



Supporting Effective Educator Development

FY 2017 ESSA Competition Overview

Note: These slides are intended as guidance only. Please refer to the official Notice published in the *Federal Register*.

AGENDA

- Program Overview
- 2017 Competition Updates
- Eligibility Requirements
- Priorities
- Selection Criteria
- Application Process



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Purpose

To provide grants to increase the number of highly effective educators by supporting the implementation of Evidence-Based preparation, professional development, or professional enhancement opportunities for educators.

Funding

Approximately \$30 million will be available for 4-6 awards.

Project Period

Projects are for 3 years with the possibility of an additional 2-year renewal.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

EVIDENCE STANDARDS

	Moderate Evidence (AP1)	Promising Evidence (AP2)
Number of Studies	At least one	At least one
WWC Standards*	Meets with or without reservations	Not required; Correlational study with statistical controls for selection bias
Statistical Significance	Statistically significant positive impact on a Relevant Outcome (with no unfavorable impacts)	Statistically significant positive impact on a Relevant Outcome (with no unfavorable impacts)
Similarity of Population	Overlaps with proposed populations or settings	No overlap required
Sample Size	Large Sample	No minimum requirement
Number of Study Sites	Multi-site Sample	No minimum requirement

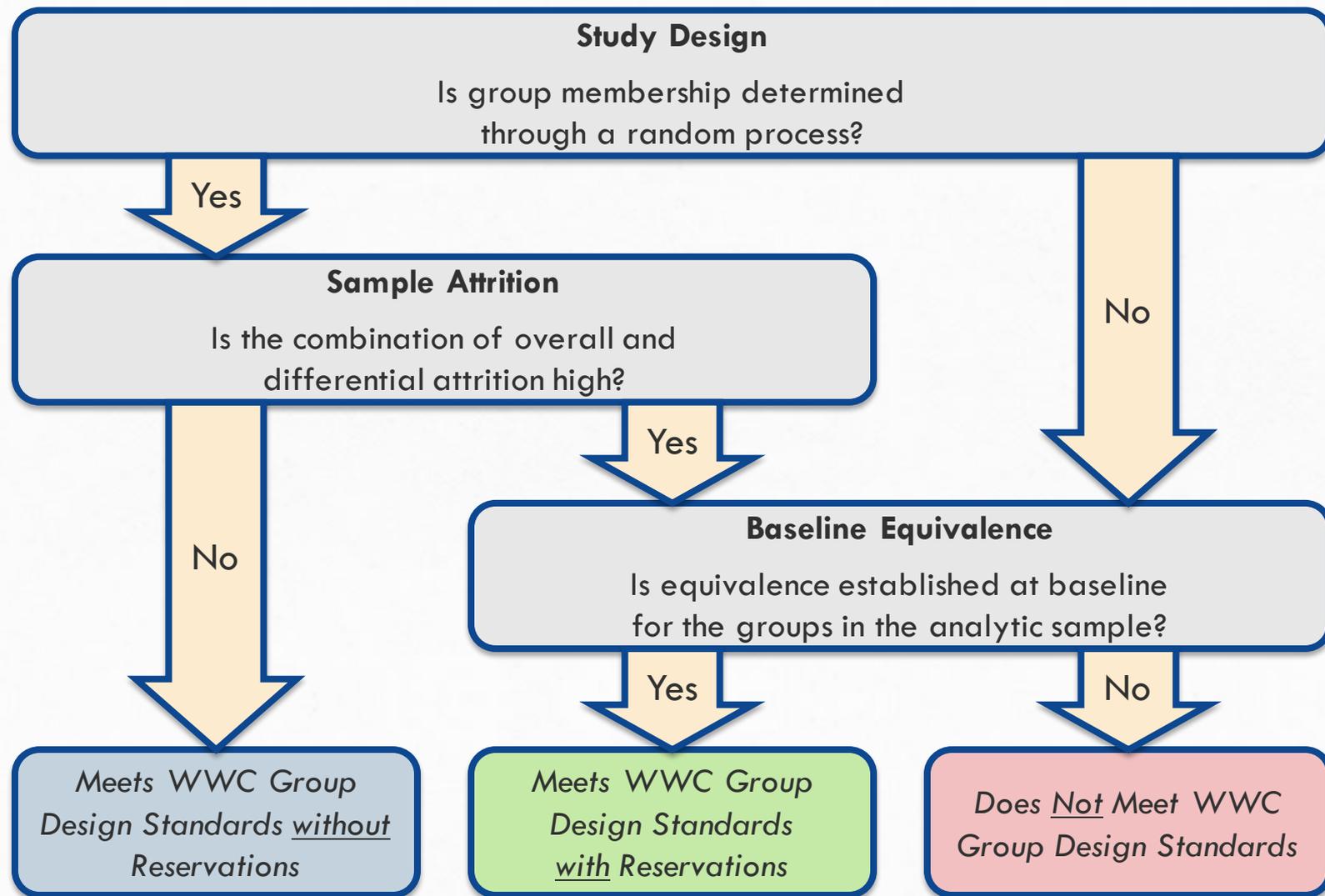
* See the WWC Handbook v3.0 for more information: <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/DocumentSum.aspx?sid=19>.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

EVIDENCE STANDARDS

Source: WWC Procedures and Standards Handbook v3.0, page 9.



AGENDA

- Program Overview
- 2017 Competition Updates
- Eligibility Requirements
- Priorities
- Selection Criteria
- Application Process



2017 COMPETITION UPDATES

WHAT'S NEW THIS YEAR?

- First competition under ESSA authorization.
 - New eligible entity types
 - Length of award (3 + 2 years)
 - Matching requirement
 - One award per organization
- New Priorities
 - New absolute priorities focused on type of educator, not activities
 - New competitive preference priorities focused on improving educator diversity and personalized learning
 - Invitational priority focused on micro-credentials
- Evidence requirement depends on absolute priority addressed.
- Selection criteria updated to streamline writing and review of applications.



2017 COMPETITION UPDATES

MATCHING REQUIREMENT

- Grantees are required to match 25% of the total project cost for each year of the grant.

→ Example:

$$\begin{array}{rclcl} \text{Total Project Cost} & = & \text{Federal Funds} & + & \text{Matching Funds} \\ \$1,000,000 & = & \$750,000 & + & \$250,000 \end{array}$$

- Applicants may request a waiver by demonstrating financial hardship for any year they are unable to meet the match requirement.
- Matching funds may be provided as cash or as in-kind contributions to the project,
 - In-kind contributions could include items such as salaries, supplies, or provision of space or facilities to support the project.



AGENDA

- Program Overview
- 2017 Competition Updates
- Eligibility Requirements
- Priorities
- Selection Criteria
- Application Process



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

ELIGIBLE ENTITIES – INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

- “An Institution of Higher Education (IHE) that provides course materials or resources that are evidence-based in increasing academic achievement, graduation rates, or rates of postsecondary education matriculation.”
- Definition of IHE is taken from Higher Education Act provided in NIA as a reference.
- Applicants should provide an explanation of how they meet this definition and what materials they are providing that are evidence-based.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

ELIGIBLE ENTITIES – NATIONAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

- “A National Nonprofit Organization (NNO) with a demonstrated record of raising student academic achievement, graduation rates, and rates of higher education attendance, matriculation, or completion, or of effectiveness in providing preparation and professional development activities and programs for teachers, principals, or other school leaders.”

National nonprofit organization means an entity that meets the definition of “nonprofit” under [34 CFR 77.1\(c\)](#) and is of national scope, meaning that the entity provides services in multiple States to a significant number or percentage of recipients and is supported by staff or affiliates in multiple States.

- Applicants should provide an explanation of how they meet this definition and have a demonstrated record of success.



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

ELIGIBLE ENTITIES – OTHER ENTITIES

- The Bureau of Indian Education; or
- A partnership consisting of--
 - One or more entities described in previous slides (IHE or NNO) and,
 - A for-profit entity.
- Applicants should provide an explanation of how they meet one of these requirements.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

EVIDENCE STANDARDS

- Applicants under AP1: Supporting Effective Teachers will need to submit studies that meet the Moderate Evidence definition.
- Applicants under AP2: Supporting Effective Principals or Other School Leaders will need to submit studies that meet the Promising Evidence definition.
- Applicants may submit up to 2 studies in support of their project.



AGENDA

- Program Overview
- 2017 Competition Updates
- Eligibility Requirements
- **Priorities**
- Selection Criteria
- Application Process



PRIORITIES

Absolute Priorities



AP 1: Supporting
Effective Teachers



AP 2: Supporting
Effective Principals or
Other School Leaders

Must either address AP1 or AP2, not both.

Competitive Priorities

CPP 1:
Promoting
Diversity in the
Educator
Workforce

CPP 2: Support
for Personalized
Learning
Environments

Invitational Priority:
Support for the Use of
Micro-Credentials

May address any combination of CPPs or IP.



PRIORITIES

ABSOLUTE PRIORITIES

- Applicants must respond to either Absolute Priority 1 or Absolute Priority 2, but not both.
- Applicants must clearly identify the absolute priority for which they are applying.
- Applicants' approaches to the Absolute Priorities will be reviewed and receive points based on the selection criteria.
- Specific wording for priorities may be found in the NIA on the SEED website:

<https://innovation.ed.gov/what-we-do/teacher-quality/supporting-effective-educator-development-grant-program/applicant-info-and-eligibility/>



ABSOLUTE PRIORITIES

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY 1: SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE TEACHERS

Focus on Schools
w/ High-Need
Students

“...projects that are designed to improve teacher effectiveness and increase the number of Highly Effective Teachers in schools with high concentrations of High-Need Students.”

Moderate
Evidence

“Projects must use strategies supported by at least Moderate Evidence....”

Primary
Priority Areas

“(a) Recruiting and preparing prospective teachers; (b) Providing professional development activities to current teachers...; or (c) Providing professional enhancement activities....”



ABSOLUTE PRIORITIES

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY 2: SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE PRINCIPALS AND OTHER SCHOOL LEADERS

Focus on Schools
w/ High-Need
Students

“...increase the number of Highly Effective Principals or Other School Leaders in schools with high concentrations of High-Need Students.”

Promising
Evidence

“Projects must use strategies supported by at least Promising Evidence....”

Primary
Priority Areas

“(a) Recruiting and preparing prospective leaders; (b) Providing Professional Development activities to current leaders...; or (c) Providing professional enhancement activities to leaders....”



PRIORITIES

COMPETITIVE PREFERENCE PRIORITIES

- Two optional priorities that applicants may choose to include in their projects.
- Applicants may respond to as many CPPs as they wish.
- Applicants should clearly identify the priorities for which they are applying.
- Applicants may receive additional points based on how well they address these priorities, at the discretion of reviewers.
- Specific wording for priorities may be found in the NIA on the SEED website:

<https://innovation.ed.gov/what-we-do/teacher-quality/supporting-effective-educator-development-grant-program/applicant-info-and-eligibility/>



COMPETITIVE PREFERENCE PRIORITIES

CPP 1: PROMOTING DIVERSITY IN THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE (0-5 PTS)

Improving
Cultural
Competency

“Providing educator development activities designed to improve cultural competency and responsiveness skills that contribute to an inclusive school culture.”

Educators from
Diverse
Backgrounds

“Improving the recruitment, support, and retention of educators from diverse backgrounds.”

Mandatory
Priority Areas

“Applicants must respond to both of the priority areas in order to receive the maximum available points under this competitive preference priority.”



COMPETITIVE PREFERENCE PRIORITIES

CPP 2: SUPPORT FOR PERSONALIZED LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS (0-3 PTS)

Personalized
Learning
Environments
and Use of Data

“...support teachers, principals, or other School Leaders implementing personalized learning environments in their classrooms or in classrooms in their schools, using data to inform their instruction...”

Student
Empowerment

“...increasing students’ engagement, voice, and choice in their learning.”

Possible
Personalization
Strategies

“Projects may support educators’ implementation of college and career ready strategies such as project based learning, competency based education, or blended learning.”



PRIORITIES

INVITATIONAL PRIORITY

- One optional priority that applicants may choose to include in their projects.
- Applicants do not receive any competitive advantage or points for their response to the Invitational Priority.

Note: Invitational Priorities are used as exploratory priorities for ED to learn more about what the field is doing in that particular area.



PRIORITIES

IP: SUPPORT FOR THE USE OF MICRO-CREDENTIALS.

Under this priority, we are interested in projects that support teachers, principals, or other school leaders earning Micro-Credentials based on demonstrated mastery of competencies and performance-based outcomes.

- Applicants will not receive any additional points.
- Priority documentation will be reviewed by peer reviewers, but only scored as it may pertain to the selection criteria.
- A definition of “Micro-Credentials” is provided in the NIA for the purposes of this competition.



AGENDA

- Program Overview
- 2017 Competition Updates
- Eligibility Requirements
- Priorities
- Selection Criteria
- Application Process



SELECTION CRITERIA

OVERVIEW

- All selection criteria will be scored by peer reviewers.
 - Quality of the Project Design: 40 points
 - Significance: 15 points
 - Quality of the Management Plan: 25 points
 - Quality of the Project Evaluation: 20 points
- Grantees selected based on peer reviewer scores.
- Specific wording for each selection criterion may be found in the NIA at the SEED website:

<https://innovation.ed.gov/what-we-do/teacher-quality/supporting-effective-educator-development-grant-program/applicant-info-and-eligibility/>



SELECTION CRITERIA

QUALITY OF THE PROJECT DESIGN (40 POINTS)

Strong Approach
to Priorities

“...proposed project represents an exceptional approach to the priority or priorities established for the competition.”

Sufficient
Services to Lead
to Improvement

“...the training or professional development services to be provided...will be of sufficient quality, intensity, and duration to lead to improvements in practice among the recipients of those services.”

Strong
Partnerships

“...the collaboration of appropriate partners for maximizing the effectiveness of project services.”



SELECTION CRITERIA

PROJECT DESIGN CONT. (40 POINTS)

Focused on
Greatest Needs

“The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project are focused on those with greatest needs.”

Design
Addresses
Particular Needs

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

SELECTION CRITERIA

SIGNIFICANCE (15 POINTS)

Significance of Outcomes

“The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained...”

Reasonableness of Costs

“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.”

Sustainability of Project

“...incorporation of project purposes, activities, or benefits into the ongoing program of the agency or organization...”

Dissemination

“...results of the proposed project are to be disseminated in ways that will enable others to use the information or strategies.”



SELECTION CRITERIA

QUALITY OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN (25 POINTS)

Clear and
Measurable
Outcomes

“goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable.”

Clear Plan to
Keep Project on
Track

“...plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones...”

Continuous
Improvement

“...procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement...”



SELECTION CRITERIA

QUALITY OF THE PROJECT EVALUATION (20 POINTS)

Formative Data

“...evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.”

Valid and Reliable Data

“...methods of evaluation will provide valid and reliable performance data on Relevant Outcomes.”

Produce Rigorous Evidence

“...methods of evaluation will, if well-implemented, produce evidence about the project's effectiveness that would meet What Works Clearinghouse Evidence Standards with reservations.”

* See the SEED website for resources related to designing and implementing evaluations on educator development programs:
<https://innovation.ed.gov/what-we-do/teacher-quality/supporting-effective-educator-development-grant-program/evaluation-resources/>



AGENDA

- Program Overview
- 2017 Competition Updates
- Eligibility Requirements
- Priorities
- Selection Criteria
- Application Process



APPLICATION PROCESS

SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION

- Applications for the SEED competition must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov site (www.Grants.gov).
- To submit an application in Grants.gov, your organization must have an active System for Award Management (SAM) registration.
 - Please verify that your SAM registration is still active



APPLICATION PROCESS

REGISTERING IN GRANTS.GOV

- In order to apply for a SEED grant, you must complete the Grants.gov registration process.
 - Go to the Applicants tab, then the Get Registered section, then the Organization Applicant Registration section.
 - You must obtain a DUNS number and register with SAM (System for Award Management) as part of this process.
- The registration process can take a few days or several weeks, depending on your organization's unique situation.

So please register EARLY!



APPLICATION PROCESS

APPLYING FOR A SEED GRANT

- To apply for a SEED grant, enter keyword “SEED” in the search bar on the right side of the Grants.gov homepage.
- Select ED-GRANTS-042017-001, which is the Opportunity Number for this competition. Click on the link. Once you are in the link, click on the Package tab. Under Actions, click on Select Package and follow the instructions.
- Please review the Grants.gov Applicant FAQs as you prepare and submit your application.
- Contact the Grants.gov Help Desk if you experience problems submitting your application.
 - Phone: 1-800-518-4726
 - Email: support@grants.gov

NOTE: You can download the application package without registering, but you cannot submit the application until you have completed the registration process.



APPLICATION PROCESS

CAUTIONS FROM PREVIOUS COMPETITIONS

- Upload PDFs
 - All files uploaded into Grants.gov must be in PDF format; all other file formats may not convert properly.

- Submit Early
 - Applications submitted after the June 21, 2017 (4:30:00 PM Washington, DC time) deadline will be rejected.

READ THE NOTICES and FAQs, UNDERSTAND THE REQUIREMENTS, AND PLAN AHEAD



APPLICATION PROCESS

APPLICATION TIMELINE

Date	Event
5/10/17	Pre-Application Webinar @ 1 PM
6/21/17	SEED Application Due
Sept 2017	SEED Grants Awarded

- See the SEED website for updated information:
<https://innovation.ed.gov/what-we-do/teacher-quality/supporting-effective-educator-development-grant-program/applicant-info-and-eligibility/>
- Intent to apply deadline has passed, but we will still accept them, though they are not required.
- Applications time stamped after 4:30:00 PM DC Time will not be reviewed.



IMPORTANT RESOURCES

- SEED Website:

<https://innovation.ed.gov/what-we-do/teacher-quality/supporting-effective-educator-development-grant-program/>

- Notice Inviting Applications

- Application Package (sample)

- Frequently Asked Questions

- Applications from 2012, 2013, and 2015 Winners

- Evaluation Resources:

<https://innovation.ed.gov/what-we-do/teacher-quality/supporting-effective-educator-development-grant-program/evaluation-resources/>

All questions about SEED may be sent to SEED@ed.gov

