

HEA and similar programs funded through other sources.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1840-0549)

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-11 and 1070a-12)

PART 644—EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTERS

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AUTHORITY: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-11 and 1070a-16, unless otherwise noted.

SOURCE: 59 FR 2658, Jan. 18, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General

§ 644.1 What is the Educational Opportunity Centers program?

The Educational Opportunity Centers program provides grants for projects designed to provide—

- (a) Information regarding financial and academic assistance available for individuals who desire to pursue a program of postsecondary education; and

- (b) Assistance to individuals in applying for admission to institutions that offer programs of postsecondary education, including assistance in preparing necessary applications for use by admissions and financial aid officers.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-16)

§ 644.2 Who is eligible for a grant?

The following are eligible for a grant to carry out an Educational Opportunity Centers project:

- (a) An institution of higher education.
- (b) A public or private agency or organization.
- (c) A combination of the types of institutions, agencies, and organizations described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.
- (d) A secondary school, under exceptional circumstances such as if no institution, agency, or organization described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section is capable of carrying out an Educational Opportunity Centers project in the target area to be served by the proposed project.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-11)

§ 644.3 Who is eligible to participate in a project?

(a) An individual is eligible to participate in an Educational Opportunity Centers project if the individual meets all of the following requirements:

- (1)(i) Is a citizen or national of the United States;
- (ii) Is a permanent resident of the United States;
- (iii) Is in the United States for other than a temporary purpose and provides evidence from the Immigration and Naturalization Service of his or her intent to become a permanent resident;
- (iv) Is a permanent resident of Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Palau); or
- (v) Is a resident of the Freely Associated States—the Federated States of Micronesia or the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

- (2)(i) Is at least 19 years of age; or
- (ii) Is less than 19 years of age, and the individual cannot be appropriately served by a Talent Search project

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under 34 CFR part 643, and the individual's participation would not dilute the Educational Opportunity Centers project's services to individuals described in paragraph (a)(2)(i) of this section.

(3) Expresses a desire to enroll, or is enrolled, in a program of postsecondary education, and requests information or assistance in applying for admission to, or financial aid for, such a program.

(b) A veteran as defined in § 644.7(b), regardless of age, is eligible to participate in an Educational Opportunity Centers project if he or she satisfies the eligibility requirements in paragraph (a) of this section other than the age requirement in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-11 and 1070a-16)

§ 644.4 What services may a project provide?

An Educational Opportunity Centers project may provide the following services:

(a) Public information campaigns designed to inform the community about opportunities for postsecondary education and training.

(b) Academic advice and assistance in course selection.

(c) Assistance in completing college admission and financial aid applications.

(d) Assistance in preparing for college entrance examinations.

(e) Guidance on secondary school re-entry or entry to a General Educational Development (GED) program or other alternative education program for secondary school dropouts.

(f) Personal counseling.

(g) Tutorial services.

(h) Career workshops and counseling.

(i) Mentoring programs involving elementary or secondary school teachers, faculty members at institutions of higher education, students, or any combination of these persons.

(j) Activities described in paragraphs (a) through (i) of this section that are specifically designed for students of limited English proficiency.

(k) Other activities designed to meet the purposes of the Educational Oppor-

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tunity Centers program stated in § 644.1.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-16)

§ 644.5 How long is a project period?

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, a project period under the Educational Opportunity Centers program is four years.

(b) The Secretary approves a project period of five years for applications that score in the highest ten percent of all applications approved for new grants under the criteria in § 644.21.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-11)

§ 644.6 What regulations apply?

The following regulations apply to the Educational Opportunity Centers program:

(a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) as follows:

(1) 34 CFR part 74 (Administration of Grants to Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Nonprofit Organizations).

(2) 34 CFR part 75 (Direct Grant Programs), except for § 75.511.

(3) 34 CFR part 77 (Definitions that Apply to Department Regulations), except for the definition of "secondary school" in § 77.1.

(4) 34 CFR part 79 (Intergovernmental Review of Department of Education Programs and Activities).

(5) 34 CFR part 82 (New Restrictions on Lobbying).

(6) 34 CFR part 85 (Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement) and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)).

(7) 34 CFR part 86 (Drug-Free Schools and Campuses).

(b) The regulations in this part 644.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-11 and 1070a-16)

§ 644.7 What definitions apply?

(a) *Definitions in EDGAR.* The following terms used in this part are defined in 34 CFR 77.1:

Applicant
Application
Budget
Budget period
EDGAR
Equipment