# U.S. Department of Education Office of Elementary and Secondary Education Office of Safe and Supportive Schools Washington, D.C. 20202-6450

### Fiscal Year 2020

# Application for New Grants Under the Expanding Access to Well-Rounded Courses Demonstration Grants Program

**CFDA 84.424D** 



# **Dated Material - Open Immediately**

Closing Date: June 26, 2020

Approved OMB Number: 1894-0006 Expiration Date: 1/31/2021

### **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: 1894-0006. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 28 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data resources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain or retain benefits under section 4103(a)(3) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA). Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20210-4537 or email <a href="ICDocketMgr@ed.gov">ICDocketMgr@ed.gov</a>. Please do not return completed applications to this address.

# If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this application, please contact:

Elyse Robertson
Expanding Access to Well-Rounded Courses Demonstration Grants Program
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW, 3E337
Washington, DC 20202-6450

Note: Please do not return the completed application to this address.

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### **United States Department of Education**

# OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION OFFICE OF SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE SCHOOLS

### Dear Colleague:

Thank you for your interest in the Expanding Access to Well-Rounded Courses Demonstration Grants program, administered by the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education of the U.S. Department of Education (Department). This document includes information for applicants seeking funding for new grant projects in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 under the Expanding Access to Well-Rounded Courses Demonstration Grants program established with funds from the two percent reservation for technical assistance and capacity building under section 4103(a)(3) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA). The purpose of the Expanding Access to Well-Rounded Courses Demonstration Grants program is to provide competitive grants to State educational agencies to demonstrate models for providing well-rounded educational opportunities through course-access programs.

Please take the time to review the applicable priorities, selection criteria, and all the application instructions thoroughly. An application will not be evaluated for funding if the applicant does not comply with all the procedural rules that govern the submission of the application or the application does not contain the information required under the program (EDGAR §75.216 (b) and (c)).

For this competition please use the government-wide website, <a href="http://www.grants.gov">http://www.grants.gov</a>, to apply. We strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with Grants.gov and strongly recommend that you register and submit early. To submit successfully, you must provide the DUNS number on your application that was used when you registered as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) on Grants.gov. This DUNS number is typically the same number used when your organization registered with the SAM (<a href="www.sam.gov">www.sam.gov</a>). If you do not enter the same DUNS number on your application as the DUNS you registered with, Grants.gov will reject your application.

Applications submitted to Grants.gov for the Department will be posted using Adobe forms. Therefore, applicants will need to download a compatible version of Adobe reader if they wish to view successful applicants. Please review the **Submitting Applications with Adobe Reader Software** and **Education Submission Procedures and Tips for Applicants** forms found within this package for further information and guidance related to this requirement.

Using FY 2020 funds, the Department expects to award approximately \$6,467,609 for new grants under this competition. We will award discretionary grants on a competitive basis for a project period of up to 60 months. Grants are expected to be awarded in August 2020.

Please visit our program website at <a href="https://oese.ed.gov/">https://oese.ed.gov/</a> for further information. The program website includes helpful information, frequently asked questions, dates of future webinars, and clarifications. If you have any technical questions about the program after reviewing the application package, please contact Elyse Robertson by telephone at 202-260-0931 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:courseaccess@ed.gov">courseaccess@ed.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Paul Kesner Director Office of Safe and Supportive Schools

### I. Program Background Information

### **Program Overview**

The purpose of the Expanding Access to Well-Rounded Courses Demonstration Grants program is to provide competitive grants to State educational agencies (SEAs) to demonstrate models for providing well-rounded educational opportunities through course-access programs. The Expanding Access to Well-Rounded Courses Demonstration Grants program is established with funds from the two percent reservation for technical assistance and capacity building under section 4103(a)(3) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA), which is intended to support SEAs and local educational agencies in carrying out activities authorized under the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants program in title IV, part A of the ESEA.

### **Application Requirements and Priorities**

There are application requirements for this FY 2020 grant competition and any subsequent year in which awards are made from the list of unfunded applications from this competition. Grant competitions may include "Absolute Priorities," which must be clearly met in order for an application to be considered, and also "Competitive Preference" or "Invitational Priorities," which are not required to be met but may increase the likelihood of receiving an award.

To read the Absolute Priority for this grant competition, please reference the Notice Inviting Applications for this competition on the Federal Register.

https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-04-27/pdf/2020-08848.pdf

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

Current information on this program can be found at <a href="https://oese.ed.gov/">https://oese.ed.gov/</a>.

#### **Applicant Guide**

A completed application will include a program narrative. The program narrative is the section of the application that directly responds to the selection criteria. The program narrative should follow the order of the selection criteria. Applicants should describe, in detail, activities planned for each of the funding periods of the grant. The program office suggests that applicants limit the program narrative to 30 pages. Typically, applications are entered into the Grants.gov system. E-mailed applications are not acceptable. Narrative attachments must be submitted as files in a read-only, flattened Portable Document Format (PDF) or Word document. If applicants upload a different file type or submit a password-protected file, we will not review that material.

A minimum of 3 peer reviewers will evaluate each proposal. Reviewers will be asked to review the applicants' responses to each criterion and score each of their assigned proposals. Not responding to a specific criterion could negatively impact the score.

The Notice Inviting Applications for this competition provides the selection criteria, application requirements, eligibility, definitions, and explanations on how each criterion and requirement will be applied during the review process.

### https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-04-27/pdf/2020-08848.pdf

#### **Selection Criteria**

The selection criteria for this competition are from 34 CFR 75.210. The maximum score for all the selection criteria and the maximum possible score for addressing each selection criterion (indicated in parentheses) is detailed in the Notice Inviting Applications for this grant competition. Each criterion also includes the factors that reviewers will consider in determining the extent to which an applicant meets the criterion. The selection criteria for this competition can be found in the Notice Inviting Applications for this grant competition.

https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-04-27/pdf/2020-08848.pdf

<u>Program Authority:</u> Section 4103(a)(3) of title IV, part A of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7113).

#### **Definitions**

Definitions for "local educational agency," "parent," "State educational agency," and "well-rounded education" are from 20 U.S.C. 7801. The definition of "career and technical education" is from 20 U.S.C. 2302(5). We establish the definition of "course-access program" for the FY 2020 grant competition and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications from this competition, in accordance with section 437(d)(1) of GEPA, 20 U.S.C. 1232(d)(1). Definitions can be found in the Notice Inviting Applications for this grant competition.

https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-04-27/pdf/2020-08848.pdf

### **Technical Assistance Workshops for Prospective Applicants**

One technical assistance webinar for prospective applicants will be scheduled. The webinar will be recorded and posted on the program website. Once the date and time of the webinar is confirmed, the information will be posted on the program website.

https://oese.ed.gov/

### **II. Application Submission Procedures**

The deadline for submission of Expanding Access to Well-Rounded Courses Demonstration Grants program applications through Grants.gov is 11:59:59 PM EST on June 26, 2020.

### **Application Transmittal Instructions**

Attention Electronic Applicants: This program **requires** the electronic submission of applications--specific requirements and instructions can be found in the Federal Register notice. Please note that you **must** follow the Application Procedures as described in the Federal Register notice announcing the grant competition.

Applicants are required to follow the Common Instructions for Applicants to Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs, published in the *Federal Register* on February 13, 2019 (84 FR 3768) and available at <a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-13/pdf/2019-02206.pdf">https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-13/pdf/2019-02206.pdf</a>, which contain requirements and information on how to submit an application.

For additional training resources, including video tutorials, refer to <a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-training.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicant-training.html</a>.

### **Helpful Reminders**

1) **REGISTER EARLY** – Grants.gov registration involves many steps including registration on SAM (www.sam.gov) which may take approximately one week to complete, but could take upwards of several weeks to complete, depending upon the completeness and accuracy of the data entered into the SAM database by an applicant. You may begin working on your application while completing the registration process, but you cannot submit an application until all of the Registration steps are complete. Please note that once your SAM registration is active, it will take 24-48 hours for the information to be available in Grants.gov, and before you can submit an application through Grants.gov. For detailed information on the Registration Steps, please go to: <a href="http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html">http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html</a>. Note: Your organization will need to update its SAM registration annually.

Primary information about SAM is available at <a href="www.sam.gov">www.sam.gov</a>. However, to further assist you with obtaining and registering your DUNS number and TIN in SAM or updating your existing SAM account the Department of Education has prepared a SAM.gov Tip Sheet which you can find at: <a href="http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/sam-faqs.html">http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/sam-faqs.html</a>.

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 to Grants.gov before 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the deadline date.

Note: To submit successfully, you must provide the DUNS number on your application that was used when you registered as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) on Grants.gov. This DUNS number is typically the same number used when your organization registered with the SAM. If you do not enter the same DUNS number on your application as the DUNS you registered with, Grants.gov will reject your application.

3) **VERIFY SUBMISSION IS OK** – You will want to verify that Grants.gov received your application submission on time and that it was validated successfully. To see the date/time your application was received, login to Grants.gov and click on the Track My Application link. For a successful submission, the date/time received should be earlier than 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern Time, on the deadline date, AND the application status should be: Validated, Received by Agency, or Agency Tracking Number Assigned. Once the Department of Education receives your application from Grants.gov, an Agency Tracking Number (PR/award number) will be assigned to your application and will be available for viewing on Grants.gov Track My Application link.

If the date/time received is later than 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the deadline 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: <a href="http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/encountering-error-messages.html">http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/encountering-error-messages.html</a>. For more detailed information on troubleshooting Adobe errors, you can review the Adobe Software Tip Sheet at: <a href="http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/adobe-software-compatibility.html">http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/adobe-software-compatibility.html</a>. 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 email at: <a href="mailto:support@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a> or access the Grants.gov Self-Service Knowledge Base web portal at:

https://grants-portal.psc.gov/Welcome.aspx?pt=Grants.

### **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. You must provide the DUNS number on your application that was used when you registered as an AOR on Grants.gov.

Please go to <a href="http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html">http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html</a> for help with Grants.gov, or access the Grants.gov user guide at:

https://www.grants.gov/help/html/help/index.htm#t=GetStarted%2FGetStarted.htm. For additional tips related to submitting grant applications, please refer to the Grants.gov Applicant FAQs found at this Grants.gov link: <a href="http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/appl

### **Attaching Files – Additional Tips**

Please note the following tips related to attaching files to your application, especially the requirement that applicants **only include read-only, flattened .PDF files** or Microsoft Word documents in their application:

- Ensure that you attach .PDF files only or Microsoft Word files for any attachments to your application, and any PDFs must be in a read-only, flattened format (meaning any fillable documents must be saved and submitted as non-fillable PDF files). PDF files and Microsoft Word files are the only Education approved file type accepted as detailed in the common instructions. If an applicant submits PDF files, it must submit only individual .PDF files. Specifically, the Department will not accept any attachments that contain files within a file, such as PDF Portfolio files, or an interactive or fillable .PDF file. Any attachments uploaded that are file types other than .PDF files or Microsoft Word files, or are password protected files will not be read.
- Grants.gov cannot process an application that includes two or more files that have the same name within a grant submission. Therefore, each file uploaded to your application package should have a unique file name.
- When attaching files, applicants should follow the guidelines established by Grants.gov on the size and content of file names. Uploaded file names must be fewer than 50 characters, and, in general, applicants should not use any special characters. However, Grants.gov does allow for the following UTF-8 characters when naming your attachments: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore, hyphen, space, period, parenthesis, curly braces, square brackets, ampersand, tilde, exclamation point, comma, semi colon, apostrophe, at sign, number sign, dollar sign, percent sign, plus sign, and equal sign. Applications submitted that do not comply with the Grants.gov guidelines will be rejected at Grants.gov and not forwarded to the Department.
- Applicants should limit the size of their file attachments. Documents submitted that contain graphics and/or scanned material often greatly increase the size of the file attachments and can result in difficulties opening the files. For reference, the average discretionary grant application package with all attachments is less than 5 MB. Therefore, you may want to check the total size of your package before submission.

### **Electronic Application Submission Checklist**

It is recommended that your electronic application be organized in the following manner and include the following parts in order to expedite the review process. Instructions for all parts and forms of the application are found either on the following pages of the application package or individually for each form on Grants.gov.

Review your electronic application to ensure you have completed the following forms and sections:

	Application for Federal Assistance (Form SF 424) ED Supplemental Information for SF 424
	rt 2: Budget Information ED Budget Information Non-Construction Programs (ED Form 524)
_	rt 3: ED Abstract Form Project Abstract
	rt 4: Project Narrative Attachment Form Application Narrative
	rt 5: Budget Narrative Attachment Form Budget Narrative
	rt 6: Other Attachments Form Individual Resumes for Project Directors & Key Personnel Copy of Indirect Cost Rate Agreement Letters of Support
	Assurances and Certifications Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF 424B Form) Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Standard Form LLL) Grants.gov Lobbying Form General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) Requirements – Section 427 (ED GEPA427 form)
	rt 8: Intergovernmental Review (Executive Order 12372) State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) List

Pa	rt 1: Preliminary Documents
	<b>Application for Federal Assistance (Form SF 424)</b>
	<b>ED Supplemental Information for SF 424</b>

These forms require basic identifying information about the applicant and the application. Please provide all requested applicant information (including name, address, e-mail address and DUNS number).

When applying electronically via Grants.gov, you will need to ensure that the DUNS number you enter on your application is the same as the DUNS number your organization used when it registered with the System for Award Management.

Applicants are advised to complete the Application for Federal Assistance (Form SF 424) <u>first</u>. Grants.gov will automatically insert the correct CFDA and program name automatically wherever needed on other forms.

NOTE: Please do not attach any narratives, supporting files, or application components to the Standard Form (SF 424). Although this form accepts attachments, the Department of Education will only review materials/files attached in accordance with the instructions provided within this application.

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SF-424**

### https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html

This is a standard form required for use as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications and applications and related information under discretionary programs. Some of the items are required and some are optional at the discretion of the applicant or the federal agency (agency). Required fields on the form are identified with an asterisk (\*) and are also specified as "Required" in the instructions below. In addition to these instructions, applicants must consult agency instructions to determine other specific requirements.

Item	Entry:	Item:	Entry:
1.	Type of Submission: (Required) Select one type of submission in accordance with agency instructions.  • Pre-application  • Application  • Changed/Corrected Application – Check if this submission is to change or correct a previously submitted application. Unless requested by the agency, applicants may not use this form to submit changes after the closing date.	10.	Name of Federal Agency: (Required) Enter the name of the federal agency from which assistance is being requested with this application.
		11.	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number/Title: Enter the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number and title of the program under which assistance is requested, as found in the program announcement, if applicable.
2.	<ul> <li>Type of Application: (Required) Select one type of application in accordance with agency instructions.</li> <li>New – An application that is being submitted to an agency for the first time.</li> </ul>	12.	Funding Opportunity Number/Title: (Required) Enter the Funding Opportunity Number (FON) and title of the opportunity under which assistance is requested, as found in the program announcement.
	<ul> <li>Continuation - An extension for an additional funding/budget period for a project with a projected completion date. This can include renewals.</li> <li>Revision - Any change in the federal government's financial obligation or contingent liability from an existing obligation. If a</li> </ul>	13.	Competition Identification Number/Title: Enter the competition identification number and title of the competition under which assistance is requested, if applicable.
	revision, enter the appropriate letter(s). More than one may be selected. If "Other" is selected, please specify in text box provided.  A. Increase Award  B. Decrease Duration  B. Other (specify)  C. Increase Duration	14.	Areas Affected by Project: This data element is intended for use only by programs for which the area(s) affected are likely to be different than the place(s) of performance reported on the SF-424 Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form. Add attachment to enter additional areas, if needed.
3.	Date Received: Leave this field blank. This date will be assigned by the Federal agency.	15.	<b>Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:</b> (Required) Enter a brief descriptive title of the project. If appropriate, attach a map showing project location (e.g., construction or real property projects). For pre-applications, attach a summary description of the project.
4.	<b>Applicant Identifier:</b> Enter the entity identifier assigned by the Federal agency, if any, or the applicant's control number if applicable.		
5a.	<b>Federal Entity Identifier</b> : Enter the number assigned to your organization by the federal agency, if any.	16.	<b>Congressional Districts Of</b> : 16a. (Required) Enter the applicant's congressional district. 16b. Enter all district(s) affected by the
5b.	Federal Award Identifier: For new applications, enter NA. For a continuation or revision to an existing award, enter the previously assigned federal award identifier number. If a changed/corrected application, enter the federal identifier in accordance with agency instructions.		program or project. Enter in the format: 2 characters state abbreviation – 3 characters district number, e.g., CA-005 for California 5th district, CA-012 for California 12 district, NC-103 for North Carolina's 103 district. If all congressional districts in a state are affected, enter "all" for the district number, e.g., MD-all
6.	<b>Date Received by State:</b> Leave this field blank. This date will be assigned by the state, if applicable.		for all congressional districts in Maryland. If nationwide, i.e. all districts within all states are affected, enter US-all. If the
7.	State Application Identifier: Leave this field blank. This identifier will be assigned by the state, if applicable.		program/project is outside the US, enter 00-000. This optional data element is intended for use only by programs for which the area(s)
8.	Applicant Information: Enter the following in accordance with agency instructions:		affected are likely to be different than place(s) of performance reported on the SF-424 Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form. Attach an additional list of program/project congressional districts, if needed.
	<b>a. Legal Name</b> : (Required) Enter the legal name of applicant that will undertake the assistance activity. This is the organization that has registered with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR). Information on registering with CCR may be obtained by visiting www.Grants.gov.	17.	Proposed Project Start and End Dates: (Required) Enter the proposed start date and end date of the project.
	<b>b.</b> Employer/Taxpayer Number (EIN/TIN): (Required) Enter the employer or taxpayer identification number (EIN or TIN) as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service. If your organization is not in the US, enter 44-4444444.	18.	Estimated Funding: (Required) Enter the amount requested, or to be contributed during the first funding/budget period by each contributor. Value of in-kind contributions should be included on appropriate lines, as applicable. If the action will result in a dollar change to an existing award, indicate only the amount of the change. For decreases, enclose the amounts in parentheses.

Item	Entry:	Item:	Entry:
nem	c. Organizational DUNS: (Required) Enter the organization's DUNS or DUNS+4 number received from Dun and Bradstreet. Information on obtaining a DUNS number may be obtained by visiting www.Grants.gov.  d. Address: Enter address: Street 1 (Required); city (Required); County/Parish, State (Required if country is US), Province, Country (Required), 9-digit zip/postal code (Required if country US).	20.	Is Application Subject to Review by State Under Executive Order 12372 Process? (Required) Applicants should contact the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for Federal Executive Order 12372 to determine whether the application is subject to the State intergovernmental review process. Select the appropriate box. If "a." is selected, enter the date the application was submitted to the State.  Is the Applicant Delinquent on any Federal Debt? (Required) Select the appropriate box. This question applies to the applicant organization, not the person who signs as the authorized representative. Categories of federal debt include; but, may not be limited to: delinquent audit disallowances, loans and taxes. If yes,
	e. Organizational Unit: Enter the name of the primary organizational unit, department or division that will undertake the assistance activity.  f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application: Enter the first and last name (Required); prefix, middle name, suffix, title. Enter organizational affiliation if affiliated with an organization other than that in 7.a. Telephone number and email (Required); fax number.		include an explanation in an attachment.  Authorized Representative: To be signed and dated by the authorized representative of the applicant organization. Enter the first and last name (Required); prefix, middle name, suffix. Ente title, telephone number, email (Required); and fax number. A co of the governing body's authorization for you to sign this application as the official representative must be on file in the applicant's office. (Certain federal agencies may require that this authorization be submitted as part of the application.)
9.	Type of Applicant: (Required) Select up to three applicant type(s) in accordance with agency instructions.  A. State Government B. County Government C. City or Township Government D. Special District Government E. Regional Organization F. U.S. Territory or Possession G. Independent School District H. Public/State Controlled Institution of Higher Education Tribal Government (Federally Recognized) J. Indian/Native American Triball Government (Other than Federally Recognized) K. Indian/Native American Tribally Designated Organization L. Public/Indian Housing Authority		

[U.S Department of Education note: As of summer, 2019, the FON discussed in Block 12 of the instructions can be found via the following URL: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html.]

# Instructions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html

- **1. Project Director.** Name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application. Items marked with an asterisk (\*) are mandatory.
- 2. Novice Applicant. Check "Yes" if you meet the definition for novice applicants specified in the regulations in 34 CFR 75.225 and included on the attached page entitled "Definitions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424"). By checking "Yes" the applicant certifies that it meets these novice applicant requirements. Check "No" if you do not meet the definition for novice applicants.

This novice applicant information will be used by ED to: 1) determine the amount and type of technical assistance that a novice might need, if funded, and 2) determine novice applicant eligibility in discretionary grant competitions that give special consideration to novice applications. Certain ED discretionary grant programs give special consideration to novice applications, either by establishing a special competition for novice applicants or by giving competitive preference to novice applicants under the procedures in 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2). If special consideration is being given to novice applications under a particular discretionary grant competition, the application notice for the competition published in the Federal Register will specify this information

- **3. Human Subjects Research.** (See I. A. "Definitions" in attached page entitled "Definitions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424.")
- **3a. 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.
- **3a.** 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 U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF-424.")
- **3b.** 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. Check 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 U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424."
- **3b.** 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 attached page entitled "Definitions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424."
- **3b.** Human Subjects Assurance Number. If the applicant has an approved Federal Wide Assurance (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. (A list of current FWAs is available at: <a href="http://ohrp.cit.nih.gov/search/asearch.asp#ASUR">http://ohrp.cit.nih.gov/search/asearch.asp#ASUR</a>) 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.
- **3c.** If applicable, please attach your "Exempt Research" or "Nonexempt Research" narrative to your submission of the U.S Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424 form as instructed in item II, "Instructions for Exempt and Nonexempt Human Subjects Research Narratives" in the attached page entitled "Definitions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424."

**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.

No covered human subjects research can be conducted until the study has ED clearance for protection of human subjects in research.

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 1894-0007. 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. 20202-0170. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form write directly to: The Office of Safe and Supportive Schools, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202.

# **Definitions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424**

#### **Definitions:**

#### **Novice Applicant (See 34 CFR 75.225)**

For discretionary grant programs, 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. 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 directly or indirectly linked to that individual, 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 <u>only</u> 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. If an educational practice is being introduced to the site and is not widely used for similar populations, it is not covered by this exemption.
- (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. [This exemption applies only to retrospective studies using data collected before the initiation of the research.]
- (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. [The standards of this exemption are rarely met because it was designed to apply only to specific research conducted by HHS at the time the regulations were established. We will strictly construe this exemption because it was not intended to apply to ED research.]
- (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.b. of the U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF 424, the applicant must attach a human subjects "exempt research" or "nonexempt research" narrative to the U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424 form. 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.b. and designated exemption numbers(s), attach the "exempt research" narrative to the U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424. 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.b. you must attach the "nonexempt research" narrative to the U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424. 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 Office of Finance and Operations, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4331, telephone: (202) 245-8090, 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 SF-424 in the upper right corner of the form (if applicable).

### Part 2: Budget Information

<u>Note</u>:-Funds under this program may be used only for costs related to developing or expanding, implementing, and disseminating information on course-access programs, which may include instructional costs (e.g., course materials and fees).

### **ED Budget Information Non-Construction Programs (ED Form 524)**

This part of your application contains information about the Federal funding you are requesting. Remember that you must provide all requested budget information for each year of the project (up to 36 months) and the total column in order to be considered for Federal funding. Specific instructions for completing the budget forms are provided within this application package.

*Instructions for completing ED Form 524 Section A:* 

Name of Institution/Organization: Enter the name of the applicant in the space provided.

<u>Personnel (line 1):</u> Enter project personnel salaries and wages only. Include fees and expenses for consultants on line 6.

<u>Fringe Benefits (line 2):</u> The institution's normal fringe benefits contribution may be charged to the program. Leave this line blank if fringe benefits applicable to direct salaries and wages are treated as part of the indirect cost.

<u>Travel (line 3):</u> Indicate the travel costs of employees and participants only. Include travel of persons such as consultants on line 6.

Equipment (line 4): Indicate the cost of tangible, non-expendable personal property that has a usefulness greater than one year and acquisition costs that are the lesser of the capitalization level established by the applicant entity for financial statement purposes or \$5,000 per article. Lower limits may be established to maintain consistency with the applicant's policy.

<u>Supplies (line 5):</u> Show all tangible, expendable personal property. Direct supplies and materials differ from equipment in that they are consumable, expendable, and of a relatively low unit cost. Supplies purchased with grant funds should directly benefit the grant project and be necessary for achieving the goals of the project.

<u>Contractual (line 6):</u> The contractual category should include all costs specifically incurred with actions that the applicant takes in conjunction with an established internal procurement system. Include consultant fees, expenses, and travel costs in this category if the consultant's services are obtained through a written binding agreement or contract.

Construction (line 7): Not applicable.

Other (line 8): Indicate all direct costs not covered on lines 1-6. For example, include costs such as space rental, required fees, honoraria and travel (where a contract is not in place for services), training, and communication and printing costs. *Do not include costs that are included in the* 

indirect cost rate.

Total Direct Costs (line 9): The sum of lines 1-8.

Indirect Costs (line 10): Indicate the applicant's approved indirect cost rate, per sections 75.560 – 75.564 of EDGAR. If an applicant does not have an approved indirect cost rate agreement with a cognizant Federal agency, the applicant must apply to the Department of Education for a temporary indirect cost rate if it wishes to charge indirect costs to the grant. For more information, go to the Department's website at: http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/fipao/icgindex.html.

Training Stipends (line 11): This line item is not applicable to this program. The training stipend line item only pertains to costs associated with long term training programs and college or university coursework, not workshops or short-term training supported by this program.

Note: Salary stipends paid to teachers and other school personnel for participating in short-term professional development should be reported in Personnel (line 1).

<u>Total Cost (line 12):</u> This should equal to sum of lines 9-11 (total direct costs + indirect + stipends). The sum for column one, labeled *Project Year 1* (a), should also be equal to item 15a on the application cover sheet (SF Form 424).

#### 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. You may access the Education Department General Administrative Regulations cited within these instructions at:

http://www.ed.gov/policy/fund/reg/edgarReg/edgar.html. You may access requirements from 2 CFR 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards" cited within these instructions at:

https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/12/26/2013-30465/uniform-administrative-requirements-cost-principles-and-audit-requirements-for-federal-awards.

You must consult with your Business Office prior to submitting this form.

### <u>Section A - Budget Summary</u> U.S. Department of Education Funds

All applicants must complete Section A and provide a break-down 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. If you checked "no," ED generally will authorize grantees to use a temporary rate of 10 percent of budgeted salaries and wages (complete (4) of this section when using the temporary rate) subject to the following limitations:
- (a) The grantee must submit an indirect cost proposal to its cognizant agency within 90 days after ED issues a grant award notification; and
- (b) If after the 90-day period, the grantee has not submitted an indirect cost proposal to its cognizant agency, the grantee may not charge its grant for indirect costs until it has negotiated an indirect cost rate agreement with its cognizant agency.
- (2): If you checked "yes" in (1), indicate in (2) the beginning and ending dates covered by the Indirect Cost Rate Agreement. In

### **Instructions for ED 524**

addition, indicate whether ED, another Federal agency (Other) or State agency issued the approved agreement. If you check "Other," specify the name of the Federal or other agency that issued the approved agreement.

- (3): If you check "no" in (1), indicate in (3) if you want to use the de minimis rate of 10 percent of MTDC (see 2CFR § 200.68). If you use the de minimis rate, you are subject to the provisions in 2 CFR § 200.414(f). Note, you may only use the 10 percent de minimis rate if you are a first-time Federal grant recipient, and you do not have an Approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement. You may not use the de minimis rate if you are a State, Local government, or Indian Tribe, or if your grant is funded under a training rate or restricted rate program.
- (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 cost-sharing or 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.

- 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 subproject or activity.
- For non-Federal funds or resources listed in Section B that are used to meet a cost-sharing or matching requirement or provided as a voluntary cost-sharing or matching commitment, you must include:
  - a. The specific costs or contributions by budget category;

- b. The source of the costs or contributions: and
- c. In the case of third-party in-kind contributions, a description of how the value was determined for the donated or contributed goods or services.
- [Please review cost sharing and matching regulations found in 2 CFR 200.306.]
- If applicable to this program, provide the rate and base on which fringe benefits are calculated.
- 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: <a href="http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html">http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html</a>. You may also contact (202) 377-3838 for additional information regarding calculating indirect cost rates or general indirect cost rate information.

5. 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 1894-0008. 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. 20202-4537. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to The Office of Safe and Supportive Schools, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202.

### Part 3: ED Abstract Form

This section should be attached as a single document to the ED Abstract Form in accordance with the instructions found on Grants.gov and should be organized in the following manner and include the following parts in order to expedite the review process.

Ensure that you only attach the Education approved file types detailed in the Federal Register application notice. Also, do not upload any password-protected files to your application.

Please note that Grants.gov cannot process an application that includes two or more files that have the same name within a grant submission.

When attaching files, applicants should limit the size of their file names. Lengthy file names could result in difficulties with opening and processing your application. We recommend your file names be less than 50 characters.

### ☐ Project Abstract

The project abstract should not exceed **two** double spaced pages and should include a concise description of the following information:

- Project objectives and activities
- Proposed project outcomes
- Number of participants to be served
- Number and location of proposed sites
- How the absolute priority is addressed by the project
- If applicable, how either of the supplemental priorities is being addressed by the project

Note: Grants.gov may include a note that indicates that the project abstract may not exceed one page; however, an abstract of more than one page may be uploaded.

### Part 4: Project Narrative Attachment Form

This section should be attached as a **single** document to the Project Narrative Attachment Form in accordance with the instructions found on <u>Grants.gov</u> and should be organized in the following manner and include the following parts in order to expedite the review process.

Ensure that you only attach the Education approved file types detailed in the common instructions. Also, do not upload any password-protected files to your application.

When attaching files, applicants should limit the size of their file names. Lengthy file names could result in difficulties with opening and processing your application. We recommend your file names be less than 50 characters.

### **☐** Table of Contents

The Table of Contents shows where and how the important sections of your proposal are organized and should not exceed **one** double spaced page.

### **☐** Application Narrative

The application narrative responds to the selection criteria found in this application package and should follow the order of the selection criteria.

We encourage applicants to adhere to the following guidelines:

- 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).
- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial. The recommended page limit does not apply to the cover sheet; the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, or the letters of support. However, the recommended page limit does apply to all of the application narrative.

### Selection Criteria for Program Narrative

The selection criteria for this competition are from 34 CFR 75.210. Each criterion includes the factors that reviewers will consider in determining the extent to which an applicant meets the criterion. The selection criteria for this competition can be found in the Notice Inviting Applications for this grant competition.

https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-04-27/pdf/2020-08848.pdf

### Part 5: Budget Narrative

This section should be attached as a **single** document to the Budget Narrative Attachment Form in accordance with the instructions found on <u>Grants.gov</u>. It should be organized in the following manner and include the following parts in order to expedite the review process.

Ensure that you only attach the Education approved file types detailed in the common instructions. Also, do not upload any password-protected files to your application.

When attaching files, applicants should limit the size of their file names. Lengthy file names could result in difficulties with opening and processing your application. We recommend your file names be less than 50 characters.

Each application must also provide a Budget Narrative (which serves to meet the requirements of ED Form 524, Section C) for requested Federal funds. The Budget Narrative for requested Federal funds should provide a justification of how the money requested for each budget item will be spent.

This section requires an **itemized budget breakdown** for each project year and the **basis for estimating the costs** of personnel salaries, benefits, project staff travel, materials and supplies, consultants and subcontracts, indirect costs and any other projected expenditures. Be sure to complete an itemized budget breakdown and narrative for each year of the proposed project (up to 36 months).

The Budget Narrative provides an opportunity for the applicant to identify the nature and amount of the proposed expenditures. The applicant should provide sufficient detail to enable reviewers and project staff to understand how requested funds will be used, how much will be expended, and the relationship between the requested funds and project activities and outcomes.

In accordance with 34 CFR 75.232, Department of Education staff perform a cost analysis of each recommended project to ensure that costs relate to the activities and objectives of the project, are reasonable, allowable and allocable. We may delete or reduce costs from the budget during this review.

#### **Important Notes**

Applicants are encouraged to review the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations Uniform Guidance, *Cost Principles* in preparing their budget and budget narrative.

The Uniform Guidance may be found at the following link: <a href="https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200\_main\_02.tpl">https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200\_main\_02.tpl</a>.

### **Suggested Guidelines for the Budget Narrative**

To facilitate the review of your Budget Narrative, we encourage each applicant to include the following information for each year of the project:

#### 1. Personnel

- Provide the title and duties of each position to be compensated under this project.
- Provide the salary for each position under this project.
- Provide the amounts of time, such as hours or percentage of time to be expended by each position under this project.
- Explain the importance of each position to the success of the project.
- Provide the basis for cost estimates or computations.

### 2. Fringe Benefits

- Give the fringe benefit percentages of all personnel included under <u>Personnel</u>.
- Provide the rate and base on which fringe benefits are calculated.

#### 3. Travel

- Explain the purpose of the travel, how it relates to project success, how it aligns with the project goals and objectives and which program participants or staff will participate.
- Submit an estimate for the number of trips, points of origin and destination, and purpose of travel.
- Submit an itemized estimate of transportation and/or subsistence costs for each trip.
- Provide the basis for cost estimates or computations.

### 4. Equipment

- Indicate the estimated unit cost for each item to be purchased.
- Identify each type of equipment.
- Provide adequate justification of the need for items of equipment to be purchased.
- Explain the purpose of the equipment, and how it relates to project success.
- Provide the basis for cost estimates or computations.

#### 5. Supplies

- Provide an itemized estimate of materials and supplies by nature of expense or general category (e.g., instructional materials, office supplies, etc.).
- Explain the purpose of the supplies and how they relate to project success.
- Provide the basis for cost estimates or computations.

### 6. Contractual

- Provide the purpose and relation to project success.
- Describe the products to be acquired, and/or the professional services to be provided.
- Provide a brief justification for the use of the contractors selected.
- Identify the name(s) of the contracting party, including consultants, if available.
- Provide the cost per contractor.
- Provide the amount of time that the project will be working with the contractor(s).
- For professional services contracts, provide the amounts of time to be devoted to the project, including the costs to be charged to this proposed grant award.
- Provide a brief statement that you have followed the procedures for procurement under:

### 2 CFR 200.317-200.326.

• Provide the basis for cost estimates or computations.

### 7. Construction

• Not applicable.

#### 8. Other

- List and identify items by major type or category (e.g., communications, printing, postage, equipment rental, etc.).
- Provide the cost per item (printing = \$500, postage = \$750).
- Provide the purpose for the expenditures and relation to project success.
- Provide the basis for cost estimates or computations.

### 9. Total Direct Costs

• The amount that is the sum of expenditures, per budget category, of lines 1-8.

#### 10. Indirect Costs

- Identify indirect cost rate (if the applicant will charge indirect costs to the grant)
- Note: remember to provide a copy of the most recent approved indirect cost agreement in the Other Attachments form section of the application.

### 11. Training Stipends

• Not applicable.

### 12. Total Costs

- Sum of direct costs, indirect costs, and stipends.
- Please provide total costs for each year of the project as well as grand total cost for the entire project (up to 36 months).

### Important Information Regarding Indirect Costs

The Department of Education reimburses a grantee for part of its indirect costs incurred in projects funded by the Expanding Access to Well-Rounded Courses Demonstration Grants program (CFDA 84.424D).

For this grant competition, you may charge indirect costs using the restricted negotiated rate with your cognizant federal agency (e.g., Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of the Interior). Be sure to include evidence of a federally negotiated indirect cost rate.

Note: Applicants should use the appropriate program or operations rate specified in their institution's federally approved indirect cost rate agreement in their proposed project budgets. Individuals who apply for any grant competition through the Department of Education are not allowed to budget for an indirect cost rate. If you budget for contractual services, please note that indirect costs may be applied only to the first \$25,000 of each subcontract for each year of the project.

You are encouraged to give priority to direct services to students by limiting the indirect costs charged to the project. You will not be penalized for failure to reduce indirect costs nor will you gain competitive advantage if you do.

If you claim indirect costs in the budget for your proposed project and do not have a negotiated rate with the federal government, the Department of Education will establish a temporary indirect cost rate for your project (i.e., 10 percent of the direct salaries and wages included in the budget for the project). Grantees will be allowed to draw at the temporary rate during the first 90 days after the Department of Education made the grant, as determined by the date of the Grant Award Notification. If a grantee does not submit an indirect cost rate proposal to its cognizant agency within that first 90 days, the grantee will not be allowed to draw any more funds for indirect costs until it obtains a federally recognized indirect cost rate from its cognizant agency. For more information about indirect cost rates, visit <a href="http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/intro.html">http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/intro.html</a>.

### Part 6: Other Attachment Form

Attach one or more documents to the Other Attachments Form in accordance with the instructions found on Grants.gov. You may provide all of the required information in a single document, or in multiple documents.

Ensure that you only attach the Education approved file types detailed in the common instructions. Also, do not upload any password-protected files to your application.

Please note that Grants.gov cannot process an application that includes two or more files that have the same name within a grant submission.

When attaching files, applicants should limit the size of their file names. Lengthy file names could result in difficulties with opening and processing your application. We recommend your file names be less than 50 characters.

Individual Resumes for Project Directors and Key Personnel: Provide brief resumes or
job descriptions that describe personnel qualifications for the responsibilities they will carry
out under the project.
Copy of Indirect Cost Rate Agreement
Letters of Support

# Part 7: Assurances and Certifications

Be certain to complete all required assurances and certifications in <u>Grants.gov</u>, and include all required information in the appropriate place on each form. The assurances and certifications required for this application are:

<b>Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF 424B Form)</b>
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF LLL Form)
Certification Regarding Lobbying (ED 80-0013 Form)
<b>General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) Requirements – Section 427</b>

### 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 follow up 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. 4040-0013. 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 (4040-0013), Washington, DC 20503

### Part 8: Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs (Executive Order 12372)

This program falls under the rubric of Executive Order 12372 (Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs) and the regulations in 34 CFR Part 79. One of the objectives of the Executive order is to strengthen federalism--or the distribution of responsibility between localities, States, and the Federal government--by fostering intergovernmental partnerships. This idea includes supporting processes that State or local governments have devised for coordinating and reviewing proposed Federal financial grant applications.

The process for doing this requires grant applicants to contact State Single Points of Contact for information on how this works. Multi-state applicants should follow procedures specific to each state.

Further information about the State Single Point of Contact process and a list of names by State can be found at:

### https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/SPOC-Feb.-2018.pdf.

Absent specific State review programs, applicants may submit comments directly to the Department. All recommendations and comments must be mailed or hand-delivered by the date indicated in the actual application notice to the following address: The Secretary, EO 12372--CFDA# 84.424D, U.S. Department of Education, room 7E200. 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. (Eastern Time) on the closing date indicated in this notice.

<u>Important note:</u> The above address is not the same address as the one to which the applicant submits its completed applications. <u>Do not send applications to the above address.</u>

### III. Reporting and Accountability

Successful Applicants with multi-year grants must submit an **annual performance report** demonstrating their progress in meeting approved project objectives. Grantees must also provide the most current financial and performance measure data for each year of the project.

At the end of the project period, applicants will also be required to submit a **final performance report**.

### **Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) Measures**

Under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), the following performance indicators have been established to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the Expanding Access to Well-Rounded Courses Demonstration Grants program. The GPRA Indicators can be found in the Notice Inviting Applications for this program.

- The number of courses available through the course access program disaggregated by (1) subject matter and (2) delivery format (e.g., distance learning, online courses, blended learning, or in-person classroom courses).
- The number of students who select and participate in course offerings supported by funds from this grant in comparison to the total number of students in the State.
- The course passage rate for course offerings supported by funds from this grant.
- The average cost per student participating in the course offerings disaggregated by (1) subject matter and (2) delivery format (e.g., distance learning, online courses, blended learning, or in-person classroom courses).
- Parent and student satisfaction with the available course offerings in terms of variety, accessibility, and quality of the courses.

For specific requirements on grantee reporting, please go to the ED Performance Report Form 524B at http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html.

# IV. Legal and Regulatory Information

### **Notice Inviting Applications**

https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-04-27/pdf/2020-08848.pdf

### **Program Statute**

 $\frac{https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/sites/default/files/ESSA\%2C\%20Title\%20IV\%2C\%20Part\\ \underline{\%20A\%20Statute.pdf}$