

*Respondent's Obligation:* Required to obtain or retain benefits.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Ms. Jacqueline Zeiher. Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Ms. Zeiher at the Office of Management and Budget, Desk Officer for DoD, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

*DOD Clearance Officer:* Mr. Robert Cushing. Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Cushing, WHS/ESCD/Information Management Division, 1225 South Clark Street, Suite 504, Arlington, VA 22202-4326.

Dated: October 5, 2004.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice.

The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by November 24, 2004.

*Title and OMB number:* Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) Part 232, Contract Financing, and related clause at DFARS 252.232-7007 Limitation of Government's Obligation; OMB Control Number 0704-0359.

*Type of Request:* Extension.

*Number of Respondents:* 800.

*Responses Per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 800.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 1 hour.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 800.

*Needs and Uses:* This information collection requires contractors that are awarded incrementally funded, fixed-price DoD contracts to notify the Government when the work under the contract will, within 90 days, reach the point at which the amount payable by the government (including any termination costs) approximates 85 percent of the funds currently allotted to the contract. This information will be used to determine what course of action the government will take (e.g., allot

performance, terminate the contract, or terminate certain contract line items).

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other profit and not-for-profit institutions.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Office of Postsecondary Education

#### Overview Information; Teacher Quality Enhancement Grants Program—Teacher Quality Enhancement (TQE) Grants for States; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2005

*Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:* 84.336A.

**DATES:** Applications Available: October 25, 2004.

Deadline For Transmittal of Applications: December 17, 2004.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: February 15, 2005.

*Eligible Applicants:* Eligible States, as defined in sections 103(16) and 202(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA). A State that received a previous grant under this program is not eligible for a FY 2005 grant. The following States are eligible: Alaska, Delaware, Hawaii, Iowa, Montana, New York, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the United States Virgin Islands.

*Estimated Available Funds:* The Administration has requested \$88,887,451 for this program for FY 2005. Of that amount, \$39,999,353 would be allocated to TQE Grants for States under current law. Of this, approximately \$30,624,151 would be available for new awards. The

Department has requested appropriations language to override the statutory requirements that 45 percent of program funds be allocated for the State program and allow excess funds to be used where unmet demand for program funds exists. If this request is not approved, the Department will use funds allocated to Grants to States to provide additional years of funding for the awardees. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

*Estimated Range of Awards:* \$500,000—\$5,000,000.

*Estimated Average Size of Awards:* \$2,038,000 per year.

*Estimated Number of Awards:* 9.

**Note:** The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

*Project Period:* Up to 36 months.

#### Full Text of Announcement

##### I. Funding Opportunity Description

*Purpose of Program:* The purpose of this program is to provide grants to promote improvements in the quality of new teachers, with the ultimate goal of increasing student achievement in the nation's K-12 classrooms. State grants are designed to improve the quality of a State's teaching force by supporting the implementation of comprehensive statewide reform activities in areas such as teacher licensing and certification, accountability for high-quality teacher preparation, and recruitment.

*Priorities:* In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(ii), these priorities are taken from the regulations for this program (34 CFR 611.13).

*Competitive Preference Priority:* For FY 2005, these priorities are competitive preference priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), we award up to an additional 10 points to an application, depending on how well the application meets these priorities.

These priorities are:

The Secretary provides a competitive preference on the basis of how well the State's proposed activities in any one or more of the following statutory priorities are likely to yield successful and sustained results: (a) Initiatives to reform State teacher licensure and certification requirements so that current and future teachers possess strong teaching skills and academic content knowledge in the subject areas in which they will be certified or licensed to teach; (b) innovative reforms to hold higher education institutions with teacher preparation programs