective way of reaching a particular target group.

- **FUNDING OF APPROVED APPLICATIONS**

It is often the case that the number of applications recommended for approval by the reviewers exceeds the dollars available for funding projects under a particular competition. When the panel reviews are completed for a particular competition, the individual reviewer scores and applications are ranked. The higher ranked, approved applications are funded first, and there are often lower ranked, approved applications that do not receive funding. Sometimes, one or two applications that are approved and fall next in rank order (after those projects selected for funding) are placed on hold. If dollars become available as a

result of negotiations, or if a higher ranked applicant declines the award, the projects on hold may receive funding. If you receive a letter stating that you will not receive funding, then your project has neither been selected for funding nor placed on hold.

- **INDIRECT COST RATE**

For competitions under the **Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities** (84.325) program, the indirect cost rate may not exceed eight percent of the direct costs. Some or all of the grants awarded under this program have been designated training grants. The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) limit reimbursement of indirect costs under training grants to non-governmental grantees (subject to 34 CFR part 74). These grantees may recover indirect costs under training grants up to the grantee's actual indirect costs as determined by the grantee's negotiated indirect cost agreement or a maximum of 8% of a modified total direct costs, whichever is less.

Note: This limitation does not apply to State agencies, local governments or Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments. [§75.562(c)(2)]

Grantees charging indirect costs to an ED training grant at the 8% rate should have a negotiated rate with their *cognizant agency*, i.e., either the Federal agency from which it has received the most direct funding subject to indirect cost support, the particular agency specifically assigned cognizance by the Office of Management and Budget or the State agency that provides the most subgrant funds to the grantee.

Although applicants are not required to submit with their application a copy of their indirect cost agreement to claim the 8% rate for funding received in this program, they are required to have documentation available for audit that shows that their negotiated indirect cost rate is at least 8% [§75.563(d)].

Applicants should be aware that amounts representing the difference between the 8% rate and a greater indirect cost rate negotiated with a cognizant agency may **not** be charged to direct cost categories, used to satisfy matching or cost-sharing requirements, or charged to another Federal award. [§75.563(c)(3)]

Please remember, that recent changes in the indirect costs calculations now removes the cost for student support; traineeships, stipends, tuition, from the direct cost line item. Students' costs are not subject to indirect cost rates.

- **ISSUES RAISED DURING DISCUSSIONS PRIOR TO AWARD**

If your application is recommended for funding, discussions may be held prior to award to clarify technical or budget issues. These are issues that have been identified during panel and staff review. Generally, technical issues are minor issues that require clarification. Alternative approaches may be presented for your consideration, or you may be asked to

provide additional information or rationale for something you have proposed to do. Sometimes, concerns are stated as "conditions". These are concerns that have been identified as so critical that the award cannot be made unless those conditions are met. Questions are also raised about the proposed budget during the discussion phase. Generally, budget issues are raised because there is inadequate justification or explanation of the particular budget item, or because the budget item does not seem critical to the successful completion of the project. A Federal project officer will present the issues to you and ask you to respond. If you do not understand the question, you should ask for clarification. In responding to discussion items you should provide any additional information or clarification requested. You may feel that an issue was addressed in the application. It may not, however, have been explained in enough detail to make it understood by reviewers, and more information should be provided. If you are asked to make changes that you feel could seriously affect the project's success, you may provide reasons for not making the changes, or provide alternative suggestions. Similarly, if proposed budget reductions will, in your opinion, seriously affect the proposed activities, you may want to explain why and provide additional justification for the proposed expenses. Your changes, explanations, and alternative suggestions will be carefully evaluated by staff. In some instances, an applicant may again be contacted for additional information. An award cannot be made until all issues have been resolved and conditions met.

- **TREATING A PRIORITY AS TWO SEPARATE COMPETITIONS.** In the past, there have been problems in finding peer reviewers without conflicts of interest where applications are made by many entities throughout the country. The Standing Panel requirements under the IDEA Amendments of 1997 have also placed additional constraints on the availability of reviewers. Therefore, The Department has determined that, for some discretionary priorities, applications may be ranked and selected for funding in two or more groups, which will ensure the availability of a much larger group of reviewers without conflicts of interest. This procedure will increase the quality, independence and fairness of the review process and will permit panel members to review applications under discretionary priorities to which they have also submitted applications.
- **SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS AND ESTIMATED/PROJECTED BUDGET AMOUNTS IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS**

There is a maximum award amount specified for the priority/competitions included in this package. The Department rejects and does not consider an application that proposes a budget exceeding the maximum amount for any single budget period of 12 months for the priorities included in this package. Please refer to the priority description to determine the maximum award for any one particular competition. Since the yearly budgets for multi-year projects will be negotiated at the time of the initial award, applicants must include detailed budgets for each year of their proposed project. Generally, out-year funding levels most likely will not exceed 1st year budgets. However, budget modifications during the negotiation process, the findings from the previous year, or needed changes in the study design can affect your budget requirements in subsequent years, but in no case will out-year budgets exceed the maximum award amount.

- REQUIREMENT TO REPORT THE RESULTS OF GRANT ACTIVITIES

The Department shall, where appropriate, require recipients of all grants, contracts and cooperative agreements under Part D of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to prepare reports describing their procedures, findings, and other relevant information. The Department shall require their delivery to the Department of Education and other networks as The Department may determine appropriate. (20 U.S.C. 1482)

- DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT AND A GRANT

A cooperative agreement is similar to a grant in that its principal purpose is to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation as authorized by a Federal statute. It differs from a grant in the sense that in a cooperative agreement substantial involvement is anticipated between the executive agency (in this case the Department of Education) and the recipient during the performance of the contemplated activity.

- DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN ABSOLUTE PRIORITY, AN INVITATIONAL PRIORITY, AND A COMPETITIVE PRIORITY

An absolute priority is a priority that an applicant must address in order to receive an award. If an applicant does not address an absolute priority, their application will be returned as being non-responsive to the priority.

An invitational priority is a priority that reflects a particular interest of the Department, and an applicant is encouraged to address the invitational priority along with the required absolute priority. However, an applicant choosing to address an invitational priority, will not receive any competitive preference over other applications.

A competitive priority is like an invitational priority in that it reflects a particular interest of the Department, and an applicant is encouraged to address the competitive priority along with the required absolute priority. A competitive priority may be handled in one of two ways: (1) an application may be awarded additional points depending on how effectively it addresses the competitive priority; or (2) an application that meets a competitive priority may be selected over an application of comparable merit that does not address the competitive priority. The type of competitive priority for a particular competition is always included in the FEDERAL REGISTER announcement.

- OBTAINING COPIES OF THE FEDERAL REGISTER, PROGRAM REGULATIONS AND FEDERAL STATUTES

Copies of these materials can usually be found at your local library. If not, they can be obtained by writing to:

Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402
Telephone: (202) 512-1800.

Information about the Department's funding opportunities, including copies of application notices for discretionary grant competitions, can be viewed on the Department's grant information web page which can be accessed on the INTERNET at:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/gcsindex.html>

However, the official application notice for a discretionary grant competition is the notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS
AND
REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

Application Transmittal Instructions

ATTENTION ELECTRONIC APPLICANTS:

Please note that you must follow the Application Procedures as described in the Federal Register notice announcing the grant competition. Some programs may require electronic submission of applications, and those programs will have specific requirements and waiver instructions in the Federal Register notice.

If you want to apply for a grant and be considered for funding, you must meet the following deadline requirements:

Applications Submitted Electronically

You must submit your grant application through the Internet using the software provided on the Grants.gov Web site (<http://www.grants.gov>) by 4:30 p.m. (Washington, DC time) on the application deadline date.

If you submit your application through the Internet via the e-Grants Web site, you will receive an automatic acknowledgment when we receive your application.

For more information on using Grants.gov, please refer to the Notice Inviting Applications that was published in the Federal Register, the Grants.gov Submission Procedures and Tips document found in the application package instructions, and visit <http://www.grants.gov>.

Applications Sent by Mail

You must mail the original and two copies of the application on or before the deadline date to. To help expedite our review of your application, we would appreciate your voluntarily including an additional 3 copies of your application.

Please mail copies to:

**U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Attention: CFDA# 84.325D, 84.325K, 84.325R or 84.325T
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202 - 4260**

You must show one of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A legibly dated U. S. Postal Service Postmark.
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U. S. Postal Service.

- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier.
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary.

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

- (1) A private metered postmark.
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Services.

An applicant should note that the U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, an applicant should check with its local post office.

Applications Delivered by Commercial Carrier:

Special Note: Due to recent disruptions to normal mail delivery, the Department encourages you to consider using an alternative delivery method (for example, a commercial carrier, such as Federal Express or United Parcel Service; or U. S. Postal Service Express Mail) to transmit your application for this competition to the Department. If you use an alternative delivery method, please obtain the appropriate proof of mailing under “Applications Sent by Mail,” then follow the mailing instructions under the appropriate delivery method.

Applications that are delivered by commercial carrier, such as Federal Express, United Parcel Service, etc. should be mailed to the:

**U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center – Stop 4260
Attention: CFDA# 84.325D, 84.325K, 84.325R, or 84.325T
7100 Old Landover Road
Landover, MD 20785-1506**

Applications Delivered by Hand

You or your courier must hand deliver the original and number of copies requested of the application by 4:30 p.m. (Washington, DC time) on or before the deadline date. To help expedite our review of your application, we would appreciate your voluntarily including an additional 3 copies of your application.

Please hand deliver copies to:

**U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Attention: CFDA# 84.325D, 84.325K, 84.325R, or 84.325T
550 12th Street, SW
PCP - Room 7041
Washington, DC 20202 – 4260**

The Application Control Center accepts application deliveries daily between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Washington, DC time), except Saturdays, Sundays and Federal holidays.

Appendix

Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs

This appendix applies to each program that is subject to the requirements of Executive Order 12372 (Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs) and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79.

The objective of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and to strengthen federalism by relying on State and local processes for State and local government coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

Applicants must contact the appropriate State Single Point of Contact to find out about, and to comply with, the State's process under Executive Order 12372. Applicants proposing to perform activities in more than one State should immediately contact the Single Point of Contact for each of those States and follow the procedure established in each of those States under the Executive order. A listing containing the Single Point of Contact for each State is included in this appendix.

In States that have not established a process or chosen a program for review, State, areawide, regional, and local entities may submit comments directly to the Department.

Any State Process Recommendation and other comments submitted by a State Single Point of Contact and any comments from State, areawide, regional, and local entities must be mailed or hand-delivered by the date indicated in the actual application notice to the following address: The Secretary, EO 12372--CFDA# [commenter must insert number--including suffix letter, if any], U.S. Department of Education, room 7W301, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202.

Proof of mailing will be determined on the same basis as applications (see 34 CFR 75.102). Recommendations or comments may be hand-delivered until 4:30 p.m. (Washington, DC time) on the date indicated in the actual application notice.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ABOVE ADDRESS IS NOT THE SAME ADDRESS AS THE ONE TO WHICH THE APPLICANT SUBMITS ITS COMPLETED APPLICATION. DO NOT SEND APPLICATIONS TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

STATE SINGLE POINTS OF CONTACT (SPOCs)

It is estimated that in 2004 the Federal Government will outlay \$400 billion in grants to State and local governments. Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," was issued with the desire to foster the intergovernmental partnership and strengthen federalism by relying on State and local processes for the coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance and direct Federal development. The Order allows each State to designate an entity to perform this function. Below is the official list of those entities. For those States that have a home page for their designated entity, a direct link has been provided on the official version: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/spoc.html>.

States that are not listed on this page have chosen not to participate in the intergovernmental review process, and therefore do not have a SPOC. If you are located within one of these States, you may still send application materials directly to a Federal awarding agency.

Contact information for Federal agencies that award grants can be found in The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Contents Page. You can access Appendix IV by Agency [http://12.46.245.173/CFDA/appx4_web.pdf] or by State [http://12.46.245.173/CFDA/appx4_web_state.pdf].

ARKANSAS

Tracy L. Copeland
Manager, State Clearinghouse
Office of Intergovernmental Services
Department of Finance
and Administration
1515 W. 7th Street, Room 412
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203
Telephone: (501) 682-1074
FAX: (501) 682-5206
tracy.copeland@dfa.state.ar.us

DELAWARE

Jennifer L. Carlson
Assoc. Fiscal & Policy Analyst
Office of Management and Budget
Budget Development, Planning & Admin.
Haslet Armory, Third Floor
122 William Penn Street
Dover, Delaware 19901 SLC D570E
Telephone: (302) 739-4206
FAX: (302) 739-5661
jennifer.carlson@state.de.us

CALIFORNIA

Grants Coordination
State Clearinghouse
Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 222
Sacramento, California 95812-3044
Telephone: (916) 445-0613
FAX: (916) 323-3018
State.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Marlene Jefferson
DC Government Office of Partnerships
and Grants Development
414 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Telephone: (202) 727-6518
FAX: (202) 727-1652
marlene.Jefferson@dc.gov

FLORIDA

Lauren P. Milligan
Florida State Clearinghouse
Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Mall Station 47
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000
Telephone: (850) 245-2161
FAX: (850) 245-2190
Lauren.Milligan@dep.state.fl.us

ILLINOIS

Roukaya McCaffrey
Department of Commerce and
Economic Opportunities
620 East Adams, 6th Floor
Springfield, Illinois, 62701
Telephone: (217) 524-0188
FAX: (217) 558-0473
roukaya_mccaffrey@illinoisbiz.biz

KENTUCKY

Ron Cook
The Governor's Office for
Local Development
1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 340
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Telephone: (502) 573-2382 /
(800) 346-5606
FAX: (502) 573-2512
Ron.Cook@Ky.Gov

GEORGIA

Barbara Jackson
Georgia State Clearinghouse
270 Washington Street, SW, 8th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
Telephone: (404) 656-3855
FAX: (404) 656-7901
gach@mail.opb.state.ga.us

IOWA

Kathy Mable
Iowa Department of Management
State Capitol Building Room G12
1007 E Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Telephone: (515) 281-8834
FAX: (515) 242-5897
Kathy.Mable@iowa.gov

MAINE

Joyce Benson
State Planning Office
184 State Street
38 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Telephone: (207) 287-3261
(direct): (207) 287-1461
FAX: (207) 287-6489
joyce.benson@state.me.us

MARYLAND

Linda C. Janey, J.D.
Director, Capital Planning and
Development Review
Maryland Department of Planning
301 West Preston Street, Room 1104
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2305
Telephone: (410) 767-4490
FAX: (410) 767-4480
linda@mail.op.state.md.us

MISSISSIPPI

Janet Riddell
Clearinghouse Officer
Department of Finance and
Administration
1301 Woolfolk Building, Suite E
501 North West Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39201
Telephone: (601) 359-6762
Fax: (601) 359-6758
JRiddell@dfa.state.ms.us

NEVADA

Zofia Targosz
Department of Administration
State Clearinghouse
209 E. Musser Street, Room 200
Carson City, Nevada 89701
Telephone: (775) 684-0209
FAX: (775) 684-0260
clearinghouse@budget.state.nv.us

NEW YORK

Linda Shkrell
Office of Public Security
Homeland Security Grants Coordination
633 3rd Avenue
New York, NY 10017
Telephone: (212) 867-1289
FAX: (212) 867-1725

MICHIGAN

William Parkus
Southeast Michigan Council
of Governments
535 Griswold, Suite 300
Detroit, Michigan 48226
Telephone: (313) 961-4266
FAX: (313) 961-4869
parkus@semcog.org

MISSOURI

Sara VanderFeltz
Federal Assistance Clearinghouse
Office of Administration
Commissioner's Office
Capitol Building, Room 125
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
Telephone: (573) 751-0337
FAX: (573) 751-1212
sara.vanderfeltz@oa.mo.gov

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Jack Ruderman
Acting Director, New Hampshire Office of
Energy and Planning
Attn: Intergovernmental Review Process
James P. Taylor
57 Regional Drive
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-8519
Telephone: (603) 271-2155
FAX: (603) 271-2615
irp@nh.gov

NORTH DAKOTA

Jim Boyd
ND Department of Commerce
1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 2
P.O. Box 2057
Bismarck, North Dakota 58502-2057
Telephone: (701) 328-2676
FAX: (701) 328-2308
jboyd@state.nd.us

RHODE ISLAND

Joyce Karger
Department of Administration
One Capitol Hill
Providence Rhode Island 02908-5870
Telephone: (401) 222-6181
FAX: (401) 222-2083
jkarger@doa.state.ri.us

TEXAS

Denise S. Francis
Director, State Grants Team
Governor's Office of Budget and Planning
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711
Telephone: (512) 305-9415
FAX: (512) 936-2681
dfrancis@governor.state.tx.us

WEST VIRGINIA

Bobby Lewis, Director
Community Development Division
West Virginia Development Office
Building #6, Room 553
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Telephone: (304) 558-4010
FAX: (304) 558-3248
rlewis@wvdo.org

AMERICAN SAMOA

Pat M. Galea'i
Federal Grants/Programs Coordinator
Office of Federal Programs
Office of the Governor
Department of Commerce
American Samoa Government
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
Telephone: (684) 633-5155
Fax: (684) 633-4195
pmgaleai@samoatelco.com

SOUTH CAROLINA

Jean Ricard
Office of State Budget
1201 Main Street, Suite 870
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
Telephone: (803) 734-1314
FAX: (803) 734-0645
jricard@budget.sc.us

UTAH

Sophia DiCaro
Utah State Clearinghouse
Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
Utah Capitol Complex
Suite E210, P.O. Box 142210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-2210
Telephone: (801) 538-1027
FAX: (801) 538-1547
ddicaro@utah.gov

WISCONSIN

Division of Intergovernmental Relations
Wisconsin Department of Administration
101 East Wilson Street, 10th Floor
P.O. Box 8944
Madison, Wisconsin 53708
Telephone: (608) 266-7043
FAX: (608) 267-6917
SPOC@doa.state.wi.us

GUAM

Director
Bureau of Budget and Mgmt. Research
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 2950
Agana, Guam 96910
Telephone: 011-671-472-2285
FAX: 011-671-472-2825
jer@ns.gov.gu

NORTH MARIANA ISLANDS

Ms. Jacoba T. Seman
Federal Programs Coordinator
Office of Management and Budget
Office of the Governor
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 664-2289
FAX: (670) 664-2272
omb.jseman@saipan.com

PUERTO RICO

Jose Caballero / Mayra Silva
Puerto Rico Planning Board
Federal Proposals Review Office
Minillas Government Center
P.O. Box 41119
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00940-1119
Telephone: (787) 723-6190
FAX: (787) 722-6783

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Ira Mills
Director, Office of Management
and Budget
41 Norre Gade Emancipation Garden
Station, Second Floor
Saint Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802
Telephone: (340) 774-0750
FAX: (787) 776-0069
Irmills@usvi.org

Changes to this list can be made only after OMB is notified by a State's officially designated representative. E-mail messages can be sent to Hai_M._Tran@omb.eop.gov. If you prefer, you may send correspondence to the following postal address:

Attn: Grants Management
Office of Management and Budget
New Executive Office Building, Suite 6025
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Please note: Inquiries about obtaining a Federal grant should not be sent to the OMB e-mail or postal address shown above. The best source for this information is the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance or CFDA <http://www.cfda.gov> and the Grants.gov website (<http://www.grants.gov>).

NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS
(ENSURING EQUITABLE ACCESS)
AND
APPLICATION FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS

NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS

The purpose of this enclosure is to inform you about a new provision in the Department of Education's General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) that applies to applicants for new grant awards under Department programs. This provision is Section 427 of GEPA, enacted as part of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (Public Law (P.L.) 103-382).

To Whom Does This Provision Apply?

Section 427 of GEPA affects applicants for new grant awards under this program. **ALL APPLICANTS FOR NEW AWARDS MUST INCLUDE INFORMATION IN THEIR APPLICATIONS TO ADDRESS THIS NEW PROVISION IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FUNDING UNDER THIS PROGRAM.**

(If this program is a State-formula grant program, a State needs to provide this description only for projects or activities that it carries out with funds reserved for State-level uses. In addition, local school districts or other eligible applicants that apply to the State for funding need to provide this description in their applications to the State for funding. The State would be responsible for ensuring that the school district or other local entity has submitted a sufficient section 427 statement as described below.)

What Does This Provision Require?

Section 427 requires each applicant for funds (other than an individual person) to include in its application a description of the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its Federally-assisted program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs. This provision allows applicants discretion in developing the required description. The statute highlights six types of barriers that can impede equitable access or participation: gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. Based on local circumstances, you should determine whether these or other barriers may prevent your students, teachers, etc. from such access or participation in, the Federally-funded project or activity.

The description in your application of steps to be taken to overcome these barriers need not be

lengthy; you may provide a clear and succinct description of how you plan to address those barriers that are applicable to your circumstances. In addition, the information may be provided in a single narrative, or, if appropriate, may be discussed in connection with related topics in the application.

Section 427 is not intended to duplicate the requirements of civil rights statutes, but rather to ensure that, in designing their projects, applicants for Federal funds address equity concerns that may affect the ability of certain potential beneficiaries to fully participate in the project and to achieve to high standards. Consistent with program requirements and its approved application, an applicant may use the Federal funds awarded to it to eliminate barriers it identifies.

What are Examples of How an Applicant Might Satisfy the Requirement of This Provision?

The following examples may help illustrate how an applicant may comply with Section 427.

- (1) An applicant that proposes to carry out an adult literacy project serving, among others, adults with limited English proficiency, might describe in its application how it intends to distribute a brochure about the proposed project to such potential participants in their native language.
- (2) An applicant that proposes to develop instructional materials for classroom use might describe how it will make the materials available on audio tape or in braille for students who are blind.
- (3) An applicant that proposes to carry out a model science program for secondary students and is concerned that girls may be less likely than boys to enroll in the course, might indicate how it intends to conduct "outreach" efforts to girls, to encourage their enrollment.

We recognize that many applicants may already be implementing effective steps to ensure equity of access and participation in their grant programs, and we appreciate your cooperation in responding to the requirements of this provision.

Estimated Burden Statement for GEPA Requirements

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **1890-0007**. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to:** Director, Grants Policy and Oversight Staff, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-4250.

APPLICATION FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS

The application is divided into four parts. These parts are organized in the same manner that the submitted application should be organized. These parts are as follows:

Part I: Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424) and Instructions.

Part II: Budget Information -- Non-Construction Programs (ED Form 524) and Instructions.

Part III: Application Narrative.

Part IV: Assurances and Certifications --

Assurances -- Non-Construction Programs (Standard Form 424B).

Certifications Regarding Lobbying (ED Form 80-0013).

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities.

An applicant may submit information on a photostatic copy of the application and budget forms, the assurances, and the certifications. However, the application form, the assurances, and the certifications must each have an original signature. No grant may be awarded unless a completed application form has been received.

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424 Version 02	
*1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application	*2. Type of Application * If Revision, select appropriate letter(s) <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation *Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Revision
3. Date Received: _____ 4. Applicant Identifier: _____	
5a. Federal Entity Identifier: _____	*5b. Federal Award Identifier: _____
State Use Only:	
6. Date Received by State: _____	7. State Application Identifier: _____
8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:	
*a. Legal Name: _____	
*b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): _____	*c. Organizational DUNS: _____
d. Address:	
*Street 1: _____ Street 2: _____ *City: _____ County: _____ *State: _____ Province: _____ *Country: _____ *Zip / Postal Code: _____	
e. Organizational Unit:	
Department Name: _____	Division Name: _____
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:	
Prefix: _____ *First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____ *Last Name: _____ Suffix: _____	
Title: _____	

Organizational Affiliation:

*Telephone Number: Fax Number:

*Email:

OMB Number: 4040-0004
Expiration Date: 01/31/2009

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

***9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

*Other (Specify)

***10 Name of Federal Agency:**

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

CFDA Title:

***12 Funding Opportunity Number:**

*Title:

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

***15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

OMB Number: 4040-0004
Expiration Date: 01/31/2009

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

16. Congressional Districts Of:

*a. Applicant:

*b. Program/Project:

17. Proposed Project:

*a. Start Date:

*b. End Date:

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

*a. Federal _____
*b. Applicant _____
*c. State _____
*d. Local _____
*e. Other _____
*f. Program Income _____
*g. TOTAL _____

***19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on _____
- b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- c. Program is not covered by E. O. 12372

***20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes", provide explanation.)**

Yes No

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U. S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)

** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: _____ *First Name: _____

Middle Name: _____

*Last Name: _____

Suffix: _____

*Title: _____

*Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

* Email: _____

*Signature of Authorized Representative: _____

*Date Signed: _____

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424
Version 02

***Applicant Federal Debt Delinquency Explanation**

The following should contain an explanation if the Applicant organization is delinquent of any Federal Debt.

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

Note: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. 290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. 1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which

limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. 276c and 18 U.S.C. 874) and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 327-333), regarding labor standards for federally assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clear Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clear Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. 4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION	DATE SUBMITTED

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

1. Project Director:

Prefix: *First Name: Middle Name: *Last Name: Suffix:

Address:

* Street1:

Street2:

* City:

County:

* State: * Zip Code: * Country:

* Phone Number (give area code) Fax Number (give area code)

Email Address:

2. Applicant Experience:

Novice Applicant Yes No Not applicable to this program

3. Human Subjects Research:

Are any research activities involving human subjects planned at any time during the proposed project Period?

Yes No

Are ALL the research activities proposed designated to be exempt from the regulations?

Yes Provide Exemption(s) #:
 No Provide Assurance #, if available:

Please attach an explanation Narrative:

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR SF 424**

1. Project Director. Name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application.

2. Novice Applicant. Check “**Yes**” or “**No**” only if assistance is being requested under a program that gives special consideration to novice applicants. Otherwise, **leave blank**.

Check “**Yes**” if you meet the requirements for novice applicants specified in the regulations in 34 CFR 75.225 and included on the attached page entitled “Definitions for Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424.” By checking “**Yes**” the applicant certifies that it meets these novice applicant requirements. Check “**No**” if you do not meet the requirements for novice applicants.

3. Human Subjects Research. (See I. A. “Definitions” in attached page entitled “Definitions for Department of Education Supplemental Information For SF 424.”)

If Not Human Subjects Research. Check “**No**” if research activities involving human subjects are not planned at any time during the proposed project period. The remaining parts of Item 3 are then not applicable.

If Human Subjects Research. Check “**Yes**” if research activities involving human subjects are planned at any time during the proposed project period, either at the applicant organization or at any other performance site or collaborating institution. Check “**Yes**” even if the research is exempt from the regulations for the protection of human subjects. (See I. B. “Exemptions” in attached page entitled “Definitions for Department of Education Supplemental Information For SF 424.”)

3a. If Human Subjects Research is Exempt from the Human Subjects Regulations. Check “**Yes**” if all the research activities proposed are designated to be exempt from the regulations. Insert the exemption number(s) corresponding to one or more of the six exemption categories listed in I. B. “Exemptions.” In addition, follow the instructions in II. A. “Exempt Research Narrative” in the attached page entitled “Definitions for Department of Education Supplemental Information For SF 424.”

3a. If Human Subjects Research is Not Exempt from Human Subjects Regulations. Check “**No**” if some or all of the planned research activities are covered (not exempt). In addition, follow the instructions in II. B. “Nonexempt Research Narrative” in the page entitled “Definitions for Department of Education Supplemental Information For SF 424

3a. Human Subjects Assurance Number. If the applicant has an approved Federal Wide (FWA) on file with the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, that covers the specific activity, insert the

number in the space provided. If the applicant does not have an approved assurance on file with OHRP, enter "None." In this case, the applicant, by signature on the SF-424, is declaring that it will comply with 34 CFR 97 and proceed to obtain the human subjects assurance upon request by the designated ED official. If the application is recommended/selected for funding, the designated ED official will request that the applicant obtain the assurance within 30 days after the specific formal request.

Note about Institutional Review Board Approval. ED does not require certification of Institutional Review Board approval with the application. However, if an application that involves non-exempt human subjects research is recommended/selected for funding, the designated ED official will request that the applicant obtain and send the certification to ED within 30 days after the formal request.

Paperwork Burden Statement.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1890-0017. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average between 15 and 45 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4700. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form write directly to: Joyce I. Mays, Application Control Center, U.S. Department of Education, Potomac Center Plaza, 550 12th Street, S.W. Room 7076, Washington, D.C. 20202-4260.

Definitions for Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424

(Attachment to Instructions for Supplemental Information for SF 424)

Definitions:

Novice Applicant (See 34 CFR 75.225).

For discretionary grant programs under which the Secretary gives special consideration to novice applications, a novice applicant means any applicant for a grant from ED that—

- Has never received a grant or subgrant under the program from which it seeks funding;
- Has never been a member of a group application, submitted in accordance with 34 CFR 75.127-75.129, that received a grant under the program from which it seeks funding; and
- Has not had an active discretionary grant from the Federal government in the five years before the deadline date for applications under the program. For the purposes of this requirement, a grant is active until the end of the grant's project or funding period, including any extensions of those periods that extend the grantee's authority to obligate funds.

In the case of a group application submitted in accordance with 34 CFR 75.127-75.129, a group includes only parties that meet the requirements listed above.

PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS IN RESEARCH

I. Definitions and Exemptions

A. Definitions.

A research activity involves human subjects if the activity is research, as defined in the Department's regulations, and the research activity will involve use of human subjects, as defined in the regulations.

—Research

The ED Regulations for the Protection of Human Subjects, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 97, define research as “a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.” *If an activity follows a deliberate plan whose purpose is to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge it is research.* Activities which meet this definition constitute research whether or not they are conducted or supported under a program that is considered research for other purposes. For example, some demonstration and service programs may include research activities.

—Human Subject

The regulations define human subject as “a living individual about whom an investigator (whether professional or student) conducting research obtains (1) data through intervention or interaction with the individual, or (2) identifiable private information.” *(1) If an activity involves obtaining information about a living person by manipulating that person or that person's environment, as might occur when a new instructional technique is tested, or by communicating or interacting with the individual, as occurs with surveys and interviews, the definition*

of human subject is met. (2) If an activity involves obtaining private information about a living person in such a way that the information can be linked to that individual (the identity of the subject is or may be readily determined by the investigator or associated with the information), the definition of human subject is met. [Private information includes information about behavior that occurs in a context in which an individual can reasonably expect that no observation or recording is taking place, and information which has been provided for specific purposes by an individual and which the individual can reasonably expect will not be made public (for example, a school health record).]

B. Exemptions.

Research activities in which the **only** involvement of human subjects will be in one or more of the following six categories of **exemptions** are not covered by the regulations:

(1) Research conducted in established or commonly accepted educational settings, involving normal educational practices, such as (a) research on regular and special education instructional strategies, or (b) research on the effectiveness of or the comparison among instructional techniques, curricula, or classroom management methods.

(2) Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior, unless: (a) information obtained is recorded in such a manner that human subjects can be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects; and (b) any

disclosure of the human subjects' responses outside the research could reasonably place the subjects at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects' financial standing, employability, or reputation. **If the subjects are children, exemption 2 applies only to research involving educational tests and observations of public behavior when the investigator(s) do not participate in the activities being observed. Exemption 2 does not apply if children are surveyed or interviewed or if the research involves observation of public behavior and the investigator(s) participate in the activities being observed.** [Children are defined as persons who have not attained the legal age for consent to treatments or procedures involved in the research, under the applicable law or jurisdiction in which the research will be conducted.]

(3) Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior that is not exempt under section (2) above, if the human subjects are elected or appointed public officials or candidates for public office; or federal statute(s) require(s) without exception that the confidentiality of the personally identifiable information will be maintained throughout the research and thereafter.

(4) Research involving the collection or study of existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens, if these sources are publicly available or if the information is recorded by the investigator in a manner that subjects cannot be identified,

directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects.

(5) Research and demonstration projects which are conducted by or subject to the approval of department or agency heads, and which are designed to study, evaluate, or otherwise examine: (a) public benefit or service programs; (b) procedures for obtaining benefits or services under those programs; (c) possible changes in or alternatives to those programs or procedures; or (d) possible changes in methods or levels of payment for benefits or services under those programs.

(6) Taste and food quality evaluation and consumer acceptance studies, (a) if wholesome foods without additives are consumed or (b) if a food is consumed that contains a food ingredient at or below the level and for a use found to be safe, or agricultural chemical or environmental contaminant at or below the level found to be safe, by the Food and Drug Administration or approved by the Environmental Protection Agency or the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

II. Instructions for Exempt and Nonexempt Human Subjects Research Narratives

If the applicant marked “Yes” for Item 3 of Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, the applicant must provide a human subjects “exempt research” or “nonexempt research” narrative. Insert the narrative(s) in the space provided. If you have multiple projects and need to provide more than one narrative, be sure to label each set of responses as to the project they address.

A. Exempt Research Narrative.

If you marked “Yes” for item 3 a. and designated exemption numbers(s), provide the “exempt research” narrative. The narrative must contain sufficient information about the involvement of human subjects in the proposed research to allow a determination by ED that the designated exemption(s) are appropriate. The narrative must be succinct.

B. Nonexempt Research Narrative.

If you marked “No” for item 3 a. you must provide the “nonexempt research” narrative. The narrative must address the following seven points. Although no specific page limitation applies to this section of the application, be succinct.

(1) Human Subjects Involvement and Characteristics: Provide a detailed description of the proposed involvement of human subjects. Describe the characteristics of the subject population, including their anticipated number, age range, and health status. Identify the criteria for inclusion or exclusion of any subpopulation. Explain the rationale for the involvement of special classes of subjects, such as children, children with disabilities, adults with disabilities, persons with mental disabilities, pregnant women, prisoners, institutionalized individuals, or others who are likely to be vulnerable

(2) Sources of Materials: Identify the sources of research material obtained from individually identifiable living human subjects in the form of specimens, records, or data. Indicate whether the material or data will be obtained specifically for research purposes or whether use will be made of existing specimens, records, or data.

(3) Recruitment and Informed Consent:

Describe plans for the recruitment of subjects and the consent procedures to be followed. Include the circumstances under which consent will be sought and obtained, who will seek it, the nature of the information to be provided to prospective subjects, and the method of documenting consent. State if the Institutional Review Board (IRB) has authorized a modification or waiver of the elements of consent or the requirement for documentation of consent.

(4) Potential Risks: Describe potential risks (physical, psychological, social, legal, or other) and assess their likelihood and seriousness. Where appropriate, describe alternative treatments and procedures that might be advantageous to the subjects.

(5) Protection Against Risk: Describe the procedures for protecting against or minimizing potential risks, including risks to confidentiality, and assess their likely effectiveness. Where appropriate, discuss provisions for ensuring necessary medical or professional intervention in the event of adverse effects to the subjects. Also, where appropriate, describe the provisions for monitoring the data collected to ensure the safety of the subjects.

(6) Importance of the Knowledge to be Gained:

Discuss the importance of the knowledge gained or to be gained as a result of the proposed research. Discuss why the risks to subjects are reasonable in relation to the anticipated benefits to subjects and in relation to the importance of the knowledge that may reasonably be expected to result.

(7) Collaborating Site(s): If research involving human subjects will take place at collaborating site(s) or other performance site(s), name the sites and briefly describe their involvement or role in the research.

Copies of the Department of Education's Regulations for the Protection of Human Subjects, 34 CFR Part 97 and other pertinent materials on the protection of human subjects in research are available from the Grants Policy and Oversight Staff, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4250, telephone: (202) 245-6120, and on the U.S. Department of Education's Protection of Human Subjects in Research Web Site: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/OCFO/humansub.html>

NOTE: The **State Applicant Identifier** on the SF 424 is for State Use only. Please complete it on the OMB Standard 424 in the upper right corner of the form (if applicable).



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BUDGET INFORMATION
NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS**

OMB Control Number:
1890-0004
Expiration Date: 10-31-2007

Name of Institution/Organization

Applicants requesting funding for only one year should complete the column under "Project Year 1." Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns. Please read all instructions before completing form.

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FUNDS

Budget Categories	Project Year 1 (a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Project Year 5 (e)	Total (f)
1. Personnel						
2. Fringe Benefits						
3. Travel						
4. Equipment						
5. Supplies						
6. Contractual						
7. Construction						
8. Other						
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)						
10. Indirect Costs*						
11. Training Stipends						
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)						

***Indirect Cost Information (To Be Completed by Your Business Office):**

If you are requesting reimbursement for indirect costs on line 10, please answer the following questions:

- (1) Do you have an Indirect Cost Rate Agreement approved by the Federal government? Yes No
- (2) If yes, please provide the following information:
 Period Covered by the Indirect Cost Rate Agreement: From: ___/___/_____ To: ___/___/_____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
 Approving Federal agency: ___ ED ___ Other (please specify): _____
- (3) For Restricted Rate Programs (check one) -- Are you using a restricted indirect cost rate that:
 Is included in your approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement? or Complies with 34 CFR 76.564(c)(2)?

Name of Institution/Organization	Applicants requesting funding for only one year should complete the column under "Project Year 1." Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns. Please read all instructions before completing form.
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**SECTION B - BUDGET SUMMARY
NON-FEDERAL FUNDS**

Budget Categories	Project Year 1 (a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Project Year 5 (e)	Total (f)
1. Personnel						
2. Fringe Benefits						
3. Travel						
4. Equipment						
5. Supplies						
6. Contractual						
7. Construction						
8. Other						
9. Total Direct Costs (Lines 1-8)						
10. Indirect Costs						
11. Training Stipends						
12. Total Costs (Lines 9-11)						

SECTION C – BUDGET NARRATIVE (see instructions)

Instructions for ED 524

General Instructions

This form is used to apply to individual U.S. Department of Education (ED) discretionary grant programs. Unless directed otherwise, provide the same budget information for each year of the multi-year funding request. Pay attention to applicable program specific instructions, if attached. Please consult with your Business Office prior to submitting this form.

Section A - Budget Summary U.S. Department of Education Funds

All applicants must complete Section A and provide a breakdown by the applicable budget categories shown in lines 1-11.

Lines 1-11, columns (a)-(e): For each project year for which funding is requested, show the total amount requested for each applicable budget category.

Lines 1-11, column (f): Show the multi-year total for each budget category. If funding is requested for only one project year, leave this column blank.

Line 12, columns (a)-(e): Show the total budget request for each project year for which funding is requested.

Line 12, column (f): Show the total amount requested for all project years. If funding is requested for only one year, leave this space blank.

Indirect Cost Information:

If you are requesting reimbursement for indirect costs on line 10, this information is to be completed by your Business Office. (1): Indicate whether or not your organization has an Indirect Cost Rate Agreement that was approved by the Federal government. (2): If you checked "yes" in (1), indicate in (2) the beginning and ending dates covered by the Indirect Cost Rate Agreement. In addition, indicate whether ED or another Federal agency (Other) issued the approved agreement. If you check "Other," specify the name of the Federal agency that issued the approved agreement. (3): If you are applying for a grant under a Restricted Rate Program (34 CFR 75.563 or 76.563), indicate whether you are using a restricted indirect cost rate that is included on your approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement or whether you are using a restricted indirect cost rate that complies with

34 CFR 76.564(c)(2). Note: State or Local government agencies may not use the provision for a restricted indirect cost rate specified

in 34 CFR 76.564(c)(2). Check only one response. Leave blank, if this item is not applicable.

Section B - Budget Summary Non-Federal Funds

If you are required to provide or volunteer to provide matching funds or other non-Federal resources to the project, these should be shown for each applicable budget category on lines 1-11 of Section B.

Lines 1-11, columns (a)-(e): For each project year, for which matching funds or other contributions are provided, show the total contribution for each applicable budget category.

Lines 1-11, column (f): Show the multi-year total for each budget category. If non-Federal contributions are provided for only one year, leave this column blank.

Line 12, columns (a)-(e): Show the total matching or other contribution for each project year.

Line 12, column (f): Show the total amount to be contributed for all years of the multi-year project. If non-Federal contributions are provided for only one year, leave this space blank.

Section C - Budget Narrative [Attach separate sheet(s)] Pay attention to applicable program specific instructions, if attached.

1. Provide an itemized budget breakdown, and justification by project year, for each budget category listed in Sections A and B. For grant projects that will be divided into two or more separately budgeted major activities or sub-projects, show for each budget category of a project year the breakdown of the specific expenses attributable to each sub-project or activity.
2. If applicable to this program, provide the rate and base on which fringe benefits are calculated.
3. If you are requesting reimbursement for indirect costs on line 10, this information is to be completed by your Business Office. Specify the estimated amount of the base to which the indirect cost rate is applied and the total indirect expense. Depending on the grant program to which you are applying and/or your approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement, some direct cost budget categories in your grant application budget may not be included in the base and multiplied by your indirect cost rate. For example, you must multiply the indirect cost

rates of "Training grants" (34 CFR 75.562) and grants under programs with "Supplement not Supplant" requirements ("Restricted Rate" programs) by a "modified total direct cost" (MTDC) base (34 CFR 75.563 or 76.563). Please indicate which costs are included and which costs are excluded from the base to which the indirect cost rate is applied.

When calculating indirect costs (line 10) for "Training grants" or grants under "Restricted Rate" programs, you must refer to the information and examples on ED's website at: <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html>.

You may also contact (202) 377-3838 for additional information regarding calculating indirect cost rates or general indirect cost rate information.

4. Provide other explanations or comments you deem necessary.

Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **1890-0004**. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to vary from 13 to 22 hours per response, with an average of 17.5 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to (insert program office), U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202.

PART III - APPLICATION NARRATIVE

This narrative section of the application requires applicants to address the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual applications. Please refer to the “Selection Criteria and Format” sections in this package for the competition to which you wish to submit an application.

Also, all of the competitions covered by this package have page limitations for the application narrative. Please refer to the “Page Limits” information for the competition to which you wish to submit an application.

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

Note: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§ 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§ 290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. § 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project

purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.

8. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §§874) and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§ 327-333), regarding labor standards for federally assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clear Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clear Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L. 93-205).

12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1721 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead- based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION	DATE SUBMITTED

Standard Form 424B (Rev. 7-97) Back

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans and Cooperative Agreements.

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

- (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal Loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form – LLL, “Disclosure of Lobbying Activities,” in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance.

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee or any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, “Disclosure of Lobbying Activities,” in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Applicant's Organization	
Printed Name of Authorized Representative	Printed Title of Authorized Representative
Signature	Date

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352
(See reverse for public burden disclosure)

1. Type of Federal Action: a. contract _____ b. grant _____ c. cooperative agreement _____ d. loan _____ e. loan guarantee _____ f. loan insurance _____	2. Status of Federal Action: a. bid/offer/application _____ b. initial award _____ c. post-award _____	3. Report Type: a. initial filing _____ b. material change _____ For material change only: Year _____ quarter _____ Date of last report _____
4. Name and Address of Reporting Entity: ___ Prime ___ Subawardee Tier _____, if Known: Congressional District, if known:	5. If Reporting Entity in No. 4 is Subawardee, Enter Name and Address of Prime: Congressional District, if known:	
6. Federal Department/Agency:	7. Federal Program Name/Description: CFDA Number, if applicable: _____	
8. Federal Action Number, if known:	9. Award Amount, if known: \$ _____	
10. a. Name and Address of Lobbying Registrant <i>(if individual, last name, first name, MI):</i>	b. Individuals Performing Services <i>(including address if different from No. 10a)</i> <i>(last name, first name, MI):</i>	
11. Information requested through this form is authorized by title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. This disclosure of lobbying activities is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed by the tier above when this transaction was made or entered into. This disclosure is required pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352. This information will be reported to the Congress semi-annually and will be available for public inspection. Any person who fails to file the required disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.	Signature: _____ Print Name: _____ Title: _____ Telephone No.: _____ Date: _____	
Federal Use Only	Authorized for Local Reproduction Standard Form - LLL (Rev. 7-97)	

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF SF-LLL, DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

This disclosure form shall be completed by the reporting entity, whether subawardee or prime Federal recipient, at the initiation or receipt of a covered Federal action, or a material change to a previous filing, pursuant to title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. The filing of a form is required for each payment or agreement to make payment to any lobbying entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with a covered Federal action. Complete all items that apply for both the initial filing and material change report. Refer to the implementing guidance published by the Office of Management and Budget for additional information.

1. Identify the type of covered Federal action for which lobbying activity is and/or has been secured to influence the outcome of a covered Federal action.
2. Identify the status of the covered Federal action.
3. Identify the appropriate classification of this report. If this is a followup report caused by a material change to the information previously reported, enter the year and quarter in which the change occurred. Enter the date of the last previously submitted report by this reporting entity for this covered Federal action.
4. Enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the reporting entity. Include Congressional District, if known. Check the appropriate classification of the reporting entity that designates if it is, or expects to be, a prime or subaward recipient. Identify the tier of the subawardee, e.g., the first subawardee of the prime is the 1st tier. Subawards include but are not limited to subcontracts, subgrants and contract awards under grants.
5. If the organization filing the report in item 4 checks "Subawardee," then enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the prime Federal recipient. Include Congressional District, if known.
6. Enter the name of the federal agency making the award or loan commitment. Include at least one organizational level below agency name, if known. For example, Department of Transportation, United States Coast Guard.
7. Enter the Federal program name or description for the covered Federal action (item 1). If known, enter the full Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for grants, cooperative agreements, loans, and loan commitments.
8. Enter the most appropriate Federal identifying number available for the Federal action identified in item 1 (e.g., Request for Proposal (RFP) number; Invitations for Bid (IFB) number; grant announcement number; the contract, grant, or loan award number; the application/proposal control number assigned by the Federal agency). Included prefixes, e.g., "RFP-DE-90-001."
9. For a covered Federal action where there has been an award or loan commitment by the Federal agency, enter the Federal amount of the award/loan commitment for the prime entity identified in item 4 or 5.
10. (a) Enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the lobbying registrant under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 engaged by the reporting entity identified in item 4 to influence the covered Federal action.

(b) Enter the full names of the individual(s) performing services, and include full address if different from 10(a). Enter Last Name, First Name, and Middle Initial (MI).
11. The certifying official shall sign and date the form, print his/her name, title, and telephone number.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is OMB No. 0348-0046. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0046), Washington, DC 20503.

SURVEY ON ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR APPLICANTS

Purpose:

The Federal government is committed to ensuring that all qualified applicants, small or large, non-religious or faith-based, have an equal opportunity to compete for Federal funding. In order for us to better understand the population of applicants for Federal funds, we are asking nonprofit private organizations (not including private universities) to fill out this survey.

Upon receipt, the survey will be separated from the application. Information provided on the survey will not be considered in any way in making funding decisions and will not be included in the Federal grants database. While your help in this data collection process is greatly appreciated, completion of this survey is voluntary.

Instructions for Submitting the Survey:

If you are applying using a hard copy application, please place the completed survey in an envelope labeled "Applicant Survey." Seal the envelope and include it along with your application package. If you are applying electronically, please submit this survey along with your application.

Applicant's (Organization) Name: _____

Applicant's DUNS Number: _____

Federal Program: _____ **CFDA Number:** _____

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Has the applicant ever received a grant or contract from the Federal government?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> | <p>6. How many full-time equivalent employees does the applicant have? (<i>Check only one box.</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3 or Fewer
 <input type="checkbox"/> 4-5
 <input type="checkbox"/> 6-14
 <input type="checkbox"/> 15-50
 <input type="checkbox"/> 51-100
 <input type="checkbox"/> Over 100</p> |
| <p>2. Is the applicant a faith-based organization?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> | <p>7. What is the size of the applicant's annual budget? (<i>Check only one box.</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Less Than \$150,000
 <input type="checkbox"/> \$150,000 - \$299,999
 <input type="checkbox"/> \$300,000 - \$499,999
 <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,000 - \$999,999
 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,000 - \$4,999,999
 <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000,000 or more</p> |
| <p>3. Is the applicant a secular organization?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> | |
| <p>4. Does the applicant have 501(c)(3) status?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> | |
| <p>5. Is the applicant a local affiliate of a national organization?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> | |

SURVEY INSTRUCTIONS ON ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR APPLICANT

Provide the applicant's (organization) name and DUNS number and the grant name and CFDA number.

1. Self-explanatory.
2. Self-identify.
3. Self-identify.
4. 501(c)(3) status is a legal designation provided on application to the Internal Revenue Service by eligible organizations. Some grant programs may require nonprofit applicants to have 501(c)(3) status. Other grant programs do not.
5. Self-explanatory.
6. For example, two part-time employees who each work half-time equal one full-time equivalent employee. If the applicant is a local affiliate of a national organization, the responses to survey questions 2 and 3 should reflect the staff and budget size of the local affiliate.
7. Annual budget means the amount of money your organization spends each year on all of its activities.

PAPERWORK BURDEN STATEMENT

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1890-0014. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average five (5) minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to:** The Agency Contact listed in this grant application package.

**NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS:
Program Performance Measures Under
The Government Performance And Results Act (GPRA)**

What is GPRA

The Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 is a straightforward statute that requires all Federal agencies to manage their activities with attention to the consequences of those activities. Each agency is to clearly state what it intends to accomplish, identify the resources required, and periodically report its progress to the Congress. In doing so, it is expected that GPRA will contribute to improvements in accountability for the expenditures of public funds, improve Congressional decision-making through more objective information on the effectiveness of Federal programs, and promote a new government focus on results, service delivery, and customer satisfaction.

How has the United States Department of Education responded to the GPRA Requirements?

As required by GPRA, the United States Department of Education (the Department) has prepared a strategic plan for 2002-2007. This plan reflects the Department's priorities and integrates them with its mission and program authorities and describes how the Department will work to improve education for all children and adults in the United States. The Department's goals, as listed in the plan, are:

- Goal 1:* **Create a Culture of Achievement:** Create a culture of achievement throughout the nation's education system by effectively implementing the new law, the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, and by basing all federal education programs on its principles: accountability, flexibility, expanded parental options and doing what works.
- Goal 2:* **Improve Student Achievement:** Improve student achievement for all groups of students by putting reading first, expanding high-quality mathematics and science teaching, reforming high schools, and boosting teacher and principal quality, thereby closing the achievement gap.
- Goal 3:* **Develop Safe Schools and Strong Character:** Establish disciplined and drug-free education environments that foster the development of good character and citizenship.
- Goal 4:* **Transform Education into an Evidence-based Field:** Strengthen the quality of education research.
- Goal 5:* **Enhance the Quality of and Access to Postsecondary and Adult Education:** Increase opportunities for students and the effectiveness of institutions.
- Goal 6:* **Establish Management Excellence:** Create a culture of accountability throughout the Department of Education.

DUNS Number Instructions

D-U-N-S No.: Please provide the applicant's D-U-N-S Number. You can obtain your D-U-N-S Number at no charge by calling 1-800-333-0505 or by completing a D-U-N-S Number Request Form. The form can be obtained via the Internet at the following URL:

<http://www.dnb.com/dbis/aboutdb/intlduns.htm>

The D-U-N-S Number is a unique nine-digit number that does not convey any information about the recipient. A built in check digit helps assure the accuracy of the D-U-N-S Number. The ninth digit of each number is the check digit, which is mathematically related to the other digits. It lets computer systems determine if a D-U-N-S Number has been entered correctly.

Dun & Bradstreet, a global information services provider, has assigned D-U-N-S numbers to over 43 million companies worldwide.

GRANT APPLICATION RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

If you fail to receive the notification of application within fifteen (15) days from the closing date, call:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
(202) 245-6288

GRANT AND CONTRACT FUNDING INFORMATION

The Department of Education provides information about grant and contract opportunities electronically in several ways:

ED Internet Home Page: www.ed.gov