disseminate the information to carry out these reporting requirements. The collected information facilitates compliance with statutory requirements and to provide information to school communities (including parents), LEAs, SEAs and the U.S. Department of Education (the Department) regarding activities required under Title I of the ESEA. The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) covers these activities. However, the present information collection authorization is due to expire. Therefore, the Department requests an extension of the currently approved information collection (1810–0581).

Dated: December 14, 2022.

Kun Mullan,
PRA Coordinator, Strategic Collections and Clearance, Governance and Strategy Division, Office of Chief Data Officer, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development.

[FR Doc. 2022–27432 Filed 12–16–22; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; State Personnel Development Grants

AGENCY: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Education (Department) is issuing a notice inviting applications (NIA) for fiscal year (FY) 2023 for the State Personnel Development Grants (SPDG) program, Assistance Listing Number 84.323A. This notice relates to the approved information collection under OMB control number 1820–0028.


Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 6, 2023.

Pre-Application Webinar Information: No later than December 27, 2022, the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services will post pre-recorded informational webinars designed to provide technical assistance to interested applicants. The webinars may be found at https://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/osep/new-osep-grants.html.


ADDRESSES: For the addresses for obtaining and submitting an application, please refer to our Common Instructions for Applicants to Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs, published in the


If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability and wish to access telecommunications relay services, please dial 7–1–1.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The purpose of this program is to assist State educational agencies (SEAs) in reforming and improving their systems for personnel preparation and professional development in early intervention, educational, and transition services in order to improve results for children with disabilities.

Priorities: This notice contains two absolute priorities and one competitive preference priority. In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(1), Absolute Priority 1 is from the notice of final priorities and definitions published in the Federal Register on August 2, 2012 (77 FR 45944) (2012 NFP). In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(iv), Absolute Priority 2 is from sections 651 through 655 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The competitive preference priority is from the NFP for this program published in the Federal Register on June 10, 2022 (87 FR 35415) (2022 NFP).

Absolute Priorities: For FY 2023 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications from this competition, these priorities are absolute priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), we consider only applications that meet both Absolute Priorities 1 and 2. These priorities are:

Absolute Priority 1: Effective and Efficient Delivery of Professional Development.

The Department establishes a priority to assist SEAs in reforming and improving their systems for personnel (as that term is defined in section 651(b) of IDEA) preparation and professional development of individuals providing early intervention, educational, and transition services in order to improve results for children with disabilities.

In order to meet this priority an applicant must demonstrate in the SPDG State Plan it submits as part of its application under section 653(a)(2) of IDEA that its proposed project will—

(1) Use evidence-based (as defined in this notice) professional development practices that will increase implementation of evidence-based practices and result in improved outcomes for children with disabilities;

(2) Provide ongoing assistance to personnel receiving SPDG-supported professional development that supports the implementation of evidence-based practices with fidelity (as defined in this notice); and

(3) Use technology to more efficiently and effectively provide ongoing professional development to personnel, including to personnel in rural areas and to other populations, such as personnel in urban or high-need local educational agencies (LEAs) (as defined in this notice).


Statutory Requirements. To meet this priority, an applicant must meet the following statutory requirements:


An applicant must submit a State Personnel Development Plan that identifies and addresses the State and local needs for the personnel preparation and professional development of personnel, as well as individuals who provide direct supplementary aids and services to children with disabilities, and that—

(a) Is designed to enable the State to meet the requirements of section 612(a)(14) of IDEA, as amended by the ESSA, and section 635(a)(8) and (9) of IDEA;

(b) Is based on an assessment of State and local needs that identifies critical aspects and areas in need of improvement related to the preparation, ongoing training, and professional development of personnel who serve infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and children with disabilities within the State, including—

(1) Current and anticipated personnel vacancies and shortages; and

(2) The number of preservice and inservice programs;

(c) Is integrated and aligned, to the maximum extent possible, with State plans and activities under the Elementary Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA); the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended;
and the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA); (d) Describes a partnership agreement that is in effect for the period of the grant, which agreement must specify—
(1) The nature and extent of the partnership described in accordance with section 652(b) of IDEA and the respective roles of each member of the partnership, including, if applicable, an individual, entity, or agency other than the SEA that has the responsibility under State law for teacher preparation and certification; and
(2) How the SEA will work with other persons and organizations involved in, and concerned with, the education of children with disabilities, including the respective roles of each of the persons and organizations;
(e) Describes how the strategies and activities the SEA uses to address identified professional development and personnel needs will be coordinated with activities supported with other public resources (including funds provided under Part B and Part C of IDEA and retained for use at the State level for personnel and professional development purposes) and private resources;
(f) Describes how the SEA will align its personnel development plan with the plan and application submitted under sections 1111 and 2101(d), respectively, of the ESEA;
(g) Describes strategies the SEA will use to address the identified professional development and personnel needs and how such strategies will be implemented, including—
(1) A description of the programs and activities that will provide personnel with the knowledge and skills to meet the needs of, and improve the performance and achievement of, infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and children with disabilities; and
(2) How such strategies will be integrated, to the maximum extent possible, with other activities supported by grants funded under section 662 of IDEA, as amended by the ESSA;
(h) Provides an assurance that the SEA will provide technical assistance to LEAs to improve the quality of professional development available to meet the needs of personnel who serve children with disabilities;
(i) Provides an assurance that the SEA will provide technical assistance to entities that provide services to infants and toddlers with disabilities to improve the quality of professional development available to meet the needs of personnel serving such children;
(j) Describes how the SEA will recruit and retain teachers who meet the qualifications described in section 612(a)(14)(C) of IDEA, as amended by the ESSA, and other qualified personnel in geographic areas of greatest need;
(k) Describes the steps the SEA will take to ensure that children from low-income backgrounds and minority children are not taught at higher rates by teachers who do not meet the qualifications described in section 612(a)(14)(C) of IDEA, as amended by the ESSA; and
(l) Describes how the SEA will assess, on a regular basis, the extent to which the strategies implemented have been effective in meeting the performance goals described in section 612(a)(15) of IDEA, as amended by the ESSA.
2. Partnerships.
(a) Required Partners.
Applicants must establish a partnership with LEAs and other State agencies involved in, or concerned with, the education of children with disabilities, including—
(1) Not less than one institution of higher education (IHE);
(2) The State agencies responsible for administering Part C of IDEA, early education, childcare, and vocational rehabilitation programs; and
(3) In accordance with section 652(b)(3) of IDEA, if State law assigns responsibility for teacher preparation and certification to an individual, entity, or agency other than the SEA, such individual, entity, or agency. The SEA must ensure that any activities it carries out under this program that are within such partner’s jurisdiction (which may include activities described in section 654(b) of IDEA) are carried out by that partner.
(b) Other Partners.
An SEA must work in partnership with other persons and organizations involved in, and concerned with, the education of children with disabilities, which may include—
(1) The Governor;
(2) Parents of children with disabilities ages birth through 26;
(3) Parents of nondisabled children ages birth through 26;
(4) Individuals with disabilities;
(5) Parent training and information centers or community parent resource centers funded under sections 671 and 672 of IDEA, respectively;
(6) Community based and other nonprofit organizations involved in the education and employment of individuals with disabilities;
(7) Personnel as defined in section 652(b) of IDEA; and
(8) The State advisory panel established under Part B of IDEA;
(9) The State interagency coordinating council established under Part C of IDEA;
(10) Individuals knowledgeable about vocational education;
(11) The State agency for higher education;
(12) Public agencies with jurisdiction in the areas of health, mental health, social services, and juvenile justice;
(13) Other providers of professional development that work with infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and children with disabilities; and
(14) Other individuals.
3. Use of Funds.
(a) Professional Development Activities—Each SEA that receives a grant under this program must use the grant funds to support activities in accordance with the State’s Personnel Development Plan, including one or more of the following:
(1) Carrying out programs that provide support to both special education and regular education teachers of children with disabilities and principals, such as programs that—
(i) Provide teacher mentoring, team teaching, reduced class schedules and caseloads, and intensive professional development;
(ii) Use standards or assessments for guiding beginning teachers that are consistent with challenging State academic achievement standards and with the requirements for professional development, as defined in section 8101 of the ESEA; and
(iii) Encourage collaborative and consultative models of providing early intervention, special education, and related services.
(2) Encouraging and supporting the training of special education and regular education teachers and administrators to effectively use and integrate technology—
(i) Into curricula and instruction, including training to improve the ability to collect, manage, and analyze data to improve teaching, decision making, school improvement efforts, and accountability;
(ii) To enhance learning by children with disabilities; and
(iii) To effectively communicate with parents.
(3) Providing professional development activities that—
(i) Improve the knowledge of special education and regular education teachers concerning—
(A) The academic and developmental or functional needs of students with disabilities; or
(B) Effective instructional strategies, methods, and skills, and the use of State academic content standards and student
provide—

particularly initiatives that have proven

and retention of special education

initiatives to promote the recruitment

(IFSP) meetings.

individualized family service plan

personnel in conducting effective

IEP meetings; and

and other relevant school personnel in

serving those students; and

preschool, and related services

conducting effective IEP meetings;

and other relevant school personnel in

serving those students; and

in helping students with disabilities.

(C) Provide training in methods of—

(1) Positive behavioral interventions

and supports to improve student

behavior in the classroom;

(2) Scientifically based reading

instruction, including early literacy

instruction;

(3) Early and appropriate

interventions to identify and help

children with disabilities;

(4) Effective instruction for children

with low-incidence disabilities;

(5) Successful transitioning to

postsecondary opportunities; and

(6) Using classroom-based techniques

to assist children prior to referral for

special education;

(D) Provide training to enable

personnel to work with and involve

parents in their child’s education,

including parents of low income

and limited English proficient children

with disabilities;

(E) Provide training for special

education personnel and regular

education personnel in planning,

developing, and implementing effective

and appropriate individualized

education programs (IEPs); and

(F) Provide training to meet the needs

of students with significant health,

mobility, or behavioral needs prior to

serving those students;

(iii) Train administrators, principals,

and other relevant school personnel

in conducting effective IEP meetings; and

(iv) Train early intervention,

school and related services

providers, and other relevant school

personnel in conducting effective

individualized family service plan

(IFSP) meetings.

(4) Developing and implementing

initiatives to promote the recruitment

and retention of special education

teachers who meet the qualifications

described in section 612(a)(14)(C) of

IDEA, as amended by the ESSA,

particularly initiatives that have proven

effective in recruiting and retaining

teachers, including programs that

(i) Teacher mentoring from exemplary

special education teachers, principals,

or superintendents;

(ii) Induction and support for special

education teachers during their first

three years of employment as teachers;

and

(iii) Incentives, including financial

incentives, to retain special education

teachers who have a record of success

in helping students with disabilities.

(5) Carrying out programs and

activities that are designed to improve

the quality of personnel who serve

children with disabilities, such as—

(i) Innovative professional

development programs (which may be

provided through partnerships that

include IHEs), including programs that

train teachers and principals to integrate

technology into curricula and

instruction to improve teaching,

learning, and technology literacy, which

must be consistent with the definition of

professional development in section

8101 of the ESEA; and

(ii) The development and use of

proven, cost effective strategies for the

implementation of professional

development activities, such as through

the use of technology and distance

learning.

(6) Carrying out programs and

activities that are designed to improve

the quality of early intervention

personnel, including paraprofessionals

and primary referral sources, such as—

(i) Professional development

programs to improve the delivery of

early intervention services;

(ii) Initiatives to promote the

recruitment and retention of early

intervention personnel; and

(iii) Interagency activities to ensure

that early intervention personnel are

adequately prepared and trained.

(b) Other Activities—Each SEA that

receives a grant under this program

must use the grant funds to support

activities in accordance with the State’s

Personnel Development Plan, including

one or more of the following:

(1) Reforming special education and

regular education teacher certification

(including re-certification) and licensing

requirements to ensure that—

(i) Special education and regular

education teachers have—

(A) The training and information

necessary to address the full range of

needs of children with disabilities

across disability categories; and

(B) The necessary subject matter

knowledge and teaching skills in the

academic subjects that the teachers

teach;

(ii) Special education and regular

education teacher certification

(including re-certification) or licensing

requirements are aligned with

challenging State academic content

standards; and

(iii) Special education and regular

education teachers have the subject

matter knowledge and teaching skills,

including technology literacy, necessary

to help students with disabilities meet

challenging State student academic

achievement and functional standards.

(2) Programs that establish, expand, or

improve alternative routes for State

certification of special education

teachers for individuals with a

baccalaureate or master’s degree who

meet the qualifications described in

section 612(a)(14)(C) of IDEA, as

amended by the ESSA, including mid-
career professionals from other

occupations, paraprofessionals, and

recent college or university graduates

with records of academic distinction

who demonstrate the potential to

become highly effective special

education teachers.

(3) Teacher advancement initiatives

for special education teachers that

promote professional growth and

emphasize multiple career paths (such

as paths to becoming a career teacher,

mentor teacher, or exemplary teacher)

and pay differentiation.

(4) Developing and implementing

mechanisms to assist LEAs and schools

in effectively recruiting and retaining

special education teachers who meet the

qualifications described in section

612(a)(14)(C) of IDEA, as amended by

the ESSA.

(5) Reforming tenure systems,

implementing teacher testing for subject

matter knowledge, and implementing

teacher testing for State certification or

licensure, consistent with title II of the

HEA (20 U.S.C. 1021 et seq.).

(6) Funding projects to promote

reciprocity of teacher certification or

licensure between or among States for

special education teachers, except that

no reciprocity agreement developed

under this absolute priority or

developed using funds awarded under

the SPDG competition may lead to the

weakening of any State teacher

certification or licensing requirement.

(7) Assisting LEAs to serve children

with disabilities through the

development and use of proven,

innovative strategies to deliver intensive

professional development programs that

are both cost effective and easily

accessible, such as strategies that

involve delivery through the use of

technology, peer networks, and distance

learning.

(iii) Developing, or assisting LEAs in

developing, merit-based performance

systems and strategies that provide
differential and bonus pay for special education teachers.

(9) Supporting activities that ensure that teachers are able to use challenging State academic content standards and student academic achievement and functional standards, and State assessments for all children with disabilities, to improve instructional practices and improve the academic achievement of children with disabilities.

(10) When applicable, coordinating with, and expanding centers established under section 2113(c)(18) of the ESEA, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2002, to benefit special education teachers.

(c) Contracts and Subgrants—An SEA that receives a grant under this program—

(1) Must award contracts or subgrants to LEAs, IHEs, parent training and information centers, or community parent resource centers, as appropriate, to carry out the State Personnel Development Plan; and

(2) May award contracts and subgrants to other public and private entities, including the State lead agency (LA) (as defined in this notice) under Part C of IDEA, to carry out the State Personnel Development Plan.

(d) Use of Funds for Professional Development—An SEA that receives a grant under this program must use—

(1) Not less than 90 percent of the funds the SEA receives under the grant for any fiscal year for the Professional Development Activities described in paragraph (b); and

(2) Not more than 10 percent of the funds the SEA receives under the grant for any fiscal year for the Other Activities described in paragraph (b).

Competitive Preference Priority: For FY 2023 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications from this competition, this priority is a competitive preference priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(ii), we award an additional 3 points to an application that meets the competitive preference priority. An applicant is not required to address the competitive preference priority.

This priority is:

Supporting an IDEA Part C Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD) (0 or 3 points).

The purpose of this priority is to fund projects designed to enable the State to meet the CSPD requirements of section 635(a)(8) and (9) of the IDEA. In order to be considered for a grant under this priority, if the SEA is not the State LA for IDEA Part C, an SEA must establish a partnership, consistent with IDEA section 652(b)(1)(B), with the State LA responsible for administering IDEA Part C. Consistent with IDEA section 635(a)(8) this priority will help improve the capacity of States’ IDEA Part C personnel development, including the training of paraprofessionals and the training of primary referral sources with respect to the basic components of early intervention services available in the State.

The CSPD must include, consistent with 34 CFR 303.118(a): (1) Training personnel to implement innovative strategies and activities for the recruitment and retention of early education service providers; (2) Promoting the preparation of early intervention providers who are fully and appropriately qualified to provide early intervention services under this part; and (3) Training personnel to coordinate transition services for infants and toddlers with disabilities who are transitioning from an early intervention service program under Part C of IDEA to a preschool program under section 619 of IDEA, Head Start, Early Head Start, an elementary school program under Part B of IDEA, or another appropriate program.

The IDEA Part C CSPD may also include, consistent with 34 CFR 303.119(b): (1) Training personnel to work in rural and urban areas; (2) Training personnel in the social and emotional development of young children; (3) Training personnel to support families in participating fully in the development and implementation of the child’s IFSP; and (4) Training personnel who provide services under IDEA Part C using standards that are consistent with early learning personnel development standards funded under the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care established under the Head Start Act, if applicable. The SEA must include in its State plan how it will partner with the State LA, if the SEA is not the State LA for IDEA Part C, to implement these aspects of the CSPD. The description of the partnership must indicate the amount and percentage of SPDG funding that will support implementation of the CSPD over the project period and how funding will complement current efforts and investments (Federal IDEA Part C appropriations and State and local funds) to implement the CSPD. The description must also describe the extent to which funds will be used on activities to increase and train personnel working with infants and toddlers and their families that have historically been underserved by Part C.

Note: To carry out the State plan under section 653 of IDEA, as described in its application, the SEA may award contracts, subcontracts, or both to other public and private entities, including, if appropriate, the State LA under Part C of IDEA.

Program Requirements: For FY 2023 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications from this competition, the following program requirements apply.

Projects funded under this program must—

(a) Budget for a three-day project directors’ meeting in Washington, DC, or virtually, during each year of the project;

(b) Budget $4,000 annually for support of the SPDG program website currently administered by the University of Oregon (www.signetwork.org); and

(c) If a project receiving assistance under this program authority maintains a website, include relevant information and documents in a form that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility.

Definitions: For FY 2023 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications from this competition, the following definitions apply to this competition. We provide the source of the definitions in parentheses.

Demonstrates a rationale means a key project component included in the project’s logic model is informed by research or evaluation findings that suggest the project component is likely to improve relevant outcomes. (34 CFR 77.1)

Evidence-based means, for purposes of Absolute Priority 1, practices for which there is strong evidence or moderate evidence of effectiveness (2012 NFP); and for purposes of Absolute Priority 2, the proposed project component is supported by one or more of strong evidence, moderate evidence, promising evidence, or evidence that demonstrates a rationale (34 CFR 77.1).

Experimental study means a study that is designed to compare outcomes between two groups of individuals (such as students) that are otherwise equivalent except for their assignment to either a treatment group receiving a project component or a control group that does not. Randomized controlled trials, regression discontinuity design studies, and single-case design studies are the specific types of experimental studies that, depending on their design implementation (e.g., sample attrition in randomized controlled trials and regression discontinuity design
studies), can meet What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) standards without reservations as described in the WWC Handbooks:

(i) A randomized controlled trial employs random assignment of, for example, students, teachers, classrooms, or schools to receive the project component being evaluated (the treatment group) or not to receive the project component (the control group).

(ii) A regression discontinuity design study assigns the project component being evaluated using a measured variable (e.g., assigning students reading below a cutoff score to tutoring or developmental education classes) and controls for that variable in the analysis of outcomes.

(iii) A single-case design study uses observations of a single case (e.g., a student eligible for a behavioral intervention) over time in the absence and presence of a controlled treatment manipulation to determine whether the outcome is systematically related to the treatment. (34 CFR 77.1)

High-need LEA means, in accordance with section 2102(3) of the ESEA, an LEA—

(a) That serves not fewer than 10,000 children from families with incomes below the poverty line (as that term is defined in section 8101(41) of the ESEA), or for which not less than 20 percent of the children served by the LEA are from families with incomes below the poverty line; and

(b) For which there is (1) a high percentage of teachers not teaching in the academic subjects or grade levels that the teachers were trained to teach, or (2) a high percentage of teachers with emergency, provisional, or temporary certification or licensing. (2012 NFP)

Lead agency means the agency designated by the State’s Governor under section 635(a)(10) of IDEA and 34 CFR 303.120 that receives funds under section 643 of IDEA to administer the State’s responsibilities under part C of IDEA. (34 CFR 303.22)

Local educational agency (LEA) means a public board of education or other public authority legally constituted within a State for either administrative control or direction of, or to perform a service function for, public elementary schools or secondary schools in a city, county, township, school district, or other political subdivision of a State, or for such combination of school districts or counties, as recognized in a State as an administrative agency for its public elementary schools or secondary schools. (Section 602(19) of IDEA (20 U.S.C. 1401(19))

Logic model (also referred to as a theory of action) means a framework that identifies key project components of the proposed project (i.e., the active ‘‘ingredients’’ that are hypothesized to be critical to achieving the relevant outcomes) and describes the theoretical and operational relationships among the key project components and relevant outcomes. (34 CFR 77.1)

Moderate evidence means that there is evidence of effectiveness of a key project component in improving a relevant outcome for a sample that overlaps with the populations or settings proposed to receive that component, based on a relevant finding from one of the following:

(i) A practice guide prepared by the WWC using version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks reporting a ‘‘strong evidence base’’ or ‘‘moderate evidence base’’ for the corresponding practice guide recommendation;

(ii) An intervention report prepared by the WWC using version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks reporting a ‘‘positive effect’’ or ‘‘potentially positive effect’’ on a relevant outcome based on a ‘‘medium to large’’ extent of evidence, with no reporting of a ‘‘negative effect’’ or ‘‘potentially negative effect’’ on a relevant outcome; or

(iii) A single experimental study or quasi-experimental design study reviewed and reported by the WWC using version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks, or otherwise assessed by the Department using version 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks, as appropriate, and that—

(A) Meets WWC standards with or without reservations;

(B) Includes at least one statistically significant and positive (i.e., favorable) effect on a relevant outcome;

(C) Includes no overriding statistically significant and negative effects on relevant outcomes reported in the study or in a corresponding WWC intervention report prepared under version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks; and

(D) Is based on a sample from more than one site (e.g., State, county, city, school district, or postsecondary campus) and includes at least 350 students or other individuals across sites. Multiple studies of the same project component that each meet requirements in paragraphs (iii)(A), (B), and (C) of this definition may together satisfy the requirement in this paragraph (iii)(D). (34 CFR 77.1)

Project component means an activity, strategy, intervention, process, product, or policy included in a project. Evidence may pertain to an individual project component or to a combination of project components (e.g., training teachers on instructional practices for English learners and follow-on coaching for these teachers). (34 CFR 77.1)

Promising evidence means that there is evidence of the effectiveness of a key project component in improving a relevant outcome, based on a relevant finding from one of the following—

(i) A practice guide prepared by WWC reporting a ‘‘strong evidence base’’ or ‘‘moderate evidence base’’ for the corresponding practice guide recommendation;

(ii) An intervention report prepared by the WWC reporting a ‘‘positive effect’’ or ‘‘potentially positive effect’’ on a relevant outcome with no reporting of a ‘‘negative effect’’ or ‘‘potentially negative effect’’ on a relevant outcome; or

(iii) A single study assessed by the Department, as appropriate, that—

(A) Is an experimental study, a quasi-experimental design study, or a well-designed and well-implemented correlational study with statistical controls for selection bias (e.g., a study using regression methods to account for differences between a treatment group and a comparison group); and

(B) Includes at least one statistically significant and positive (i.e., favorable) effect on a relevant outcome. (34 CFR 77.1)

Quasi-experimental design study means a study using a design that attempts to approximate an experimental study by identifying a comparison group that is similar to the treatment group in important respects. This type of study, depending on design and implementation (e.g., establishment of baseline equivalence of the groups being compared), can meet WWC standards with reservations, but cannot meet WWC standards without reservations, as described in the WWC Handbooks. (34 CFR 77.1)

Relevant outcome means the student outcome(s) or other outcome(s) the key project component is designed to improve, consistent with the specific goals of the program. (34 CFR 77.1)

State educational agency means the State board of education or other agency or officer primarily responsible for the State supervision of public elementary schools and secondary schools, or, if there is no such officer or agency, an officer or agency designated by the Governor or by State law. (Section 602(32) of IDEA (20 U.S.C. 1401(32))

Strong evidence means that there is evidence of the effectiveness of a key project component in improving
relevant outcome for a sample that overlaps with the populations and settings proposed to receive that component, based on a relevant finding from one of the following—

(i) A practice guide prepared by the WWC using version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbook reporting a “strong evidence base” for the corresponding practice guide recommendation;

(ii) An intervention report prepared by the WWC using version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbook reporting a “positive effect” on a relevant outcome based on a “medium to large” extent of evidence, with no reporting of a “negative effect” or “potentially negative effect” on a relevant outcome; or

(iii) A single experimental study reviewed and reported by the WWC using version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbook, or otherwise assessed by the Department using version 4.1 of the WWC Handbook, as appropriate, and that—

(A) Meets WWC standards without reservations;

(B) Includes at least one statistically significant and positive (i.e., favorable) effect on a relevant outcome;

(C) Includes no overriding statistically significant and negative effects on relevant outcomes reported in the study or in a corresponding WWC intervention report prepared under version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbook; and

(D) Is based on a sample from more than one site (e.g., State, county, city, school district, or postsecondary campus) and includes at least 350 students or other individuals across sites. Multiple studies of the same project component that each meet requirements in paragraphs (iii)(A), (B), and (C) of this definition may together satisfy this requirement. (34 CFR 77.1)

What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) Handbooks (WWC Handbooks) means the standards and procedures set forth in the WWC Standards Handbook, Versions 4.0 and 4.1, and WWC Procedures Handbook, Versions 4.0 or 4.1, or in the WWC Procedures and Standards Handbook, Version 3.0 or Version 2.1 (all incorporated by reference, see § 77.2). Study findings eligible for review under WWC standards can meet WWC standards without reservations, meet WWC standards with reservations, or not meet WWC standards. WWC practice guides and intervention reports include findings from systematic review of evidence as described in the WWC Handbooks documentation. (34 CFR 77.1)


Note: Projects will be awarded and must be operated in a manner consistent with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in Federal civil rights laws.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations in 34 CFR parts 75, 77, 78, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The Office of Management and Budget Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 3485. (c) The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards in 2 CFR part 225. (d) The 2012 NFP. (e) The 2022 NFP.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration has requested $38,630,000 for the SPDG program for FY 2023, of which we intend to use an estimated $12,891,338 for awards under this competition. 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.

Contingent upon the availability of funds and the quality of applications, we may make additional awards in FY 2024 from the list of unfunded applications from this competition.

Estimated Range of Awards: $500,000 excluding the outlying areas.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: $1,000,000 excluding the outlying areas.

Estimated Number of Awards: 11.

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

Project Period: Not less than one year and not more than five years.

III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants: An SEA of one of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or an outlying area (United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands).

Note: Public Law 95–134, which permits the consolidation of grants to the outlying areas, does not apply to funds received under this competition.

2. a. Cost Sharing or Matching: This competition does not require cost sharing or matching.

b. Indirect Cost Rate Information: This program uses an unrestricted indirect cost rate. For more information regarding indirect costs, or to obtain a negotiated indirect cost rate, please see https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/intro.html.

c. Administrative Cost Limitation: This program does not include any program-specific limitation on administrative expenses. All administrative expenses must be reasonable and necessary and conform to Cost Principles described in 2 CFR part 200 subpart E of the Uniform Guidance.

3. Subgrantees: A grantee under this competition must award contracts and

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>FY 2022 funding amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>$1,139,436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>1,174,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>1,247,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>1,850,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The estimated number of awards is 11.
subgrants as described in Absolute Priority 2 (paragraph (3)(C) under Statutory Requirements, Use of Funds). See section 654(c) of IDEA.

4. Other General Requirements:
Recipients of funding under this competition must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities (see section 606 of IDEA).

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. Application Submission Instructions: Applicants are required to follow the Common Instructions for Applicants to Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs, published in the Federal Register on December 7, 2022 (87 FR 75045) and available at https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/12/07/2022-28554/common-instructions-for-applicants-to-department-of-education-discretionary-grant-programs, which contain requirements and information on how to submit an application. Please note that these Common Instructions supersede the version published on December 27, 2021.

2. Intergovernmental Review: This competition 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.

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

4. Recommended Page Limit: The application narrative is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. We recommend that you (1) limit the application narrative to no more than 70 pages and (2) use the following standards:
   • A “page” is 8.5” x 11”, on one side only, with 1” margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
   • Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, reference citations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, graphs, and screen shots.
   • Use a font that is 12 point or larger.
   • Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial.

   The recommended page limit does not apply to the cover sheet; the budget section; the narrative budget justification; the assurances and certifications; or the abstract (follow the guidance provided in the application package for completing the abstract), the table of contents, the list of priority requirements, the resumes, the reference list, the letters of support, or the appendices. However, the recommended page limit does apply to all of the application narrative, including all text in charts, tables, figures, graphs, and screen shots.

V. Application Review Information

1. Selection Criteria: The selection criteria for this competition are from 34 CFR 75.210 and are as follows:
   (a) Significance (20 points).
   (1) The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project.
   (2) In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
      (i) The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project, including the nature and magnitude of those gaps or weaknesses.
      (ii) The extent to which the training or professional development services to be provided by the proposed project are of sufficient quality, intensity, and duration to lead to improvements in practice among the recipients of those services.
      (iii) The likelihood that the proposed project will result in system change or improvement.
   (b) Quality of the project design (25 points).
   (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project.
   (2) In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
      (i) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable.
      (ii) The extent to which the design of the proposed project is appropriate to, and will successfully address, the needs of the target population or other identified needs.
      (iii) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project involve the collaboration of appropriate partners for maximizing the effectiveness of project services.
      (iv) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice.
      (v) The extent to which the proposed project will establish linkages with other appropriate agencies and organizations providing services to the target population.
   (c) Quality of the project personnel (10 points).
      (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.
      (2) In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.
   (3) In addition, the Secretary considers the qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.
   (d) Adequacy of resources and management plan (20 points).
      (1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources and management plan for the proposed project.
      (2) In determining the adequacy of resources and management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
         (i) The relevance and demonstrated commitment of each partner in the proposed project to the implementation and success of the project.
         (ii) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project.
         (iii) 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.
         (iv) How the applicant will ensure that a diversity of perspectives are brought to bear in the operation of the proposed project, including those of parents, teachers, the business community, a variety of disciplinary and professional fields, recipients or beneficiaries of services, or others, as appropriate.
         (v) The potential for continued support of the project after Federal funding ends, including, as appropriate, the demonstrated commitment of appropriate entities to such support.
   (e) Quality of the project evaluation (25 points).
      (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project.
      (2) In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project.

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 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 (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

3. Additional Review and Selection Process Factors: In the past, the Department has had difficulty finding peer reviewers for certain competitions because so many individuals who are eligible to serve as peer reviewers have conflicts of interest. The standing panel requirements under section 682(b) of IDEA also have placed additional constraints on the availability of reviewers. Therefore, the Department has determined that for some discretionary grant competitions, applications may be separated into two or more groups and ranked and selected for funding within specific groups. This procedure will make it easier for the Department to find peer reviewers by ensuring that greater numbers of individuals eligible to serve as reviewers for any particular group of applicants will not have conflicts of interest. It also will increase the quality, independence, and fairness of the review process, while permitting panel members to review applications under discretionary grant competitions for which they also have submitted applications.

4. Risk Assessment and Specific Conditions: Consistent with 2 CFR 200.200, before awarding grants under this competition the Department conducts a review of the risks posed by applicants. Under 2 CFR 200.208, the Secretary may impose specific conditions and, under 2 CFR 3474.10, in appropriate circumstances, high-risk 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 2 CFR part 200, subpart D; has not fulfilled the conditions of a prior grant; or is otherwise unacceptable.

5. Integrity and Performance System: If you are selected under this competition to receive an award that over the course of the project period may exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (currently $250,000), under 2 CFR 200.206(a)(2) we must make a judgment about your integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards—that is, the risk posed by you as an applicant—before we make an award. In doing so, we must consider any information about you that is in the integrity and performance system (currently referred to as the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)), accessible through the System for Award Management. You may review and comment on any information about yourself that a Federal agency previously entered and that is currently in FAPIIS.

Please note that, if the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from the Federal Government exceeds $10,000,000, the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 200, Appendix XII, require you to report certain integrity information to FAPIIS semiannually. Please review the requirements in 2 CFR part 200, Appendix XII, if this grant plus all the other Federal funds you receive exceed $10,000,000.

6. In General: In accordance with the Office of Management and Budget’s guidance located at 2 CFR part 200, all applicable Federal laws, and relevant Executive guidance, the Department will review and consider applications for funding pursuant to this notice inviting applications in accordance with:

(a) Selecting recipients most likely to be successful in delivering results based on the program objectives through an objective process of evaluating Federal award applications (2 CFR 200.205);
(b) Prohibiting the purchase of certain telecommunication and video surveillance services or equipment in alignment with section 889 of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2019 (Pub. L. 115–232) (2 CFR 200.216);
(c) Providing a preference, to the extent permitted by law, to maximize use of goods, products, and materials produced in the United States (2 CFR 200.322); and
(d) Terminating agreements in whole or in part to the greatest extent authorized by law if an award no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities (2 CFR 200.340).

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); or we may send you an email containing a link to access an electronic version of your 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 of 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. Open Licensing Requirements: Unless an exception applies, if you are awarded a grant under this competition, you will be required to openly license to the public grants created in whole, or in part, with Department grant funds. When the deliverable consists of modifications to pre-existing works, the license extends only to those modifications that can be separately identified and only to the extent that open licensing is permitted under the terms of any licenses or other legal restrictions on the use of pre-existing works. Additionally, a grantee or subgrantee that is awarded competitive grant funds must have a plan to disseminate these public grant deliverables. This dissemination plan can be developed and submitted after your application has been reviewed and selected for funding. For additional information on the open licensing requirements please refer to 2 CFR 3474.20.

4. 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 multiyear 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 www.ed.gov/
5. Performance Measures: For the purposes of Department reporting under 34 CFR 75.110, we have established a set of performance measures, including long-term measures, that are designed to yield information on various aspects of the effectiveness and quality of the SPDG program. These measures assess the extent to which—

- Projects use professional development practices supported by evidence to support the attainment of identified competencies;
- Participants in SPDG professional development demonstrate improvement in implementation of SPDG-supported practices over time;
- Projects use SPDG professional development funds to provide activities designed to sustain the use of SPDG-supported practices; and
- Projects improve outcomes for children with disabilities.

Each grantee funded under this competition must collect and annually report data related to its performance on these measures in the project’s annual and final performance report to the Department in accordance with section 653(d) of IDEA and 34 CFR 75.590. Applicants should discuss in the application narrative how they propose to collect performance data for these measures.

6. Continuation Awards: In making a continuing award under 34 CFR 75.253, the Secretary considers, among other things: whether a grantee has made substantial progress in achieving the goals and objectives of the project; whether the grantee has expended funds in a manner that is consistent with its approved application and budget; and, if the Secretary has established performance measurement requirements, whether the grantee has made substantial progress in achieving the performance targets in the grantee’s approved application.

In making a continuation award, 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. Other Information

Accessible Format: On request to the program contact person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT, an individual with a disability can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an accessible format. The Department will provide the requestor with an accessible format that may include Rich Text Format (RTF) or text format (txt), a thumb drive, an MP3 file, braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc, or other accessible format.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. You may access the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations at www.govinfo.gov. 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 Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the Federal Register by using the article search feature at www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Katherine Neas,
Deputy Assistant Secretary. Delegated the authority to perform the functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 2022–27367 Filed 12–16–22; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
[Docket No.: ED–2022–SCC–0123]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Liquidation Extension Request Template

AGENCY: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Department is proposing an extension without change of a currently approved information collection request (ICR).

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 18, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for proposed information collection requests should be submitted within 30 days of publication of this notice. Click on this link www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain to access the site. Find this information collection request (ICR) by selecting “Department of Education” under “Currently Under Review,” then check the “Only Show ICR for Public Comment” checkbox. Reginfo.gov provides two links to view documents related to this information collection request. Information collection forms and instructions may be found by clicking on the “View Information Collection (IC) List” link. Supporting statements and other supporting documentation may be found by clicking on the “View Supporting Statement and Other Documents” link.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Jennifer Ceccarini, 202–987–1305.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: Liquidation Extension Request Template.

OMB Control Number: 1810–0771.

Type of Review: An extension without change of a currently approved ICR.

Respondents/Affected Public: State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 104.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 2,080.

Abstract: This is a request for approval for an extension of the OMB approved 1810–0771 collection by the Office of State and Grantee Relations (SGR) in the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) at the U.S. Department of Education (ED) for the Elementary and Secondary School Education Relief (ESSER) fund and the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) fund authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act of 2020, Public Law 116–136, Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). The CARES–ESSER (ALN 84.425D) program is a $13 billion formula grant program allocated to State educational agencies (SEA) for use in responding to