



Student Service Updates

Letter from the Director

Greetings!

We are very pleased to issue this edition of *Student Service Updates*. It is filled with a fiscal year (FY) 2012 grant award summary, Department of Education (Department) updates, the announcement of our new Acting Assistant Secretary, and other relevant information. I would like to highlight the grant award summary for each of the Student Service programs on page 2. This chart was the best way to summarize the hard work conducted by staff during FY 2012. Please note that the Department understands the importance of awarding grants on a timely basis and the impact on grantees, new applicants, and most importantly, the students served by the projects funded under the Student Service Area. My office was committed to addressing the challenges of making timely grant awards in FY 2012 for all of our programs, and I am happy to say that this task was accomplished.

In an effort to more strategically align programs administered by Student Service with overarching reform strategies for postsecondary completion, the Department utilized several competitive preference priorities (CPPs) for the FY 2012 competitions to include: Turning Around Persistently Lowest-Achieving Schools; Enabling More Data-Based Decision-Making; and Improving Productivity. These are three examples of priorities from the Department's Notice of Final Supplemental Priorities and definitions for discretionary grant programs, published in the Federal Register on December 15, 2010 (75 FR 78486), and corrected on May 12, 2011 (76 FR 27637) that were used during FY 2012.

We are looking forward to learning about how you will implement each of the abovementioned CPPs to enhance your program. Please share your best practices with your program specialist. As we forge ahead into FY 2013, we are uncompromisingly committed to our mission and supporting each program to meet its goals and objectives.

We wish you all a wonderful holiday season and a happy New Year.

Sincerely,

/signed/

Linda Byrd-Johnson, Ph.D.
Senior Director, Student Service

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Fiscal Year 2012 Student Service Award Summary

Program	Number and Amount of <u>New Awards</u>	Number and Amount of <u>Non-Competing Continuation (NCC) Awards</u>	Total Number and Amount of <u>All Awards Made in FY 2012</u>
Upward Bound	773 new awards \$248,059,590	53 NCC awards \$20,076,715***	826 total awards \$268,136,305
Upward Bound Math and Science	144 new awards \$38,308,587	22 NCC awards \$5,832,823	166 total awards \$44,141,410
Veterans Upward Bound	40 new awards \$11,440,020	11 NCC awards \$2,952,357	51 total awards \$14,392,377
Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement	132 new awards \$31,331,156	26 NCC awards \$5,939,218	158 total awards \$37,270,374
Educational Opportunity Centers	25 new awards* \$9,977,679	101 NCC awards \$35,924,113	126 total awards \$45,901,792
Student Support Services	7 new awards* \$2,552,193	1,021 NCC awards \$287,773,617	1,028 total awards \$290,325,810
Talent Search	43 new awards* \$14,246,522	411 NCC awards \$121,722,130	454 total awards \$135,968,652
TRIO Training	6 new awards \$1,399,998	n/a	6 total awards \$1,399,998
GEAR UP	11 new awards** \$35,584,771	121 NCC awards \$254,218,175	132 total awards \$289,802,946
College Access Challenge Grants	46 new awards \$119,904,072	n/a	46 total awards \$119,904,072
Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need	136 new awards \$21,278,138	64 NCC awards \$9,328,620	200 total awards \$30,606,758
Javits	n/a	87 NCC awards \$7,286,018	87 total awards \$7,286,018
CCAMPIS	n/a	153 NCC awards \$15,969,760	153 total awards \$15,969,760

*No competition was held in FY 2012; new awards were made to grantees that were successful under the FY 2010 (SSS) or FY 2011 (TS and EOC) competitions, but who had one or more years remaining on a previous grant award before commencing their new grant cycle.

**No competition was held in FY 2012; new awards were made by funding down the FY 2011 slate.

***FY 2011 funds were used to forward fund three of the UB NCCs for the 2012-13 project year. The NCC dollars shown are only FY 2012 funds.



David A. Bergeron is currently serving as the Acting Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education in the U.S. Department of Education. In this position, David acts as the secretary's chief advisor on higher education issues and administers more than 60 programs, totaling nearly \$3 billion annually, that are designed to provide financial assistance to institutions of higher education and community based organizations.

David also continues to serve as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Planning and Innovation for the Office of Postsecondary Education. In this position, David is responsible for the program budget for the Federal postsecondary education programs administered by the Office of

Postsecondary Education and Federal Student Aid which generates more than \$160 billion in financial aid to more than 25 million students enrolled at public and private postsecondary institutions. David is also responsible for legislative, regulatory, and other policies affecting the Department's postsecondary education programs including Federal Student Aid. In this capacity he has led key policy groups who worked on the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, researched market-based approaches to loan subsidies under the guaranteed loan programs, and approved program regulations and other policy guidelines.

Prior to joining the Department, David received his bachelor's of arts in political science and sociology from the University of Rhode Island and worked for a bank in consumer loans.

Three Anniversaries for Higher Education

This year marks the 40th anniversaries of three important higher education landmarks. *Pell Grants*, originally known as Basic Educational Opportunity Grants (BEOG), have helped approximately 60 million students pursue higher education since their inception. *Title IX* prohibits gender discrimination in higher education, which has created more opportunities for women to succeed inside and outside the classroom. *The Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education* (FIPSE) has supported innovative projects to improve postsecondary education and is now being reinvented to manage the First in the World Initiative which, if funded, would provide funds to encourage innovation in postsecondary education.

Hurricane Sandy Information

Our thoughts and prayers are with those recently impacted by Hurricane Sandy.

The Department has established a toll-free Hurricane Sandy Hotline (**1-855-385-9985**) and Hurricane Sandy email address (EdSchoolInfo@ed.gov).

The purposes of the hotline and email address are to provide answers to questions, make references to helpful resources, and share information.

The Department is working closely with other federal agencies, such as FEMA, HHS, and USDA, to ensure continuation of critical services to students, families, and educators and the restoration of the learning environment.

For more information, please visit:

www.ed.gov/sandy

Serving our Veterans

On Wednesday August 1, 2012, the Department of Education hosted a one-day meeting to collect the most successful strategies for improving college success rates among military veterans. Representatives from the Veterans Upward Bound Program, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and newly funded projects under the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education's Centers for Excellence in Veterans Student Success prepared a list of specific recommendations to inform an interagency approach towards better collegiate transitions and completion rates. Specifically, key recommendations put forth include: strategies for boosting recruitment and overall awareness of available college options; retention strategies alongside plans for tailored staff and faculty professional development; and promising approaches towards effectively dealing with psycho-social post-war issues.



Save the Date: 2013 Project Directors' Meeting

As we informed you via an email message, the Office of Postsecondary Education's (OPE) Higher Education Programs (HEP) is pleased to announce the 2013 Project Directors' (PD) Meeting that will be held March 26 – 28, 2013 in Washington, DC. Project directors are strongly encouraged to attend this upcoming meeting.

The HEP PD Meeting will bring together hundreds of HEP grantees to meet with their ED representatives and national experts on ideas and issues that will help to ensure the projects' long-term sustainability. This meeting is developed specifically for each grantee's project director or equivalent primary contact person (i.e., the project staff person who is authoritatively appointed and responsible for the day-to-day supervision and performance of the grant award). We will be sending you more information about this important meeting in December.

Civic Engagement Initiative

At a White House event this past January, the Obama Administration released its Road Map for civic learning, "Advancing Civic Learning and Engagement in Democracy." The Road Map outlines nine steps the Department is undertaking to increase civic learning and engagement across our country.

The Civic Learning and Engagement Initiative is requesting feedback from you on how we should implement 4 of the 9 steps and define "civic learning and engagement." (*See the full Road Map document, linked in the paragraph above, to access information on all nine steps.*) We encourage educators, practitioners, students, researchers, and any other interested parties to submit thoughtful opinions, ideas, suggestions and comments. Please submit all comments by November 30th to civiclearning@ed.gov or post them on directly on the [blog](#).

New Online Tool: Net Price Calculator

The Department recently unveiled a new tool for aspiring college students – the net price calculator. This online calculator goes beyond an institution's sticker price and factors in grants and scholarship aid to provide families with a much clearer understanding of out of pocket costs.

For more information on the net price calculator, please visit: <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/netpricecalculator/>

For more information on the Federal Student Loan Reduction or Forgiveness Program, please visit:
<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pslf.html>

Update on 2011-2012 Annual Performance Reports

Talent Search

The Department has revised the annual performance report (APR) for the Talent Search (TS) program to address statutory changes to the program and the new standard objectives for the 2011-2016 grant cycle. In addition, the new APR is designed to improve transparency in the calculation of prior experience (PE) points and to ultimately provide TS grantees with their PE points at the time of the APR submission. The Department expects to be able to give TS grantees their PE scores annually beginning next year with the fall 2013 APR data collection (reporting year 2012-13).

The Department takes this opportunity to acknowledge those grantees that provided constructive feedback during both public commenting periods. Based on grantee feedback, the Department made several changes to the draft form to reduce burden and improve the data collection and reporting processes. TS grantees must use this new form beginning with the 2011-12 reporting year. The new Web application will be available November 1; the due date for submitting the APR is November 30, 2012.

Student Support Services

The SSS APR was revised for the 2010-2015 grant cycle; the 2011-12 reporting year is the second year SSS grantees will use this new form. In developing this new APR, the Department made a number of changes to the form and data collection process so that

with the 2011-12 reporting year, SSS grantees will receive their PE scores annually at the time of the APR submission. To ensure that SSS grantees have a full understanding of the PE calculations, the Department is planning to conduct a webinar for SSS grantees in early December 2012 and will also delay the due date for submitting the 2011-12 APR. The Department expects that the Web application will be available in early January 2013; the due date for submitting the 2011-12 APR will be mid-February 2013.

Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC)

As with the TS program, the Department is revising the APR for the EOC program to address statutory changes to the program and the new standard objectives for the 2011-2016 grant cycle. In addition, the new APR is designed to improve transparency in the calculation of prior experience (PE) points and to ultimately provide EOC grantees with their PE points at the time of the APR submission. The Department expects to be able to give EOC grantees their PE scores annually beginning next year with the fall 2013 APR data collection (reporting year 2012-13). A notice requesting public comments on the revised APR will be published in the Federal Register in late November. The Department encourages EOC projects to review the draft APR and to submit comments. The APR will not be approved before spring 2013; therefore, EOC projects will not be able to submit their APR for 2011-12 until late spring/early summer 2013.

Important Dates for the 2011-12 APRs		
Program	Web Application Available	APR Due Date
SSS	Mid-January 2013	Mid-February 2013
UB	November 14, 2012	December 12, 2012
UBMS	November 14, 2012	December 31, 2012
VUB	November 14, 2012	December 12, 2012
McNair	December 3, 2012	January 4, 2013
TS	November 1, 2012	November 30, 2012
EOC	Spring 2013	Late spring/early summer 2013

Please fill out your APR completely and truthfully. It is of the utmost importance that the data collected be an accurate reflection of the accomplishments of your project. APR data are used to guide important policy decisions and demonstrate the effectiveness of Student Service programs. Please keep this in mind as you complete your APR.



Upward Bound Alumni Encounter

Over 40 years after he took part in the Upward Bound Program at Lock Haven State Teachers College in Pennsylvania, Marv Solomon recently wrote to the Department of Education describing the lifelong impact of the experience. Please see below for Mr. Solomon's thoughtful letter; he also provided a photograph of his Upward Bound class!

Dear Upward Bound Staff:

My name is Marv Solomon and I am an Upward Bound *alumnus* from the very origins of the program. I grew up in Clearfield, PA, and participated in the early Upward Bound program at Lock Haven State Teachers College in the summers of 1966 and 1967. I'm not sure when Upward Bound began, but I'm sure it was still in its infancy at this time.

I am currently residing in Dover, DE. Last evening, after dining at the Elks club, my wife introduced herself to an visiting Elk who was sitting at the bar. She returned to our table and informed me that this gentleman was from St. Mary's, PA, and was working in Dover for a few weeks. A while later, I wanted to introduce myself to this fellow Elk. When he turned to greet me, I knew immediately that his name was Joe Kopp, and he had participated in Upward Bound with me 44 years earlier. Talk about being blown over with a feather! My wife just stood in disbelief as Joe and I reminisced about the "old days" and our chance meeting in Delaware. We exchanged phone numbers and hope to keep in touch. [Update: The two did meet up several weeks later, and Mr. Kopp shared with Mr. Solomon a photo album he has of the Summer of '66 Upward Bound students at Lock Haven.]

Upward Bound changed my life in so many ways. I would never have gone on to college and subsequently a 35 year teaching career without the UB experience. I know that educators and administrators don't often get the praise or the "pat on the back" that they deserve. Goodness, it has taken me over forty years to finally send this letter of gratitude!

Thank you, Upward Bound, for being such an influence in my life.

To the current staff and administration, please know that you do make a difference in the lives of so many students.

God Bless!

Marv Solomon



Tell us about your notable activities and shining stars!

We would love to hear about student or alumni accomplishments, interesting or notable project activities, or other project success stories.

Please send an email to ReShone.Moore@ed.gov with any submissions!

Important Dates

Please see page 5 for important Annual Performance Report deadlines.

Questions, comments, or ideas for future SS Updates? Please send an email to ReShone.Moore@ed.gov