

Dated: July 29, 2011.

**Darrin A. King,**

Director, Information Collection Clearance  
Division, Regulatory Information  
Management Services, Office of Management.

**Office of Special Education and  
Rehabilitative Services**

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title of Collection:* Case Service  
Report.

*OMB Control Number:* 1820-0508.

*Agency Form Number(s):* N/A.

*Frequency of Responses:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* State, Local or Tribal  
Government.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual  
Responses:* 80.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual  
Burden Hours:* 3,600.

*Abstract:* As required by Sections 13, 101(a)(10), 106 and 626 of the Rehabilitation Act, the data are submitted annually by state Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies. The data contain personal and program-related characteristics, including economic outcomes of persons with disabilities whose service records are closed. The information is used to compute agency performance on standards and indicators mandated by Section 106 of the Act as well as to assess agency performance on other evaluative measures used in monitoring of VR grantees and for other program and research purposes.

Copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 4693. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., LBJ, Washington, DC 20202-4537. Requests may also be electronically mailed to [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov) or faxed to 202-401-0920. Please specify the complete title of the information collection and OMB Control Number when making your request.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Applications for New Awards; Minority  
Science and Engineering Improvement  
Program**

**AGENCY:** Department of Education,  
Office of Postsecondary Education.

**ACTION:** Notice.

*Overview Information:* Minority  
Science and Engineering Improvement  
Program (MSEIP) Notice inviting  
applications for new awards for fiscal  
year (FY) 2011.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance  
(CFDA) Number: 84.120A.

*Dates:*

*Applications Available:* August 3,  
2011.

*Deadline for Transmittal of  
Applications:* September 2, 2011.

**Full Text of Announcement**

**I. Funding Opportunity Description**

*Purpose of Program:* The MSEIP is designed to effect long-range improvement in science and engineering education at predominantly minority institutions and to increase the flow of underrepresented ethnic minorities, particularly minority women, into scientific and technological careers.

*Competitive Preference Priorities:* This notice includes five competitive preference priorities. Competitive Preference Priorities 1 and 2 are from the notice of final supplemental priorities and definitions for discretionary grant programs, published in the **Federal Register** on December 15, 2010 (75 FR 78486). Competitive Preference Priorities 3, 4, and 5 are from 34 CFR 637.31(c).

For FY 2011 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition, these priorities are competitive preference priorities.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), we award an additional two and one-half points to an application that meets either Competitive Preference Priority 1 or 2, or an additional five points to an application that meets both Competitive Preference Priorities 1 and 2.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), we will also award an additional five points to an application that meets Competitive Preference Priority 3. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(ii), we give preference to an application that meets Competitive Preference Priority 4 and Competitive Preference Priority 5 over an application of comparable merit that does not meet these priorities.

These priorities are:

*Competitive Preference Priority 1—  
Increasing Postsecondary Success*

Projects that are designed to address the following priority area:  
Increasing the number and proportion of high-need students (as defined in this notice) who persist in and complete college or other postsecondary education and training.

*Competitive Preference Priority 2—  
Enabling More Data-Based Decision-  
Making*

Projects that are designed to collect (or obtain), analyze, and use high-quality and timely data, including data on program participant outcomes, in accordance with privacy requirements (as defined in this notice), in the following priority area:

Improving postsecondary student outcomes relating to enrollment, persistence, and completion and leading to career success.

**Note:** Applicants seeking to address these competitive priorities must do so in the context of meeting all other program requirements, including those provisions requiring a focus on science and engineering education in the grants funded under this program.

*Definitions:* The following definitions are from the notice of final supplemental priorities and definitions for discretionary grant programs, published in the **Federal Register** on December 15, 2010 (75 FR 78486).

*High-need children and high-need students* means children and students at risk of educational failure, such as children and students who are living in poverty, who are English learners, who are far below grade level or who are not on track to becoming college- or career-ready by graduation, who have left school or college before receiving, respectively, a regular high school diploma or a college degree or certificate, who are at risk of not graduating with a diploma on time, who are homeless, who are in foster care, who are pregnant or parenting teenagers, who have been incarcerated, who are new immigrants, or who have disabilities.

*Privacy requirements* means the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. 1232g, and its implementing regulations in 34 CFR part 99, the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a, as well as all applicable Federal, State and local requirements regarding privacy.

These priorities are competitive preference priorities based on 34 CFR 637.31(c).

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), we will also award an additional five (5) points

to an application that meets Competitive Preference Priority 3. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(ii), we give preference to an application that meets Competitive Preference Priority 4 and Competitive Preference Priority 5 over an application of comparable merit that does not meet these priorities.

These priorities are:

*Competitive Preference Priority 3.*

Applications from institutions that have not received a MSEIP grant within five years prior to this competition.

*Competitive Preference Priority 4.*

Applications from previous grantees with a proven record of success.

*Competitive Preference Priority 5.*

Applications that contribute to achieving balance among funded projects with respect to—(a) geographic region; (b) academic discipline; and (c) project type.

*Invitational Priorities:* For FY 2011 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition, these priorities are invitational priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1), we do not give an application that meets these invitational priorities a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

These priorities are:

*Invitational Priority 1.* Applications that focus on preparing K–12 students to enter into postsecondary programs in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) fields; or applications that develop articulation agreements that facilitate students entering into postsecondary STEM fields.

*Invitational Priority 2.* Applications that focus directly on student learning and encourage and facilitate implementation of effective pedagogical approaches increase student retention and achievement in STEM fields.

*Invitational Priority 3.* Applications that focus on mentoring programs designed to increase the number of underrepresented students who graduate with STEM undergraduate or graduate degrees.

*Program Authority:* 20 U.S.C. 1067–1067k.

*Applicable Regulations:* (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 637; (c) the notice of final supplemental priorities and definitions for discretionary grant programs, published in the **Federal Register** on December 15, 2010 (75 FR 78486).

**Note:** The regulations in 34 CFR Part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

## II. Award Information

*Type of Award:* Discretionary grants.

*Estimated Available Funds:*

\$3,035,168.

Contingent upon the appropriation and the quality of applications, we may make additional awards in FY 2012 from the list of unfunded applications from this competition.

*Estimated Range of Awards:*

Institutional Project Grants: \$150,000–

\$250,000. Special Project Grants:

\$100,000–\$250,000. Cooperative Project

Grants: \$250,000–\$300,000.

*Estimated Average Size of Awards:*

Institutional Project Grants: \$200,000.

Special Project Grants: \$175,000.

Cooperative Project Grants: \$275,000.

*Maximum Awards:* Institutional Project Grants: \$250,000. Special Project Grants: \$250,000. Cooperative Project Grants: \$300,000. We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding the maximum award for a single budget period of 12 months. The Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education may change the maximum amounts through a notice published in the **Federal Register**.

*Estimated Number of Awards:*

Institutional Project Grants: 12; Special

Project Grants: 2; Cooperative Project

Grants: 1.

*Project Period:* Up to 36 months.

## III. Eligibility Information

*Eligible Applicants:* The eligibility of an applicant is dependent on the type of MSEIP grant. There are four types of MSEIP grants: Institutional projects, special projects, cooperative, and design.

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

There are two types of special projects grants. There are special projects grants for which minority institutions are eligible. These special projects grants support activities that: (1) Improve quality training in science and engineering at minority institutions; or (2) enhance the minority institutions' general scientific research capabilities. There are also special projects grants for which all applicants are eligible. These special projects grants 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.

Cooperative project grants assist groups of nonprofit accredited colleges and universities to work together to conduct a science improvement program.

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. We will not award design project grants in the FY 2011 competition.

A. For institutional project grants, eligible applicants are limited to:

(1) Public and private nonprofit institutions of higher education that (A) Award baccalaureate degrees; and (B) are minority institutions;

(2) public or private nonprofit institutions of higher education that (A) Award associate degrees; and (B) are minority institutions that (i) Have a curriculum that includes science or engineering subjects; and (ii) enter into a partnership with public or private nonprofit institutions of higher education that award baccalaureate degrees in science and engineering.

B. For special projects grants for which minority institutions are eligible, eligible applicants are described in paragraph A.

C. For special projects grants for which all applicants are eligible, eligible applicants include those described in paragraph A, and

(1) Nonprofit science-oriented organizations, professional scientific societies, and institutions of higher education that award baccalaureate degrees that: (A) Provide a needed service to a group of minority institutions; or (B) provide in-service training to project directors, scientists, and engineers from minority institutions; or

(2) a consortia of organizations, that provide needed services to one or more minority institutions, the membership of which may include (A) Institutions of higher education which have a curriculum in science or engineering; (B) institutions of higher education that have a graduate or professional program in science or engineering; (C) research laboratories of, or under contract with, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense or the National Institutes of Health; (D) relevant offices of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Science Foundation and National Institute of Standards and Technology; (E) quasi-governmental entities that have a significant scientific or engineering mission; or (F) institutions

of higher education that have State-sponsored centers for research in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

D. For cooperative projects grants, eligible applicants are groups of nonprofit accredited colleges and universities whose primary fiscal agent is an eligible minority institution as defined in 34 CFR 637.4(b).

**Note:** As defined in 34 CFR 637.4(b), *minority institution* means an accredited college or university whose enrollment of a single minority group or a combination of minority groups exceeds 50 percent of the total enrollment.

2. *Cost Sharing or Matching:* This program does not require cost sharing or matching.

#### IV. Application and Submission Information

1. *Address to Request Application Package:* You can obtain an application via the Internet at *Grants.gov*. If you do not have access to the Internet, please contact Bernadette M. Hence or Matthew Willis, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006-8517. *Telephone:* (202) 219-7038 or (202) 502-7598, respectively.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities can obtain a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) by contacting the program contact persons listed in this section.

2. *Content and Form of Application Submission:* Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for this competition.

*Page Limit:* The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. We have established a mandatory page limit for the application narrative of each type of MSEIP grant project as follows:

- Institutional project grants:* 40 pages;
- Special projects grant application:* 35 pages;
- Cooperative project grant application:* 50 pages.

You must limit the application narrative (Part III) to these established page limits, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides. Page numbers

and a document identifier may be within the 1" margin.

- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, *except* titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, captions, and all text in charts, tables, and graphs. These items may be single spaced; however, they will count toward the page limit.
- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger, or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch). However, you may use a 10 point font in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- *Use one of the following fonts:* Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial. An application submitted in any other font (including Times Roman or Arial Narrow) will not be accepted.

• If you use some but not all of the allowable space on a page, it will be counted as a full page in determining compliance with the page limit.

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the budget justification; Part IV, the one-page abstract, the table of contents, the MSEIP Eligibility Certification Form, required letter(s) of commitment, evidence of partnerships, or the assurances and certifications. If you include any attachments or appendices not specifically requested, these items will be counted as part of the program narrative (Part III) for purposes of the page limit requirement. You must include your complete responses to the selection criteria in the program narrative.

We will reject your application if you exceed the page limit. We will also reject your application if you fail to provide the MSEIP Eligibility Certification Form.

3. *Submission Dates and Times:* *Applications Available:* August 3, 2011.

*Deadline for Transmittal of Applications:* September 2, 2011.

Applications for grants under this program must be submitted electronically using the *Grants.gov* Apply site (*Grants.gov*). For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically, or in paper format by mail or hand delivery if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, please refer to section IV. 7. *Other Submission Requirements* of this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid

in connection with the application process should contact the persons listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice. If the Department provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability in connection with the application process, the individual's application remains subject to all other requirements and limitations in this notice.

4. *Intergovernmental Review:* This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for this competition.

5. *Funding Restrictions:* We reference regulations outlining funding restrictions in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

6. *Data Universal Numbering System Number, Taxpayer Identification Number, and Central Contractor Registry:* To do business with the Department of Education, you must—

- a. Have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN);
- b. Register both your DUNS number and TIN with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR), the Government's primary registrant database;
- c. Provide your DUNS number and TIN on your application; and
- d. Maintain an active CCR registration with current information while your application is under review by the Department and, if you are awarded a grant, during the project period.

You can obtain a DUNS number from Dun and Bradstreet. A DUNS number can be created within one business day.

If you are a corporate entity, agency, institution, or organization, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service. If you are an individual, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service or the Social Security Administration. If you need a new TIN, please allow 2-5 weeks for your TIN to become active.

The CCR registration process may take five or more business days to complete. If you are currently registered with the CCR, you may not need to make any changes. However, please make certain that the TIN associated with your DUNS number is correct. Also note that you will need to update your CCR registration on an annual basis. This may take three or more business days to complete.

In addition, if you are submitting your application via *Grants.gov*, you must (1) Be designated by your organization as

an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR); and (2) register yourself with *Grants.gov* as an AOR. Details on these steps are outlined at the following *Grants.gov* Web page: [http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get\\_registered.jsp](http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp).

7. *Other Submission Requirements:* Applications for grants under this competition must be submitted electronically *unless* you qualify for an exception to this requirement in accordance with the instructions in this section.

a. *Electronic Submission of Applications.*

Applications for grants under the MSEIP, CFDA Number 84.120A, must be submitted electronically using the Governmentwide *Grants.gov* Apply site at <http://www.Grants.gov>. Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

We will reject your application if you submit it in paper format unless, as described elsewhere in this section, you qualify for one of the exceptions to the electronic submission requirement and submit, no later than two weeks before the application deadline date, a written statement to the Department that you qualify for one of these exceptions. Further information regarding calculation of the date that is two weeks before the application deadline date is provided later in this section under *Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement*.

You may access the electronic grant application for the MSEIP at <http://www.Grants.gov>. You must search for the downloadable application package for this competition by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.120, not 84.120A).

Please note the following:

- When you enter the *Grants.gov* site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, as well as the hours of operation.

- Applications received by *Grants.gov* are date and time stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted and must be date and time stamped by the *Grants.gov* system no later than 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not accept your application if it is received—that is, date and time stamped by the *Grants.gov* system—after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on

the application deadline date. We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements. When we retrieve your application from *Grants.gov*, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because it was date and time stamped by the *Grants.gov* system after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.

- The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors, including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the submission process through *Grants.gov*.

- You should review and follow the Education Submission Procedures for submitting an application through *Grants.gov* that are included in the application package for this competition to ensure that you submit your application in a timely manner to the *Grants.gov* system. You can also find the Education Submission Procedures pertaining to *Grants.gov* under News and Events on the Department's G5 system home page at <http://www.G5.gov>.

- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, as described elsewhere in this section, and submit your application in paper format.

- You must submit all documents electronically, including all information you typically provide on the following forms: The Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.

- You must upload any narrative sections and all other attachments to your application as files in a .PDF (Portable Document) format only. If you upload a file type other than a .PDF or submit a password-protected file, we will not review that material.

- Your electronic application must comply with any page-limit requirements described in this notice.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from *Grants.gov* an automatic notification of receipt that contains a *Grants.gov* tracking number. (This notification indicates receipt by *Grants.gov* only, not receipt by the Department.) The Department then will retrieve your application from *Grants.gov* and send a second notification to you by e-mail. This second notification indicates that

the Department has received your application and has assigned your application a PR/Award number (an ED-specified identifying number unique to your application).

- We may request that you provide us original signatures on forms at a later date.

*Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of Technical Issues with the Grants.gov System:* If you are experiencing problems submitting your application through *Grants.gov*, please contact the *Grants.gov* Support Desk, toll free, at 1-800-518-4726. You must obtain a *Grants.gov* Support Desk Case Number and must keep a record of it.

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because of technical problems with the *Grants.gov* system, we will grant you an extension until 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, the following business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically or by hand delivery. You also may mail your application by following the mailing instructions described elsewhere in this notice.

If you submit an application after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice and provide an explanation of the technical problem you experienced with *Grants.gov*, along with the *Grants.gov* Support Desk Case Number. We will accept your application if we can confirm that a technical problem occurred with the *Grants.gov* system and that that problem affected your ability to submit your application by 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. The Department will contact you after a determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

**Note:** The extensions to which we refer in this section apply only to the unavailability of, or technical problems with, the *Grants.gov* system. We will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register to submit your application to *Grants.gov* before the application deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the *Grants.gov* system.

*Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement:* You qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, and may submit your application in paper format, if you are unable to submit an application through the *Grants.gov* system because—

- You do not have access to the Internet; or

- You do not have the capacity to upload large documents to the *Grants.gov* system; and
- No later than two weeks before the application deadline date (14 calendar days or, if the fourteenth calendar day before the application deadline date falls on a Federal holiday, the next business day following the Federal holiday), you mail or fax a written statement to the Department, explaining which of the two grounds for an exception prevent you from using the Internet to submit your application.

If you mail your written statement to the Department, it must be postmarked no later than two weeks before the application deadline date. If you fax your written statement to the Department, we must receive the faxed statement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.

Address and mail or fax your statement to: Dr. Bernadette Hence, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., Room 6032, Washington, DC 20006-8517. Fax: (202) 502-7861.

Your paper application must be submitted in accordance with the mail or hand delivery instructions described in this notice.

#### b. *Submission of Paper Applications by Mail.*

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you may mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier) your application to the Department. You must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.120A), LBJ Basement Level 1, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-4260.

You must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier.
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark.
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

**Note:** The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

#### c. *Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.*

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you (or a courier service) may deliver your paper application to the Department by hand. You must deliver the original and two copies of your application by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.120A), 550 12th Street, SW., Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-4260.

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

**Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications:** If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department—

(1) You must indicate on the envelope and—if not provided by the Department—in Item 11 of the SF 424 the CFDA number, including suffix letter, if any, of the competition under which you are submitting your application; and

(2) The Application Control Center will mail to you a notification of receipt of your grant application. If you do not receive this notification within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245-6288.

### V. Application Review Information

1. *Selection Criteria:* The selection criteria for this program are from 34 CFR 637.32(a) through (j), and are as follows:

- Identification of need for the project (Total 5 points).
- Plan of operation (Total 15 points).
- Quality of key personnel (Total 10 points).
- Budget and cost effectiveness (Total 15 points).
- Evaluation plan (Total 15 points).
- Adequacy of resources (Total 5 points).
- Potential institutional impact of the project (Total 10 points).
- Institutional commitment to the project (Total 10 points).
- Expected Outcomes (Total 10 points).
- Scientific and educational value of the proposed project (Total 5 points).

Applicants must address each of the selection criteria. The total weight of the selection criteria is 100 points; the

weight of each criterion is noted in parentheses.

2. *Review and Selection Process:* We remind potential applicants that in reviewing applications in any discretionary grant competition, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.217(d)(3), the past performance of the applicant in carrying out a previous award, such as the applicant's use of funds, achievement of project objectives, and compliance with grant conditions. The Secretary may also consider whether the applicant failed to submit a timely performance report or submitted a report of unacceptable quality.

In addition, in making a competitive grant award, the Secretary also requires various assurances including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department of Education (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

Additional factors we consider in selecting an application for an award are in 34 CFR 75.217.

*Tiebreaker for Institutional, Special Project, and Cooperative Grants.* If there are insufficient funds for all applications with the same total scores, applications will receive preference in the following order: first, applications that satisfy the requirement of Competitive Preference Priority 3; second, applications that satisfy the requirements of Competitive Preference Priority 4 in combination with Competitive Preference Priority 5; and third, applications that satisfy the requirements of Competitive Preference Priority 4.

3. *Special Conditions:* Under 34 CFR 74.14 and 80.12, the Secretary may impose special conditions on a grant if the applicant or grantee is not financially stable; has a history of unsatisfactory performance; has a financial or other management system that does not meet the standards in 34 CFR parts 74 or 80, as applicable; has not fulfilled the conditions of a prior grant; or is otherwise not responsible.

### VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN). We may notify you informally, also.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package

and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section in this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Reporting:* (a) If you apply for a grant under this competition, you must ensure that you have in place the necessary processes and systems to comply with the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 170 should you receive funding under the competition. This does not apply if you have an exception under 2 CFR 170.110(b).

(b) At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as directed by the Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html>.

4. *Performance Measures:* The Secretary has established the following key performance measures for assessing the effectiveness of the MSEIP: (1) The percentage of change in the number of full-time, degree-seeking minority undergraduate students at the grantee's institution enrolled in the fields of engineering or physical or biological sciences, compared to the average minority enrollment in the same fields in the three-year period immediately prior to the beginning of the current grant; (2) the percentage of minority students enrolled at four-year minority-serving institutions in the fields of engineering or physical or biological sciences who graduate within six years of enrollment.

5. *Continuation Awards:* In making a continuation award, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.253, the extent to which a grantee has made "substantial progress toward meeting the objectives in its approved application." This consideration includes the review of a grantee's progress in meeting the targets and projected outcomes in its approved application, and whether the grantee has expended funds in a manner that is consistent with its approved application and budget. In making a continuation

grant, the Secretary also considers whether the grantee is operating in compliance with the assurances in its approved application, including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

#### VII. Agency Contacts

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Bernadette M. Hence, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006-8517 by *telephone:* (202) 219-7038, or by *e-mail:* [Bernadette.Hence@ed.gov](mailto:Bernadette.Hence@ed.gov) or Matthew Willis by telephone at (202) 502-7598 or by *e-mail:* [Matthew.Willis@ed.gov](mailto:Matthew.Willis@ed.gov), U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006-8517.

If you use a TDD, call the FRS, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

#### VIII. Other Information

*Accessible Format:* Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact persons listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice.

*Electronic Access to This Document:* The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available via the Federal Digital System at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys>. At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

Dated: July 29, 2011.

**Eduardo M. Ochoa,**

*Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

#### Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records—Federal Student Aid Application File

**AGENCY:** Federal Student Aid, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of altered system of records.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (Privacy Act), 5 United States Code (U.S.C.) 552a, the Acting Chief Operating Officer for Federal Student Aid (FSA) of the U.S. Department of Education (the Department) publishes this notice proposing to revise the system of records for the Federal Student Financial Aid Application File (18-11-01), 64 **Federal Register** (FR) 30159-30161 (June 4, 1999), as corrected by 64 FR 72384, 72407 (December 27, 1999), as corrected by 65 FR 11294-11295 (March 2, 2000), as corrected by 66 FR 18758 (April 11, 2001), as altered by 74 FR 68802-68808 (December 29, 2009). This system of records contains information provided by applicants for Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, (HEA) program assistance, which is collected from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Among other purposes described in this notice, the information collected is maintained in order to determine an applicant's eligibility for the Federal student financial assistance programs authorized by Title IV of the HEA; make a loan, grant, or scholarship; and verify the identity of the applicant.

This altered system of records includes records on individuals who are applying for Title IV, HEA program assistance. The records contain individually identifying information about an applicant, including, but not limited to: An applicant's name, address, Social Security number (SSN), date of birth, citizenship status, status as a veteran, driver's license number, marital status, and income and asset information. This altered system also contains information provided by the parent(s) of a dependent applicant, including, but not limited to: Name, date of birth, marital status, SSN, highest level of schooling completed, e-mail address, and income and asset information. This altered system of records also contains information about spousal income and asset information of a married applicant.

This notice proposes to expand the categories of individuals on whom records are maintained, to add two new purposes to the system of records, to expand a programmatic routine use disclosure, and to add a new programmatic routine use disclosure that was inadvertently deleted when the system of records was last altered. The notice would expand the individuals covered by the system to include secondary school students about whom requesting entities, such as schools, local educational agencies, and other local and State agencies, submit