§ 637.3 What regulations apply to the Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program?

The following regulations apply to the Minority Science and Engineering Improvement 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).

(3) 34 CFR part 77 (Definitions that Apply to Department Regulations).

(b) The regulations in this part 637.

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

(a) Definitions in EDGAR. The following terms used in this part are defined in 34 CFR part 77.

(1) Accredited means currently certified by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or making satisfactory progress toward achieving accreditation.

(2) Act means the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

(3) Minority means American Indian, Alaskan Native, black (not of Hispanic origin), Hispanic (including persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and Central or South American origin), Pacific Islander or other ethnic group underrepresented in science and engineering.

(4) Minority institution means an accredited college or university whose enrollment of a single minority group or a combination of minority groups as defined in this section exceeds fifty percent of the total enrollment. The Secretary verifies this information from the data on enrollments (Higher Education General Information Surveys HEGIS XIII) furnished by the institution to the Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education.

(5) Science means, for the purposes of this program, the biological, engineering, mathematical, physical, behavioral and social sciences, and the...
history and philosophy of science; also included are interdisciplinary fields which are comprised of overlapping areas among two or more sciences.

Underrepresented in science and engineering means a minority group whose number of scientists and engineers per 10,000 population of that group is substantially below the comparable figure for scientists and engineers who are white and not of Hispanic origin.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1067–1067c, 1067g–1067k, 1068, 1068b)


§ 637.11 What kinds of projects are supported by this program?

The Secretary awards grants under this program for all or some of the following categories of projects:

(a) Institutional projects for implementing a comprehensive science improvement plan as described in § 637.12.

(b) Design projects for developing a long-range science improvement plan as described in § 637.13.

(c) Special projects to support activities as described in § 637.14.

(d) Cooperative projects to share facilities and personnel and disseminate information as described in § 637.15.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1135b–2; 1135b–3 and 1135d–5)


§ 637.12 What are institutional projects?

(a) Institutional project grants support the implementation of a comprehensive science improvement plan, which may include any combination of activities for improving the preparation of minority students, particularly minority women, for careers in science.

(b) Activities that the Secretary may assist under an institutional project include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Faculty development programs; or

(2) Development of curriculum materials.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1067–1067c, 1067g–1067k, 1068, and 1068b)


§ 637.13 What are design projects?

(a) Design project grants assist minority institutions that do not have their own appropriate resources or personnel to plan and develop long-range science improvement programs.

(b) Activities that the Secretary may assist under a design project include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Development of planning, management, and evaluation systems; and

(2) Improvement of institutional research or development offices.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1067–1067c, 1067g–1067k, 1068, and 1068b)


§ 637.14 What are special projects?

There are two types of special projects grants—

(a) Special project grants for which minority institutions are eligible which support activities that—

(1) Improve quality training in science and engineering at minority institutions; or

(2) Enhance the minority institutions’ general scientific research capabilities.

(b) Special project grants for which all applicants are eligible which support activities that—

(1) Provide a needed service to a group of eligible minority institutions; or

(2) Provide in-service training for project directors, scientists, and engineers from eligible minority institutions.

(c) Activities that the Secretary may assist under a special project include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Advanced science seminars;

(2) Science faculty workshops and conferences;

(3) Faculty training to develop specific science research or education skills;

(4) Research in science education;