**Education Innovation and Research (EIR)**

**FY 2017 Competition Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) ADDENDUM #2**

**March 10, 2017**

***Please note that the following FAQs are an addendum to the FY 2017 Competition Guidance and Frequently Asked Questions published on January 11, 2017. The FAQs below are incorporated into the relevant sections of the published FAQs, and the revised document is also now posted on the EIR website at*** <https://innovation.ed.gov/frequently-asked-questions-faqs-2/>.

**A-4. Are Investing in Innovation (i3) grantees eligible to apply for an EIR grant?**

Yes. There is nothing in the EIR statute or notice inviting applications (NIAs) that precludes i3 grantees from applying for an EIR grant.

**A-7. Is scaling limited to the number of students served?**

No. Applicants must provide scaling targets for students. However, applicants are not excluded from developing additional scaling targets such as schools, teachers, etc.

**B-5. How is a determination made, for projects that are to serve rural areas under Section 4611(c) of the ESEA, that a majority of the schools to be served are rural?**

To be eligible as a rural applicant under Section 4611(c), more than 50 percent of the schools to be served by the program must be designated with a locale code of 32, 33, 41, 42, or 43, or a combination of such codes.

**B-6. Are re-engagement centers eligible to apply for an Education Innovation and Research (EIR) grant?**

Re-engagement centers may apply for an EIR grant if they meet eligibility requirements outlined in FAQ B-1. In addition, re-engagement centers must meet the other requirements of EIR grants. These requirements include:

* Demonstrating sufficient partnerships with schools/local educational agency (LEA) by identifying in the application implementation schools/LEA(s) for years one and two of the grant project (refer to FAQ B-5).
* Scaling to multiple schools over the life of the project (refer to FAQ A-5).

**B-7. Are institutions of higher education (IHEs) eligible to apply for an EIR grant?**

A private IHE that can document its nonprofit status is eligible to apply for an EIR grant as a lead applicant. In addition, any IHE is eligible to be a partner in an application where an LEA, state educational agency (SEA), Bureau of Indian Education (BIE), consortium of SEAs or LEAs, or a nonprofit organization is the lead applicant. A nonprofit entity, such as a development foundation, which is affiliated with a public IHE, can apply for a grant.

**B-18. Must a study cited to meet the moderate or strong evidence standard requirements already have been reviewed by the What Works Clearinghouse (WWC)?**

No. An applicant for the Mid-phase competition must identify at least one and up to two study citations with relevant findings, and an applicant for the Expansion competition must cite at least one and up to four study citations with relevant findings to be reviewed against WWC Evidence Standards for the purposes of meeting the EIR evidence standard requirement for the competition under which they apply. The cited study or studies do not need to have been previously reviewed by the WWC; rather, the applicant must clearly identify the citation(s) in the Evidence form, and an applicant must ensure that all evidence is available to the Department to assess the study or studies against the WWC Evidence Standards from publicly available sources and provide links or other guidance indicating where the study or studies are available. Applicants must also include on the Evidence form the relevant findings in the cited study or studies and the overlap of populations and/or settings. If the Department determines that an applicant has provided insufficient information, the applicant will not have an opportunity to provide additional information at a later time.

**C-5. In the Early-phase competition, under Absolute Priority 5, Improving the Effectiveness of Principals, does a proposed project have to include both pre- and in-service support components, or can it focus exclusively on in-service strategies?**

A project must incorporate both the pre- and in-service support components listed in the priority. A project may choose to focus primarily on one of the activities designed to increase the number and percentage of highly effective principals (i.e., recruiting, selecting, preparing, or supporting individuals) but must address all of the activities listed in the priority in the proposed project.

**C-6. In the Early-phase competition, under Absolute Priority 6, Re-engagement of Disconnected Youth, must a project only serve individuals in the age range of 14-24?**

No. An applicant may propose a project that focuses on disconnected youth outside the age range of 14-24 so long as the applicant meets the requirement of the absolute priority and the project serves individuals in the 14-24 age range at some point during the grant. Applicants must also be sure to comply with the requirement to propose to serve students who are in grades K-12 at some point during their grant.

**C-7. How is the term “disconnected youth” defined?**

Disconnected youth are individuals between the ages of 14 and 24 who are low-income individuals, who are either homeless, in foster care, involved in the justice system, not working or enrolled in an educational institution, or at risk of dropping out of an educational institution.