FY 2020 EDUCATION STABILIZATION FUND - RETHINK K-12 EDUCATION MODELS (REM) DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM

PRE-APPLICATION WEBINAR
JUNE 3, 2020

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
Evidence-Based Policy for Discretionary Grants

AGENDA

- Overview of the Rethink K-12 Education Models discretionary Grant Program
- Eligibility
- Q & A
- Absolute Priorities
- Application Requirements
- Selection Criteria
- Q & A
- Program & Project-Specific performance Measures
- Reporting Requirements
- Q & A
- Application Submission Process
- Application Review Process
- Q & A

A FEW NOTES ON Q&A

- We have budgeted time for Q&A. Participants should submit their questions via the webinar Q&A function.

- Please only submit questions relevant to the topic(s) discussed.

- Due to time constraints, we may not be able to address all questions received.

OVERVIEW OF THE RETHINK K-12 EDUCATION MODELS (REM) DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) is a stimulus bill passed in March of 2020. The CARES Act created the Education Stabilization Fund (ESF) to support K-12 and higher education in helping to *prevent, prepare for, and respond to* the devastating effects of COVID-19.

ESF includes a total of approximately $30 billion in relief for the following:

- Elementary and Secondary School Education Relief Fund: $13,229,265,000
- Higher Education Relief Fund: $12,557,254,500
- Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund: $2,953,230,000
- Higher Education Relief Fund – Historically Black Colleges & Universities & Minority Serving Institutions: $1,046,437,875
- Higher Education Relief Fund – Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education: $348,812,625
- Education Stabilization Fund Outlying Areas: $153,750,000
- Education Stabilization Fund Bureau of Indian Affairs: $153,750,000
- Education Stabilization Fund Discretionary Grants: $307,500,000
  - ESF-Reimaging Workforce Preparation Discretionary Grant Program ($127,500,000)
  - ESF-Rethink K-12 Education Models Discretionary Grant Program ($180,000,000)

Education Stabilization Fund - TOTAL   *$30,750,000,000*

VISION OF SUCCESS

Rethink K-12 Education Models Discretionary Grant Program

Provide public and non-public school students living in States with the highest coronavirus burden equitable access to, and the ability to choose, high-quality educational opportunities and services for remote learning that meet their individual needs and promote the continuity of learning to improve student outcomes.

RETHINK K-12 EDUCATION MODELS
THEORY OF CHANGE

THE PROBLEM

- COVID-19 has disrupted the education system in the U.S.
- Schools around the country have closed, impacting over 40 million students.
- Many schools lack the capacity to fully engage parents and implement high-quality remote learning strategies.
- Within States, students have unequal access to learning opportunities, services, and supports.
- Existing weaknesses in the education system are exacerbated, forcing us to create new remote learning opportunities and re-think how we design student learning, services, and supports.

STRATEGY & INTERVENTIONS

- Funding for SEAs to implement statewide interventions to serve all students.
- SEAs administer microgrants to parents that offer a range of diverse services so parents can customize their children's education and remote learning.
- SEAs develop high-quality course-access programs or statewide virtual schools, ensuring the availability of courses not otherwise offered in individual schools or districts.
- SEAs implement innovative remote learning strategies that fill unmet needs informed by research.

OUTCOMES

- Open eligibility for all students in the State for services and educational opportunities offered.
- Students and their parents have access to high-quality remote learning opportunities and services.
- Students and their parents inform the types of services and courses offered and providers utilized.
- Students and their parents have more options and more control when determining their educational needs.
- Students and their parents make multiple, unique and personal choices for how and where they learn and the services they need.

ULTIMATE IMPACT

- **Greater freedom of choice and access for students and families.**
- **Fully-functioning, more efficient education system and statewide education marketplace.**

OVERVIEW
Rethink K-12 Education Models Discretionary Grant Program

Purpose: To provide support to SEAs in States with the highest coronavirus burden in addressing remote learning and other specific educational needs of students in public and non-public elementary and secondary schools.

Estimated Available Funds: $180,000,000
Estimate Average Award Size: $15,000,000

Estimated Number of Awards: 13 – 14
Estimated 4 awards under each absolute priority, assuming sufficient quality

Grant Period of Performance: up to 36 months

ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY
Rethink K-12 Education Models Discretionary Grant Program

Eligible Entities: State Educational Agencies

State Educational Agency (SEA) means the agency primarily responsible for the State supervision of public elementary or secondary schools.

Q & A

ABSOLUTE PRIORITIES

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY 1:
Continued Learning Parent Microgrants

To meet Absolute Priority 1:

An application must propose microgrants to allow a parent to access high-quality remote learning options from a list of education and related services, expenses, and providers, which may include any needed connectivity and devices, that meets the student's educational needs.

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY 1:
Continued Learning Parent Microgrants

In providing microgrants the SEA must:

1. Provide parents and students with a list of service providers from which the parents and students may select;

2. Include more than one education service for remote learning that parents and students may choose;

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY 1
Continued Learning Parent Microgrants
Examples of services and other costs covered

Microgrants may cover the following (this is not an exhaustive list):

- Tuition and fees for an online public or private course or program, including contractual services by a public or nonpublic school and application fees for public and non-public school students

- Concurrent and dual enrollment at a postsecondary institution (especially CTE)

- Special education and related services, including therapies

- Tutoring; Summer; or afterschool education programs

- Testing preparation and examination fees

- Academic, college, and career counseling services

- Textbooks, curriculum, or other instructional materials, such as i*nternet or hotspots, computer hardware, software, or other technological devices including adaptive devices*

In providing microgrants the SEA must:

3. Provide an online and other method to enable parents and students to select services and ensure that the parent's microgrant account is established, during the grant period, and the parent is aware of how much funds are available. The SEA must also:
   - ✓ Reach out to the most disadvantaged students and parents;
   - ✓ Ensure that funds will be transferred directly from the State to the selected service provider;
   - ✓ Include multiple service providers including non-government service providers; and
   - ✓ Provide tools to help parents choose the most appropriate and effective services for their children.

4. Include a parent involvement and feedback process that:
   - ✓ Describes a way for parents to request services or providers that are not currently offered;
   - ✓ Allows parents to provide input on the list of services offered; and
   - ✓ Describes how the SEA will provide parents with written responses to requests within 30 days.

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY 2:
Statewide Virtual Learning and Course Access

SEAs that apply for Rethink K-12 Education Models grant program funds under Absolute Priority 2 have two options:

A. Develop a statewide virtual learning or course access program, such as by:

1. Designing and assembling high-quality educational content; and

2. Creating and launching the platform of a statewide virtual learning or course-access program.

Or

B. Expand an existing statewide virtual learning or high-quality course access program, such as by:

1. Serving more students;

2. Adding new courses based on student and parent interest or alignment with workforce development needs; and

3. Implementing new instructional strategies (e.g. competency-based instruction).

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY 2:
Statewide Virtual Learning and Course Access

In addition to addressing (A) or (B), the SEA must propose to do the following:

- Implement a statewide course-access program or virtual school;

- Widely disseminate information on the availability of course-access programs or virtual school programs; and

- Include a parent involvement and feedback process that—

    ✓ Describes a way for parents to request courses or programming, provide input on project services, and how the State will consider request and inputs;

    ✓ May include a parent liaison to support outreach/assistance to parents; and

    ✓ Include a fair and documented process to choose students to be served in the event request for services exceed available capacity.

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY 3:
Field-Initiated Projects for Educational Models for Remote Learning to Improve Student Outcomes

Projects that demonstrate a rationale and that are designed to create, develop, implement, replicate, or take to scale field-initiated educational models for remote learning. Projects should address specific needs pertaining to accessing high-quality remote learning opportunities.

PLANNING FOR IMPLEMENTATION
Carrying Out Proposed Project Activities – Options for SEAs

Administering grant activities:

1. SEAs may elect to deliver all or a portion(s) of the proposed project itself; or

2. The SEA may contract with a third party to implement the proposed project, provided that it complies with the procurement requirements in the Uniform Guidance.

Any services provided under this grant program are subject to 34 CFR Part 75.532 for direct grant programs, which states:
    (a) No grantee may use its grant to pay for any of the following:
        (1) Religious worship, instruction, or proselytization.
        (2) Equipment or supplies to be used for any of the activities specified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

Note: These grants are also covered by the contracting requirements in 2 CFR 3474.15 (Contracting with faith-based organizations and nondiscrimination).

Eligible Providers:
Any public or private organization, including religious or faith-based organizations that:
    ✓ Demonstrates capacity to provide the SEA with the goods and services needed to implement the proposed project; and
    ✓ Is eligible to serve as a vendor or contractor to the SEA consistent with the State's procurement procedures.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

SIX APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Describe the applicant's approach to addressing one of the three absolute priorities contained in this notice.

2. Provide an analysis of the immediate needs in the State to support remote learning and describe how the proposed project will address those needs.

3. Include a description of the State's coronavirus burden that demonstrates the significance of the impact of COVID-19 on students, parents, and schools in the State.

SIX APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

4. Provide an analysis of State assets and collaborative efforts made by the State (including supports already provided from Federal and non-Federal sources) to improve student outcomes for students during the national emergency. At a minimum this analysis should also include the following:
   - A description of the steps taken to meet student needs
   - A description of the barriers faced in meeting student needs

5. Provide an assurance that the applicant will provide information to the Secretary, as requested, for evaluations that the Secretary may carry out.

6. Demonstrate support for the proposed project by the Governor of the State, such as through a letter signed by the Governor.

SELECTION CRITERIA

SELECTION CRITERIA A:
Highest Coronavirus Burden – up to 40 points

1. The extent to which the applicant, based on the factors listed in the application package, when weighted equally, is in the—

    • Up to 20th percentile of coronavirus burden - 4 point;
    • 21st to 40th percentile of coronavirus burden - 8 points;
    • 41st to 60th percentile of coronavirus burden - 12 points;
    • 61st to 80th percentile of coronavirus burden -16 points; or
    • 81st to 100th percentile of coronavirus burden - 20 points.

    Link to the burden table: https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/04/Rethink K-12 Education Models grant program-Coronavirus-Burden-Table.pdf

2. The extent to which the applicant has a high coronavirus burden based on indicators and information factors identified by the applicant in response to Application Requirement 3. (up to 20 points)

SELECTION CRITERIA B:
Quality of Project Services and Project Plan – up to 35 points

In determining the quality of the project services and project plan, the Secretary considers the quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability. (up to 5 points)

1. The extent to which the proposed project is an exceptional approach to absolute priority being addressed and includes a detailed project plan for addressing the absolute priority. (up to 10 points)

SELECTION CRITERIA B (continued): Quality of Project Services and Project Plan – up to 35 points

2. The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project to respond to the needs of students. (up to 10 points)

3. The likelihood that the services to be provided by the proposed project will expand access to remote learning options and lead to improvements in student outcomes. (up to 5 points)

4. The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project reflect up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice. (up to 5 points)

SELECTION CRITERIA C:
Quality of Management Plan and Adequacy of Resources – 25 points

1. The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks. (up to 5 points)

2. The extent to which the proposed use of funds will adequately support the proposed project. (up to 5 points)

SELECTION CRITERIA C:
Quality of Management Plan and Adequacy of Resources – 25 points

3. The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project. (up to 5 points)

4. 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. (up to 10 points)

Alignment of the
SELECTION CRITERIA & APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

SELECTION CRITERIA	APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
Highest Coronavirus Burden – up to 40 points	(3) Include a description of the State's coronavirus burden that demonstrates the significance of the impact of COVID-19 on students, parents, and schools in the State.
Quality of Project Services and Project Plan – up to 35 points	(1) Describe the applicant's approach to addressing one of the three absolute priorities contained in this notice.
	(2) Provide an analysis of the immediate needs in the State to support remote learning and describe how the proposed project will address those needs.
	(6) Demonstrate support for the proposed project by the Governor of the State, such as through a letter signed by the Governor.
Quality of the Management Plan and Adequacy of Resources – up to 25 points	(4) Provide an analysis of State assets and collaborative efforts made by the State to improve student outcomes for students during the national emergency.
N/A	(5) Provide an assurance that the applicant will provide information to the Secretary, as requested, for evaluations that the Secretary may carry out.

Q & A

PROGRAM & PROJECT- SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE MEASURES

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES

All grantees must:

➢ Collect and report on Rethink K-12 Education Models Grant Program Performance Measures:

(1) number of students served by the project;

(2) percentage of parents who reported satisfaction with the remote learning options available; and

(3) number and different types, as defined by the grantee, of new remote learning options provided.

➢ Propose, collect, and report on Rethink K-12 Education Models Grant Program Project-Specific Performance Measures

❖ At least one must be a student-based educational outcome measure

PROJECT-SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE MEASURES

For project-specific performance measures, applicants must address the following:

✓ How the proposed **performance measures** accurately measure project performance and are consistent with the established program performance measures for the program.

✓ Why each proposed **baseline data** is valid; or, if the applicant has determined that there are no established baseline data for a particular performance measure, an explanation of why there is no established baseline and of how and when, during the project period, the applicant would establish a valid baseline for the performance measure.

✓ Why **each proposed performance** target is ambitious (as defined in this notice) yet achievable compared to the baseline for the performance measure and when, during the project period, the applicant would meet the performance target(s).

✓ The **data collection and reporting** methods the applicant would use and why those methods are likely to yield reliable, valid, and meaningful performance data; and (ii) The applicant's capacity to collect and report reliable, valid, and meaningful performance data, as evidenced by high-quality data collection, analysis, and reporting in other projects or research.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

❑Annual Performance Report

❑Quarterly Performance Report

❑Final Performance Report

Q & A

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS
OVERVIEW

- Application Deadline – **June 29, 2020** by 11:59:59 p.m. (ET) Eastern Time

- All Rethink K-12 Education Models grant program grant applications MUST be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov system

- Applicants are required to follow the Common Instructions for Applicants to Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs—available at: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-13/pdf/2019-02206.pdf

- The direct link for electronic application submission for the Rethink K-12 Education Models grant program Competition through Grants.gov is: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=326585

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS
Steps to Complete _BEFORE_ Successful Registration in Grants.gov

To do business with the Department, and to submit your application electronically using Grants.gov, you must—

1) Have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

2) Register both your DUNS number and TIN with the System for Award Management (SAM.gov), the Government's primary registrant database

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS
OBTAINING A DUNS AND TIN

- You can obtain a DUNS number from Dun and Bradstreet at the following website: http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform

- A DUNS number can be created within one to two business days

- If you are a corporate entity, agency, institution, or organization, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

- If you need a new TIN, please allow two to five weeks for your TIN to become active

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS
REGISTERING IN SAM.gov

- Applicants must be active in the System for Award Management (SAM) in order to submit an application through Grants.gov

- The SAM registration process takes approximately seven business days. If you are submitting an application under the Rethink K-12 Education Models grant program Competition, please allow sufficient time to obtain and register your Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

- Once your SAM registration is active, you will need to allow 24 to 48 hours for the information to be available in Grants.gov and before you can submit an application in Grants.gov

- To assist you with obtaining and registering your DUNS number and TIN in SAM or updating your existing SAM account, the U.S. Department of Education prepared a SAM.gov Tip Sheet, which you can find at:
http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/sam-faqs.html

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS
Administrative Relief for the Department, Applicants, & Grantees Impacted by COVID-19

- OMB M-20-17 issued March 19, 2020 –

Please note, Grants.gov has relaxed the requirement for applicants to have an active registration in SAM in order to apply for funding during the COVID-19 pandemic. An applicant that does not have an active SAM registration can still register with grants.gov, but must contact the Grants.gov Support Desk, toll-free, at 1–800–518–4726, in order to take advantage of this flexibility.

- Applicants without DUNS and not Registered in SAM:

If there is sufficient time (at least 3-4 weeks prior to the NIA closing), ED strongly encourages applicants to go through the normal processes for DUNS and SAM registration or, at a minimum, at least completing DUNS registration (2 business days)

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS
Administrative Relief for the Department, Applicants, & Grantees Impacted by COVID-19

Waiver of the DUNS requirement in SAM

If the requirement for active DUNS registrations in SAM is waived and a grant award notification (GAN) is issued without an active DUNS in SAM, a grant condition will be issued on the GAN, as follows:

- In accordance with OMB Memoranda M-20-11 and M-20-17, Grants.gov relaxed SAM registration and validation during the submission process for all applicants. However, the requirement for active registrations, at the time of award, remains in accordance with 2 C.F.R. part 25. Because an "Inactive" registration existed at the time of award, the Department imposed a Route Payment Flag. The Department recognizes the impact of the COVID-19 crisis and is providing up to 60 days to address the registration concern. The Route Payment Flag may be removed once an "Active" status is obtained in the SAM.

Current registrants in SAM with registrations expiring before May 16, 2020 will be afforded an automatic, one-time extension of 60-days.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS
STEPS TO FOLLOW FOR SUBMITTING GRANTS.gov

- Register in Grants.gov
  - For instructional videos, including how to register for Grants.gov, please access: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-training.html
- Find application in Grants.gov
  - In the "Search Grant Opportunities" bar, search by Opportunity Number (ED-GRANTS-050120-001)
- Once in the correct Grant Opportunity, click on the "Package" tab to view the application package and apply
- Log in to create a Workspace to apply on Grants.gov
  - (How to apply using Workspace detailed on next slide)
- Review application instructions
- Complete application
- Reference the Application Checklist to ensure completion of all required forms

Grants.gov Support Center: **1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov**

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS
APPYLING USING WORKSPACE

- Workspace is the online space on Grants.gov where you work on and submit your grant application

- Workspace is a shared, online environment where members of a grant team may simultaneously access and fill out forms within an application

- Further Resources:
    - Workspace Overview page on Grants.gov
    - Video: Learning Workspace Series on Grants.gov YouTube
    - Latest Blog Posts about Workspace at Blog.Grants.gov

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS
FINAL REMINDERS BEFORE APPLICATION SUBMISSION INTO GRANTS.GOV

- Applicants MUST register with (SAM) system and with Grants.gov in order to submit applications using Grants.gov

- Current registrants should confirm that their SAM and Grants.gov accounts are active and up-to-date

- It is important to note that successful submission in Grants.gov requires that the submitter be registered as an Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) in Grants.gov and must successfully submit the application in Grants.gov by 11:59:59 p.m. (ET) on June 29, 2020

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS
TRACKING YOUR APPLICATION SUBMISSION

- After submitting your application
  - ➢ Make sure you receive an on-screen confirmation receipt
  - ➢ Document your Grants.gov Tracking Number
  - ➢ The date/time stamp is the official time of submission
  - ➢ You will also receive multiple email confirmations from Grants.gov

- Track your application status and information by accessing the "Details" tab of the submitted Workspace, or you may track your application status by entering your Grant Tracking Number in the "Track My Application" page on Grants.gov

  - •**Problems with Submission**: Contact the Grants.gov Help Desk at **1-800-518-4726** or at support@grants.gov

    - ➢You must obtain a Grants.gov Help Desk Case Number and keep track of your progress to resolve the issue

- Additional submission instructions are found in the Rethink K-12 Education Models grant program application package

  - ***Note: Be sure to check spam and junk folders for these emails since they will not come from ED***

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

Eligibility Review

Peer Review

Rank Order Award

Awards

Q & A

WEBINAR QUESTIONS
TOPIC: CONSORTIA APPLICANT

QUESTION: *Can a State educational agency (SEA) form a consortium to apply for the grant? Additionally, if a consortia applicant is funded will each member of the consortium receive funds directly from the Department?*

RESPONSE: For the Rethink K-12 Education Model Grant Program, eligible entities are SEAs. Two or more SEAs may apply as a consortium provided all requirements in 34 CFR 75.127-75.129 are met. Under 34 CFR 75.127(a), each member of a consortium must be an eligible entity. Therefore, an SEA may not form a consortium with a non-profit, community-based organization, or other entity for the purposes of submitting a consortia application.

Additionally, as required by 34 CFR 75.128, SEAs applying as a consortium must: (1) designate one member to serve as the consortium applicant or establish a separate legal entity to serve as the consortium applicant; (2) have members of the consortium enter into an agreement that details the activities that each member of the group plans to perform and binds member SEAs to assurances and statements included in the grant application; and (3) submit the agreement as part of its application.

Under 34 CFR 75.129, if an award is made to a consortium, the entity designated as the consortium applicant will serve as the grantee. The Department will issue a single grant award notification (GAN) to the grantee. The grantee will be responsible for (1) the use of all grant funds, (2) ensuring that the project is carried out in accordance with Federal requirements, and (3) ensuring that indirect costs are determined properly. Each member of the group is responsible for carrying out the activities it agrees to perform and using the funds that it receives under the agreement in accordance with applicable requirements.

WEBINAR QUESTIONS
TOPICS: SERVING NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS & ABSOLUTE PRIORITY 2(B)

QUESTION: *Will Rethink K-12 Education Model Grant Program grantees be required to use an equitable services model or provide sub-awards directly to the non-public schools?*

RESPONSE: No. There is no requirement to provide equitable services directly to students in non-public schools; however, a grantee must ensure equitable access for non-public school students. This means a grantee must provide students enrolled in non-public schools with the same opportunity to access program benefits as students attending public schools, which may include proportional provision of services to both public and non-public school students.

QUESTION: *If a State is considering Absolute Priority 2(b), does it need to address all the points 1, 2, and 3 under 2(b), or are those ways in which an SEA can expand an existing program?*

RESPONSE: Points 1, 2, and 3 under Absolute Priority 2(b) reflect examples of how an applicant can meet Absolute Priority 2(b). It does not mean that an applicant must do all or a combination of the things listed.

See slides 17-18 for additional information on Absolute Priority 2.

WEBINAR QUESTIONS
TOPIC: SUB-GRANT PROHIBITION

QUESTION: *Since subgranting is not allowable, can an applicant propose to use contracts, memorandum of understandings (MOUs), or other types of agreements to carry-out the proposed project's activities?*

RESPONSE: An SEA receiving a Rethink K-12 Education Model Grant Program grant has two options for carrying out proposed grant activities: (1) it may elect to deliver all or a portion of the proposed project itself; or (2) it may enter into a contract with a third party to implement proposed project activities.

If an SEA uses a third party to carry out its proposed grant activities, it must follow the procurement requirements in the Uniform Guidance. Under 2 CFR 200.317, when procuring property or services under a Federal award, a State must follow the same policies and procedures it uses for procurements from its non-Federal awards.

Because grantees must use appropriate procurement procedures to select contractors, applicants should generally not include information in their grant applications about specific contractors that may be used to provide goods or services for the proposed project if a grant is awarded. Instead, we suggest that applicants should describe qualities and requirements needed from a service provider to carry out activities as proposed in the grant, but not name a specific contractor or vendor.

Thus, regarding the use of MOUs and other agreements with another party to carry out proposed grant activities, applicants should consult with their State's procurement office to determine the extent to which those actions qualify as legally binding procurement transactions. Another example of a permissible agreement might be if a State's laws permit interagency agreements, such as with a public university, and the State procurement office views those agreements as legally binding procurement transactions.

See slide 20 for additional information on contracting requirements and services provided under the grant.

WEBINAR QUESTIONS
TOPIC: PERFORMANCE MEASURES

QUESTION: *Is parent satisfaction a required performance measure for all Absolute Priorities or just Absolute Priority 1?*

RESPONSE: Regardless of the Absolute Priority an applicant chooses to address, all applicants are required to collect data in response to the three Rethink K-12 Education Model Grant Program grant-specific performance measures which are: (1) The number of students served by the project; (2) the percentage of parents who reported satisfaction with the remote learning options available; and (3) the number and different types, as defined by the grantee, of new remote learning options provided.

See slides 33 and 34 for information on performance measures.

WEBINAR QUESTIONS
TOPICS: ORGANIZATION OF APPLICATION & PAGE LIMIT

QUESTION: _How should an applicant organize its application? Can an applicant attach items such as a project plan and timeline to the narrative, and are attachments included in the 25-page limit? What is the start and end date for the timeline?_

RESPONSE: Applicants should carefully review the grant application package posted on the website at https://oese.ed.gov/offices/education-stabilization-fund/states-highest-coronavirus-burden/. The application package provides detailed instructions for completing and submitting an application. Ultimately applicants can decide how to organize their application as peer reviewers will be instructed to read the entire application.

Other items, such as a project plan or timeline, can be submitted as part of an applicant's application. The application package includes specific instructions for uploading attachments.

The performance period for the Rethink K-12 Education Model Grant Program is up to 36 months. Each applicant will determine the performance period for its project provided the project period is: (1) not longer than 36 months; (2) starts on or after July 31, 2020; and (3) ends on or before July 30, 2023.

WEBINAR QUESTIONS
TOPIC: OPEN LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

QUESTION: *The NIA refers to the requirement to openly license grant deliverables and to disseminate public grant materials. Do applicants need to make assurances that these requirements will be met as part of their project narrative, or is it assumed that if you submit a proposal, you are agreeing to these requirements?*

RESPONSE: The purpose of the requirements in the NIA is to alert applicants to these specific applicable requirements so that they are aware that they are covered under the general application assurances that the applicant signs when submitting its application. Post award the Department will provide additional guidance to funded applicants.