

Archived Information
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Postsecondary Education
Washington, DC 20006-6078



Fiscal Year 2014

**APPLICATION FOR GRANTS
UNDER THE
LANGUAGE RESOURCE CENTERS PROGRAM
(CFDA NUMBER: 84.229A)**

CLOSING DATE: July 9, 2014

Form Approved
OMB No. 1840-0808, Exp. Date: 05/31/2017

**Application for New Awards Under the
Language Resource Centers (LRC) Program
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Standard Instructions (Included for reference, Official instructions found on Grants.gov)

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Grants.gov Lobbying Form (formerly ED 80-0013)

- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF LLL)

Standard Forms (found on Grants.gov)

Dear Applicant Letter



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in applying for a grant in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 competition for new awards under the Language Resource Centers (LRC) program. The LRC program provides grants to institutions of higher education to establish, strengthen and operate centers that serve as resources for improving the nation's capacity for teaching and learning foreign languages.

This letter highlights a few items in the FY 2014 application package that will be important to you in applying for grants under this program. You should review the entire application package carefully before preparing and submitting your application. Information on the LRC program is accessible at the U.S. Department of Education's Web site at:

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/iegpslrc/index.html>

The Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards published in the Federal Register is the official document that contains the guidance for preparing an LRC grant application. You should not rely upon any information that is inconsistent with the guidance contained in the official document. Applicants who have general questions concerning the LRC program are encouraged to submit their questions, via e-mail, to LRC@ed.gov. We encourage applicants to review the **Competition Highlights** found in the application package for an overview of important items.

Applications for grants under the LRC program must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov system. A detailed description of how to apply using this system is included in the FR notice. You are urged to acquaint yourself with the requirements of this system early. You may access the grants.gov system through its portal page at:

<http://www.grants.gov>

After you have submitted your application electronically, you will receive an e-mail with your assigned PR award number confirming that your application was received. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

Finally, I would like to emphasize the importance of ensuring that your application includes a strong evaluation plan. The peer reviewers will be instructed to look closely at each applicant's evaluation plan. Applicants must clearly state the performance goals and performance measures for their projects.

We look forward to receiving your application and appreciate your efforts to promote excellence in international education.

Sincerely,

/Signed/

Lenore Yaffee Garcia
Acting Senior Director
International and Foreign Language Education
Office of Postsecondary Education

Competition Highlights

1. For the FY 2014 competition, the Department is particularly interested in applications that meet the following priorities:

Competitive Preference Priority #1: Applications that propose activities that focus on any of the 78 priority languages selected from the U.S. Department of Education's list of Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTLs). We will award an additional five points to an application that meets this priority.

The list includes the following:

Akan (Twi-Fante), Albanian, Amharic, Arabic (all dialects), Armenian, Azeri (Azerbaijani), Balochi, Bamanakan (Bamana, Bambara, Mandikan, Mandingo, Maninka, Dyula), Belarusian, Bengali (Bangla), Berber (all languages), Bosnian, Bulgarian, Burmese, Cebuano (Visayan), Chechen, Chinese (Cantonese), Chinese (Gan), Chinese (Mandarin), Chinese (Min), Chinese (Wu), Croatian, Dari, Dinka, Georgian, Gujarati, Hausa, Hebrew (Modern), Hindi, Igbo, Indonesian, Japanese, Javanese, Kannada, Kashmiri, Kazakh, Khmer (Cambodian), Kirghiz, Korean, Kurdish (Kurmanji), Kurdish (Sorani), Lao, Malay (Bahasa Melayu or Malaysian), Malayalam, Marathi, Mongolian, Nepali, Oromo, Panjabi, Pashto, Persian (Farsi), Polish, Portuguese (all varieties), Quechua, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Sinhala (Sinhalese), Somali, Swahili, Tagalog, Tajik, Tamil, Telugu, Thai, Tibetan, Tigrigna, Turkish, Turkmen, Ukrainian, Urdu, Uyghur/Uigur, Uzbek, Vietnamese, Wolof, Xhosa, Yoruba, and Zulu.

Competitive Preference Priority #2: Applications that propose significant and sustained collaborative activities with one or more Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) (as defined in this notice) or with one or more community colleges (as defined in this notice).

These activities must be designed to incorporate foreign languages into the curriculum at the MSI(s) or community college(s), and to improve foreign language instruction at the MSI(s) or community college(s). If an applicant institution is an MSI or a community college (as defined in this notice), that institution can meet the intent of this priority by proposing intra--campus collaborative activities instead of, or in addition to, collaborative activities with other MSIs and/or community colleges.

- **Minority-Serving Institution (MSI):** means an institution that is eligible to receive assistance under sections 316 through 320 of part A or under part B of Title III or under Title V of the HEA.
- **Community college** is defined in section 312(f) of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1058(f); or an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1001)) that awards degrees and certificates, more than 50% of which are not

bachelor's degrees (or an equivalent); or master's , professional, or other advanced degrees.

We will award up to an additional 5 points to an application that meets this priority. Further information on this priority is located under the "Selection Criteria" section of this application.

Invitational Priority #1: Applications from new applicants (as defined in the Federal Register notice).

New applicant refers to applicants who have not received a grant from the LRC program, either as an individual institution or as a member of a consortium, during the last two funding cycles (FY 2006-2009, FY 2010-2013).

Invitational Priority #2: Heritage Language Programs and Projects. Applications that propose programs or projects that engage in collaborative activities with heritage language centers or schools to support the language maintenance and development of heritage language speakers.

Note: For the purpose of the LRC Program, a heritage language speaker is a person who grew up using the language at home or received K-12 education in the language.

- **Please note that these priorities are explained in detail in the Federal Register notice contained in this application package. You are urged to review the Federal Register notice carefully before preparing your application.**
2. The project abstract is limited to one page, single-spaced. The abstract should include information about the proposed project, the project methodology and the final product of the grant. The abstract must be uploaded into the ED abstract form as part of the e-application.
 3. Please note that you must submit your application by 4:30:00 p.m. (Washington, D.C. time) on or before the application deadline date. Late applications will not be accepted. **We suggest that you submit your application several days before the deadline.** The Department is required to enforce the established deadline to ensure fairness to all applicants. No changes or additions to an application will be accepted after the deadline date and time.
 4. Electronic submission of applications is required; therefore, you must submit an electronic application unless you follow the procedures outlined in the Federal Register notice inviting applications for new awards for FY 2014 and qualify for one of the exceptions to the electronic submission requirement.

5. All applicants are required to adhere to the 50-page limit for the Program Narrative portion of the application. The Federal Register notice contains the specific standards and instructions for preparing the Program Narrative.
6. All attachments must be in .DOC, .RTF, or .PDF format. Other types of files will not be accepted, which may result in your application being rejected.

You are reminded that the document published in the Federal Register is the official document, and that you should not rely upon any information that is inconsistent with the guidelines contained within the official document.

Introduction & Overview of the LRC Program

Authorization

Title VI, Part A, sections 601 and 603 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended.

Program Regulations

Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99. The regulations for this program are in 34 CFR parts 655 and 669.

Purpose

The Language Resource Centers Program makes awards for the purpose of establishing, strengthening, and operating centers that serve as resources for improving the nation's capacity for teaching and learning foreign languages effectively.

Eligible Applicants

Institutions of higher education or a combination of institutions of higher education are eligible to receive an award.

Activities Funded Under this Program

Centers must carry out activities to improve the teaching and learning of foreign languages. These efforts must include effective dissemination efforts, whenever appropriate, and may include—

- a) The conduct and dissemination of research on new and improved methods for teaching foreign languages, including the use of advanced educational technology;
- b) The development and dissemination of new materials for teaching foreign languages, to reflect the results of research on effective teaching strategies;
- c) The development, application and dissemination of performance testing that is appropriate for use in an educational setting to be used as a standard and comparable measurement of skill levels in foreign languages;
- d) The training of teachers in the administration and interpretation of foreign language performance tests, the use of effective teaching strategies and the use of new technologies;
- e) A significant focus on the teaching and learning needs of the less commonly taught languages, including an assessment of the strategic needs of the United States, the determination of ways to meet those needs nationally and the publication and dissemination of instructional materials in the less commonly taught languages;
- f) The development and dissemination of materials designed to serve as a resource for foreign language teachers at the elementary and secondary school levels; and
- g) The operation of intensive summer language institutes to train advanced foreign language students, to provide professional development and to improve language instruction through pre-service and ins-service language training for teachers.

Supplemental Information

The following information supplements the information provided in the “Dear Applicant” letter and the Federal Register notice.

1. Grants.gov

LRC applications submitted for FY 2014 must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov system. You are urged to acquaint yourself with the requirements of Grants.gov early as the registration procedures may require five or more days to complete. More complete information is found in the Federal Register Notice and in this application package under “Submission Procedures and Tips for Applicants”. Grants.gov is accessible through its portal page at:

<http://www.grants.gov>

Grants.gov does not allow applicants to un-submit applications. Therefore, if you discover that changes or additions are needed once your application has been accepted and validated by the Department, you must resubmit the application. You should know that if the Department receives duplicate applications, we will accept and process the application with the latest date and time received validation.

Please note, once you download an application from Grants.gov, you will be working offline and saving data on your computer. Please be sure to note where you are saving the Grants.gov file on your computer. You will need to log on to Grants.gov to upload and submit the application

2. Evaluation of Applications for Awards

A three-member panel of non-federal reviewers reviews each application. Each reviewer will prepare a written evaluation of the application and assign points for each selection criterion.

3. Selection of Grantees

The Secretary will select an application for funding in rank order, based on the application’s total score for the selection criteria. If there are insufficient funds to fund all applications with the same total score, the Secretary will choose among the tied applications using Criterion #1: Need for the Project as a tiebreaker.

4. Applicant Funding

The Department is often unable to award the full amount of funds requested. Applicants should pay close attention to the “Maximum Award” section of the Federal Register notice. The Department will not fund any application at an amount exceeding the applicable maximum award level.

5. Notice to Successful Applicants

The Department's Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs will inform the Congress regarding applicants approved for new LRC grants. Successful applicants will receive award notices by mail shortly after the Congress is notified. No funding information will be released before the Congress is notified. For the FY 2014 competition, notification will occur no later than September 2014.

6. Notice to Unsuccessful Applicants

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing following the notice to successful applicants.

7. Performance Reports

All LRC grantees must submit project performance reports using the International Resource Information System (IRIS) electronic reporting system. If you wish to view the performance report currently required, visit the IRIS website at <http://iris.ed.gov/iris/pdfs/LRC.pdf> . Please be advised that the report is for informational purposes only, and does not reflect the actual reporting instrument that you will use, should you receive a FY 2014 grant award. The performance report will assist IFLE staff in determining whether or not the LRC project is making substantial progress toward meeting the approved project objectives and whether or not a continuation award, if applicable, is in the best interest of the federal government. Project Directors will be responsible for overall project reports as well as entering any additional data into the IRIS website. The IRIS reporting instrument includes sections for grantees to input data and information that respond to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) to assess overall program performance.

8. Estimated Funding and Project Period

- Estimated Available Funds: \$2,746,768
- Estimated Average Award: \$183,118
- Estimated Number of Awards: 15
- Project Period for New Awards: Up to 48 months

Applicants are limited to 8% indirect costs. The U.S. Department of Education is not bound by these estimates.

9. Appendices to Applications

Please limit the appendices to the following:

- a. The curricula vitae of key personnel and professional staff directly involved in the applicant's program;
- b. A timeline of project activities for the duration of the grant;
- c. Letters of support; and
- d. A table of objectives that will guide project activities for the FY 2014-2017 performance period.

10. Selection Criteria

The selection criteria in 34 CFR sections 655.31 and 669.21 are used to evaluate applications. The selection criteria and maximum possible points are included in the Notice.

11. Performance Period

The estimated grant performance period for the FY 2014 grant cycle is from September 15, 2014 to September 14, 2015.

For LRC program-related questions and assistance, please contact

Senior Program Officer: Tanyelle H. Richardson
Address: International and Foreign Language Education
U.S. Department of Education
1990 K Street, N.W., Room 6099
Washington, D.C. 20006-6078
Telephone: (202) 502-7626
Fax: (202) 502-7859
E-mail Address: tanyelle.richardson@ed.gov

Senior Program Officer: Pamela Maimer, Ph.D.
Address: International and Foreign Language Education
U.S. Department of Education
1990 K Street, N.W., Room 6100
Washington, D.C. 20006-6078
Telephone: (202) 502-7704
Fax: (202) 502-7859
E-mail Address: pamela.maimer@ed.gov

Federal Register Notice Inviting Applications for LRC New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2014

4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; Language Resource Centers Program

AGENCY: Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

Overview Information:

Language Resource Centers Program

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2014.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.229A.

Dates:

Applications Available: June 6, 2014.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: July 9, 2014.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The Language Resource Centers (LRC)

Program provides grants to institutions of higher education or consortia of these institutions for establishing, strengthening, and operating centers that serve as resources for improving the Nation's capacity for teaching and learning

foreign languages through teacher training, research, materials development, and dissemination projects.

Priorities: This notice contains two competitive preference priorities and two invitational priorities. Competitive Preference Priority 1 is from the regulations for this program at 34 CFR 669.22(a)(2). Competitive Preference Priority 2 is from the notice of final priorities for discretionary grant programs published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register.

Competitive Preference Priorities: For FY 2014, these priorities are competitive preference priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i) we award an additional 5 points to an application that meets Competitive Preference Priority 1; and we award up to 5 points to an application that meets Competitive Preference Priority 2, depending on how well the application meets this priority. The maximum amount of competitive preference priority points that an application can receive for this competition is 10 points.

These priorities are:

Competitive Preference Priority 1: Priority Languages selected from the U.S. Department of Education's List of Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTLs). (5 points)

Applications that propose activities that focus on any of the seventy-eight (78) priority languages selected from the U.S. Department of Education's list of Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTLs): Akan (Twi-Fante), Albanian, Amharic, Arabic (all dialects), Armenian, Azeri (Azerbaijani), Balochi, Bamanakan (Bamana, Bambara, Mandikan, Mandingo, Maninka, Dyula), Belarusian, Bengali (Bangla), Berber (all languages), Bosnian, Bulgarian, Burmese, Cebuano (Visayan), Chechen, Chinese (Cantonese), Chinese (Gan), Chinese (Mandarin), Chinese (Min), Chinese (Wu), Croatian, Dari, Dinka, Georgian, Gujarati, Hausa, Hebrew (Modern), Hindi, Igbo, Indonesian, Japanese, Javanese, Kannada, Kashmiri, Kazakh, Khmer (Cambodian), Kirghiz, Korean, Kurdish (Kurmanji), Kurdish (Sorani), Lao, Malay (Bahasa Melayu or Malaysian), Malayalam, Marathi, Mongolian, Nepali, Oromo, Panjabi, Pashto, Persian (Farsi), Polish, Portuguese (all varieties), Quechua, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Sinhala (Sinhalese), Somali, Swahili, Tagalog, Tajik, Tamil, Telugu, Thai, Tibetan, Tigrigna, Turkish, Turkmen, Ukrainian, Urdu, Uyghur/Uigur, Uzbek, Vietnamese, Wolof, Xhosa, Yoruba, and Zulu.

Competitive Preference Priority 2: Applications That Propose Significant and Sustained Collaborative Activities

With One or More Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) or Community Colleges. (up to 5 points)

Applications that propose significant and sustained collaborative activities with one or more Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) (as defined in this notice) or with one or more community colleges (as defined in this notice). These activities must be designed to incorporate foreign languages into the curriculum at the MSI(s) or community college(s), and to improve foreign language instruction at the MSI(s) or community college(s). If an applicant institution is an MSI or a community college (as defined in this notice), that institution can meet the intent of this priority by proposing intra--campus collaborative activities instead of, or in addition to, collaborative activities with other MSIs and/or community colleges.

For the purpose of this priority:

Community college means an institution that meets the definition in section 312 (f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) (20 U.S.C. 1058(f)); or an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1001)) that awards degrees and certificates, more than 50 percent of which are not bachelor's degrees (or an

equivalent) or master's, professional, or other advanced degrees.

Minority-Serving Institution means an institution that is eligible to receive assistance under sections 316 through 320 of part A of Title III, under part B of Title III, or under Title V of the HEA.

You may view lists of Title III and Title V eligible institutions at the following links:

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/ides/t3t5-eligibles-2014.pdf>

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/idesaitcc/tribal-newgrantees2013.pdf>

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/idesaitcc/tribal-f-nccgrantees2013.pdf>

Note: The eligibility status is still current for institutions listed at the links above. You may also view the list of Historically Black Colleges and Universities at 34 CFR 608.2.

You may also view the list of Historically Black Colleges and Universities at:

<http://www.ed.gov/edblogs/whhbcu/one-hundred-and-five-historically-black-colleges-and-universities/>.

Invitational Priorities: For FY 2014, 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: New Applicants.

Applications from applicants who have not received an LRC grant, either as an individual institution or as a member of a consortium, during the last two funding cycles (FY 2006-2009, FY 2010-2013).

Invitational Priority 2: Heritage Language Programs and Projects. Applications that propose programs or projects that engage in collaborative activities with heritage language centers or schools to support the language maintenance and development of heritage language speakers. For the purpose of the LRC program, a heritage language speaker is a person who grew up using the language at home or received K-12 education in the language.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1123.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The Education

Department debarment and suspension regulations in 2 CFR part 3485. (c) The regulations in 34 CFR part 655. (d) The regulations for the LRC program in 34 CFR part 669.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education (IHEs) only.

Area of National Need: In accordance with section 601(c) of the HEA, 20 U.S.C. 1121(c), the Secretary has consulted with and received recommendations regarding national need for expertise in foreign language and world regions from the head officials of a wide range of Federal agencies. The Secretary has taken these recommendations into account and a list of foreign languages and world regions identified by the Secretary as areas of national need may be found on the following Web site:

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/iegps/consultation-2014.pdf>.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: \$2,746,768.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$180,000 - \$200,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 15.

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

Project Period: Up to 48 months.

III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants: An institution of higher education or consortia of institutions of higher education.
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 package via the Internet or from the Education Publications Center (ED Pubs).

To obtain a copy via the Internet, use the following address: <http://grants.gov>.

To obtain a copy from ED Pubs, write, fax, or call the following: ED Pubs, U.S. Department of Education, P.O. Box 22207, Alexandria, VA 22304. Telephone, toll free: 1-877-433-7827. FAX: (703) 605-6794. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call, toll free: 1-877-576-7734.

You can contact ED Pubs at its Web site, also:

www.EDPubs.gov or at its email address:
edpubs@inet.ed.gov.

If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this program as follows: CFDA number 84.229A.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) by contacting the person listed under For Further Information Contact in section VII of this notice.

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 program.

Page Limits: The application narrative is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit the application narrative (Part III) to no more than 50 pages, 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.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, except titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions. Charts, tables, figures, and graphs in the application narrative may be single spaced and 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 and Arial Narrow) will not be accepted.
- The 50-page limit does not apply to Part I, the Application for Federal Assistance face sheet (SF 424); the supplemental information form required by the Department of Education; Part II, Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs(ED 524); Part IV, assurances, certifications, and the response to section 427 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA); the table of contents; the one-page project abstract; the appendices; or the line item budget. However, the page limit does apply to all of the application narrative section (Part III). 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.

We will reject your application if you exceed the page limit.

3. Submission Dates and Times:

Applications Available: June 6, 2014.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: July 9, 2014.

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 person 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 not subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79.

5. Funding Restrictions: See 34 CFR 664.33. We reference additional regulations outlining funding restrictions in the Applicable Regulations section of this notice.

6. Data Universal Numbering System Number, Taxpayer Identification Number, and System for Award Management:

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 System for Award Management (SAM) (formerly 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 SAM 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 by going to the following website:

<http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. A DUNS number can be created within one to two business days.

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 SAM registration process can take approximately seven business days, but may take upwards of several weeks, depending on the completeness and accuracy of the data entered into the SAM database by an entity. Thus, if you think you might want to apply for Federal financial assistance under a program administered by the Department, please allow sufficient time to obtain and register your DUNS number and TIN. We strongly recommend that you register early.

Note: Once your SAM registration is active, you will need to allow 24 to 48 hours for the information to be

available in Grants.gov and before you can submit an application through Grants.gov.

If you are currently registered with SAM, 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 registration annually. This may take three or more business days.

Information about SAM is available at www.SAM.gov. To further assist you with obtaining and registering your DUNS number and TIN in SAM or updating your existing SAM account, we have prepared a SAM.gov Tip Sheet, which you can find at: <http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/sam-faqs.html>.

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/web/grants/register.html>.

7. Other Submission Requirements: Applications for grants under this program 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 Language Resource Centers (LRC) Program, CFDA number 84.229A, must be submitted electronically using the Governmentwide Grants.gov Apply site at 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 email 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 Language Resource Center at www.Grants.gov. You must search for the downloadable application package for this program by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.229, not 84.229A).

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 program 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 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) read-only, non-modifiable format. Do not upload an interactive or fillable PDF file. If you upload a file type other than a read-only, non-modifiable 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 email. 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 for Language Resource Center Program (CFDA 84.229A) to: Tanyelle Richardson, Language Resource Center Program, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., room 6099, Washington, DC 20006-8521. FAX: (202) 502-7860.

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 84.229A)
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 84.229A)
550 12th Street, SW.
Room 7039, 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 sections 655.31, 669.21, and 669.22 and are listed in the application package.
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).

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); 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. 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 170.110(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 specified by the Secretary in 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For the LRC Program, final and annual reports must be submitted into the International Resource Information System (IRIS) online data and reporting system. You can view the performance report screens and instructions at <http://iris.ed.gov/iris/pdfs/LRC.pdf>

4. Performance Measures: The Secretary has established the following key performance measures for assessing the effectiveness of the LRC Program: percentage of LRC products or activities judged to be successful by LRC customers with respect to quality, usefulness and relevance; percentage of LRC products judged to be successful by an independent expert review panel with respect to quality, usefulness and relevance; and cost per LRC project that increased the number of training programs for K-16 instructors of LCTLs (efficiency measure).

The information provided by grantees in their performance reports submitted via the IRIS reporting system will be the source of data for these measures.

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 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 Contact

For Further Information Contact: Tanyelle H. Richardson, International and Foreign Language Education, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006-8521, Telephone: (202) 502-7626 or by email: LRC@ed.gov.

If you use a TDD or a TTY, call the Federal Relay Service, toll-free, at 1-800-877-8339.

The agency contact person does not mail application materials and does not accept applications.

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 compact disc) on request to the program contact person 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:

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 this site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the Federal Register by using the article search function at www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through

the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Dated:

/Signed/

Lynn B. Mahaffie,
Senior Director, Policy Coordination,
Development, and Accreditation Service,
delegated the authority to perform the
functions and duties of the Assistant
Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

Authorizing Legislation and Regulations

TITLE VI – INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

SEC. 601. INTERNATIONAL AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDIES.

Part A of title VI (20 U.S.C. 1121) is amended to read as follows:

PART A--INTERNATIONAL AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDIES

SEC. 601. FINDINGS; PURPOSES; CONSULTATION; SURVEY.

(a) FINDINGS- Congress finds as follows:

- (1) The security, stability, and economic vitality of the United States in a complex global era depend upon American experts in and citizens knowledgeable about world regions, foreign languages, and international affairs, as well as upon a strong research base in these areas.
- (2) Advances in communications technology and the growth of regional and global problems make knowledge of other countries and the ability to communicate in other languages more essential to the promotion of mutual understanding and cooperation among nations and their peoples.
- (3) Dramatic changes in the world's geopolitical and economic landscapes are creating needs for American expertise and knowledge about a greater diversity of less commonly taught foreign languages and nations of the world.
- (4) Systematic efforts are necessary to enhance the capacity of institutions of higher education in the United States for—
 - (A) producing graduates with international and foreign language expertise and knowledge;
 - (B) research regarding such expertise and knowledge.
- (5) Cooperative efforts among the Federal Government, institutions of higher education, and the private sector are necessary to promote the generation and dissemination of information about world regions, foreign languages, and international affairs throughout education, government, business, civic, and nonprofit sectors in the United States.

(b) PURPOSES- The purposes of this part are—

- (1)

- (A) to support centers, programs, and fellowships in institutions of higher education in the United States for producing increased numbers of trained personnel and research in foreign languages, area studies, and other international studies;
 - (B) to develop a pool of international experts to meet national needs;
 - (C) to develop and validate specialized materials and techniques for foreign language acquisition and fluency, emphasizing (but not limited to) the less commonly taught languages;
 - (D) to promote access to research and training overseas, including through linkages with overseas institutions; and
 - (E) to advance the internationalization of a variety of disciplines throughout undergraduate and graduate education;
- (2) to support cooperative efforts promoting access to and the dissemination of international and foreign language knowledge, teaching materials, and research, throughout education, government, business, civic, and nonprofit sectors in the United States, through the use of advanced technologies; and
 - (3) to coordinate the programs of the Federal Government in the areas of foreign language, area studies, and other international studies, including professional international affairs education and research.

(c) CONSULTATION. -

- (1) IN GENERAL. – The Secretary shall, prior to requesting applications for funding under this title during each grant cycle, consult with and receive recommendations regarding national need for expertise in foreign languages and world regions from the head officials of a wide range of Federal agencies.
- (2) CONSIDERING RECOMMENDATIONS; PROVIDING INFORMATION. The Secretary –
 - (A) may take into account the recommendations described in paragraph (1); and
 - (B) shall-
 - i. provide information collected under paragraph (1) when requesting applications for funding under this title; and
 - ii. make available to applicants a list of areas identified as areas of national need.

(d) SURVEY. – The Secretary shall assist grantees in developing a survey to administer to students who have completed programs under this title to determine postgraduate

employment, education, or training. All grantees, where applicable, shall administer such survey once every two years and report survey results to the Secretary.

SEC. 603 - LANGUAGE RESOURCE CENTERS

- (a) LANGUAGE RESOURCE CENTERS AUTHORIZED- The Secretary is authorized to make grants to and enter into contracts with institutions of higher education, or combinations of such institutions, for the purpose of establishing, strengthening, and operating a small number of national language resource and training centers, which shall serve as resources to improve the capacity to teach and learn foreign languages effectively.
- (b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES- The activities carried out by the centers described in subsection (a)—
- (1) shall include effective dissemination efforts, whenever appropriate; and
 - (2) may include—
 - (A) the conduct and dissemination of research on new and improved teaching methods, including the use of advanced educational technology;
 - (B) the development and dissemination of new teaching materials reflecting the use of such research in effective teaching strategies;
 - (C) the development, application, and dissemination of performance testing appropriate to an educational setting for use as a standard and comparable measurement of skill levels in all languages;
 - (D) the training of teachers in the administration and interpretation of performance tests, the use of effective teaching strategies, and the use of new technologies;
 - (E) a significant focus on the teaching and learning needs of the less commonly taught languages, including an assessment of the strategic needs of the United States, the determination of ways to meet those needs nationally, and the publication and dissemination of instructional materials in the less commonly taught languages;
 - (F) the development and dissemination of materials designed to serve as a resource for foreign language teachers at the elementary and secondary school levels; and
 - (G) the operation of intensive summer language institutes to train advanced foreign language students, to provide professional development, and to improve language instruction through preservice and inservice language training for teachers.
- (c) CONDITIONS FOR GRANTS- Grants under this section shall be made on such conditions as the Secretary determines to be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

TITLE VI – INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

SEC. 601. FINDINGS; PURPOSES; CONSULTATION; SURVEY.

Section 601 (20 U.S.C. 1121) is amended—

- (1) in the section heading, by striking “**AND PURPOSES**” and inserting “; PURPOSES; CONSULTATION; SURVEY”;
- (2) in subsection (a)(3), by striking “post-Cold War”;
- (3) in subsection (b)(1)(D), by inserting “, including through linkages with overseas institutions” before the semicolon; and
- (4)** by adding at the end the following:
 - “(c) CONSULTATION.—
 - “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, prior to requesting applications for funding under this title during each grant cycle, consult with and receive recommendations regarding national need for expertise in foreign languages and world regions from the head officials of a wide range of Federal agencies.
 - “(2) CONSIDERING RECOMMENDATIONS; PROVIDING INFORMATION.—The Secretary
 - “(A) may take into account the recommendations described in paragraph (1); and
 - “(B) shall—
 - “(i) provide information collected under paragraph (1) when requesting applications for funding under this title; and
 - “(ii) make available to applicants a list of areas identified as areas of national need.
 - “(d) SURVEY.—The Secretary shall assist grantees in developing a survey to administer to students who have completed programs under this title to determine postgraduate employment, education, or training. All grantees, where applicable, shall administer such survey once every two years and report survey results to the Secretary

SEC. 603. LANGUAGE RESOURCE CENTERS.

Section 603(c) (20 U.S.C. 1123(c)) is amended by inserting “reflect the purposes of this part and” after “shall”.

Title 34: Education

Revised as of September 25, 2009

PART 655—INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Subpart A—General

§ 655.1 Which programs do these regulations govern?

§ 655.3 What regulations apply to the International Education Programs?

§ 655.4 What definitions apply to the International Education Programs?

Subpart B—What Kinds of Projects Does the Secretary Assist?

§ 655.10 What kinds of projects does the Secretary assist?

Subpart C [Reserved]

Subpart D—How Does the Secretary Make a Grant?

§ 655.30 How does the Secretary evaluate an application?

§ 655.31 What general selection criteria does the Secretary use?

§ 655.32 What additional factors does the Secretary consider in making grant awards?

Authority: 20 U.S.C 1121–1130b, unless otherwise noted.

Source: 47 FR 14116, Apr. 1, 1982, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General

§ 655.1 Which programs do these regulations govern?

The regulations in this part govern the administration of the following programs in international education:

- (a) The National Resource Centers Program for Foreign Language and Area Studies or Foreign Language and International Studies (section 602 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended);
- (b) The Language Resource Centers Program (section 603);
- (c) The Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program (section 604);
- (d) The International Research and Studies Program (section 605); and
- (e) The Business and International Education Program (section 613).

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1121–1130b)

[47 FR 14116, Apr. 1, 1982, as amended at 58 FR 32575, June 10, 1993; 64 FR 7739, Feb. 16, 1999]

§ 655.3 What regulations apply to the International Education Programs?

The following regulations apply to the International Education Programs:

- (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) as follows:
 - (1) 34 CFR part 74 (Administration of Grants to Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Nonprofit Organizations).
 - (2) 34 CFR part 75 (Direct Grant Programs).
 - (3) 34 CFR part 77 (Definitions that Apply to Department Regulations).
 - (4) 34 CFR part 79 (Intergovernmental Review of Department of Education Programs and Activities), except that part 79 does not apply to 34 CFR parts 660, 669, and 671.
 - (5) 34 CFR part 82 (New Restrictions on Lobbying).
 - (6) 34 CFR part 85 (Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)).
 - (7) 34 CFR part 86 (Drug-Free Schools and Campuses).
- (b) The regulations in this part 655; and
- (c) As appropriate, the regulations in—
 - (1) 34 CFR part 656 (National Resource Centers Program for Foreign Language and Area Studies or Foreign Language and International Studies);
 - (2) 34 CFR part 657 (Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships Program);
 - (3) 34 CFR part 658 (Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program);
 - (4) 34 CFR part 660 (International Research and Studies Program);
 - (5) 34 CFR part 661 (Business and International Education Program); and
 - (6) 34 CFR part 669 (Language Resource Centers Program).

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1121–1127; 1221e–3)

[47 FR 14116, Apr. 1, 1982, as amended at 58 FR 32575, June 10, 1993; 64 FR 7739, Feb. 16, 1999]

§ 655.4 What definitions apply to the International Education Programs?

(a) *Definitions in EDGAR.* The following terms used in this part and 34 CFR parts 656, 657, 658, 660, 661, and 669 are defined in 34 CFR part 77:

Acquisition
Applicant
Application
Award
Budget
Contract
EDGAR
Equipment
Facilities
Fiscal year
Grant
Grantee
Grant period
Local educational agency
Nonprofit
Project
Project period
Grant period
Private
Public
Secretary
State educational agency
Supplies

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1121–1127)

(b) *Definitions that apply to these programs:* The following definitions apply to International Education Programs:

Consortium of institutions of higher education means a group of institutions of higher education that have entered into a cooperative arrangement for the purpose of carrying out a common objective, or a public or private nonprofit agency, organization, or institution designated or created by a group of institutions of higher education for the purpose of carrying out a common objective on their behalf.

Critical languages means each of the languages contained in the list of critical languages designated by the Secretary pursuant to section 212(d) of the Education for Economic Security Act, except that, in the implementation of this definition, the Secretary may set priorities according to the purposes of title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

Institution of higher education means, in addition to an institution that meets the definition of section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, an institution that meets the requirements of section 101(a) except that (1) it is not located in the United States, and (2) it applies for assistance under title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, in consortia with institutions that meet the definitions in section 101(a).

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1121–1127, and 1141)

[47 FR 14116, Apr. 1, 1982, as amended at 58 FR 32575, June 10, 1993; 64 FR 7739, Feb. 16, 1999; 74 FR 35072, July 17, 2009]

Subpart B—What Kinds of Projects Does the Secretary Assist?

§ 655.10 What kinds of projects does the Secretary assist?

Subpart A of 34 CFR parts 656, 657, and 669 and subpart B of 34 CFR parts 658, 660, 661 describe the kinds of projects that the Secretary assists under the International Education Programs.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1121–1127)

[74 FR 35072, July 17, 2009]

Subpart C [Reserved]

Subpart D—How Does the Secretary Make a Grant?

§ 655.30 How does the Secretary evaluate an application?

The Secretary evaluates applications for International Education Programs on the basis of—

- (a) The general criteria in §655.31; and
- (b) The specific criteria in, as applicable, subpart D of 34 CFR parts 658, 660, 661, and 669.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1121–1127)

[64 FR 7739, Feb. 16, 1999]

§ 655.31 What general selection criteria does the Secretary use?

- (a) Plan of operation.

- (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows the quality of the plan of operation for the project.
- (2) The Secretary looks for information that shows—
 - (i) High quality in the design of the project;
 - (ii) An effective plan of management that ensures proper and efficient administration of the project;
 - (iii) A clear description of how the objectives of the project relate to the purpose of the program;
 - (iv) The way the applicant plans to use its resources and personnel to achieve each objective; and
 - (v) A clear description of how the applicant will provide equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have been traditionally underrepresented, such as—
 - (A) Members of racial or ethnic minority groups;
 - (B) Women; and
 - (C) Handicapped persons.

(b) Quality of key personnel.

- (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows the quality of the key personnel the applicant plans to use on the project.
- (2) The Secretary looks for information that shows—
 - (i) The qualifications of the project director (if one is to be used);
 - (ii) The qualifications of each of the other key personnel to be used in the project. In the case of faculty, the qualifications of the faculty and the degree to which that faculty is directly involved in the actual teaching and supervision of students; and
 - (iii) The time that each person referred to in paragraphs (b)(2) (i) and (ii) of this section plans to commit to the project; and
 - (iv) The extent to which the applicant, as part of its nondiscriminatory employment practices, encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have been traditionally underrepresented, such as

members of racial or ethnic minority groups, women, handicapped persons, and the elderly.

- (3) To determine the qualifications of a person, the Secretary considers evidence of past experience and training, in fields related to the objectives of the project, as well as other information that the applicant provides.

(c) Budget and cost effectiveness.

- (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows that the project has an adequate budget and is cost effective.
- (2) The Secretary looks for information that shows—
 - (i) The budget for the project is adequate to support the project activities; and
 - (ii) Costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives of the project.

(d) Evaluation plan.

- (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows the quality of the evaluation plan for the project.
- (2) The Secretary looks for information that shows methods of evaluation that are appropriate for the project and, to the extent possible, are objective and produce data that are quantifiable.

(e) Adequacy of resources.

- (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows that the applicant plans to devote adequate resources to the project.
- (2) The Secretary looks for information that shows—
 - (i) Other than library, facilities that the applicant plans to use are adequate (language laboratory, museums, etc.); and
 - (ii) The equipment and supplies that the applicant plans to use are adequate.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1121–1127)

§ 655.32 What additional factors does the Secretary consider in making grant awards?

Except for 34 CFR parts 656, 657, and 661, to the extent practicable and consistent with the criterion of excellence, the Secretary seeks to achieve an equitable distribution of funds throughout the Nation.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1126(b)).
[58 FR 32575, June 10, 1993]

Code of Federal Regulations

[Code of Federal Regulations]

[Title 34, Volume 3]

[Revised as of July 1, 2008]

[CITE: 34CFR669]

TITLE 34—EDUCATION

CHAPTER VI--OFFICE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PART 669—LANGUAGE RESOURCE CENTERS PROGRAM

Subpart A—General

§ 669.1 What is the Language Resource Centers Program?

§ 669.2 Who is eligible to receive assistance under this program?

§ 669.3 What activities may the Secretary fund?

§ 669.4 What regulations apply?

§ 669.5 What definitions apply?

Subpart B [Reserved]

Subpart C—How Does the Secretary Make a Grant?

§ 669.20 How does the Secretary evaluate an application?

§ 669.21 What selection criteria does the Secretary use?

§ 669.22 What priorities may the Secretary establish?

Subpart D—What Conditions Must Be Met by a Grantee?

§ 669.30 What are allowable equipment costs?

Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1123, unless otherwise noted.

Source: 55 FR 2773, Jan. 26, 1990, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General

§ 669.1 What is the Language Resource Centers Program?

The Language Resource Centers Program makes awards, through grants or contracts, for the purpose of establishing, strengthening, and operating centers that serve as resources for improving the nation's capacity for teaching and learning foreign languages effectively.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1123)

§ 669.2 Who is eligible to receive assistance under this program?

An institution of higher education or a combination of institutions of higher education is eligible to receive an award under this part.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1123)

§ 669.3 What activities may the Secretary fund?

Centers funded under this part must carry out activities to improve the teaching and learning of foreign languages. These activities must include effective dissemination efforts, whenever appropriate, and may include—

- (a) The conduct and dissemination of research on new and improved methods for teaching foreign languages, including the use of advanced educational technology;
- (b) The development and dissemination of new materials for teaching foreign languages, to reflect the results of research on effective teaching strategies;
- (c) The development, application, and dissemination of performance testing that is appropriate for use in an educational setting to be used as a standard and comparable measurement of skill levels in foreign languages;
- (d) The training of teachers in the administration and interpretation of foreign language performance tests, the use of effective teaching strategies, and the use of new technologies;
- (e) A significant focus on the teaching and learning needs of the less commonly taught languages, including an assessment of the strategic needs of the United States, the determination of ways to meet those needs nationally, and the publication and dissemination of instructional materials in the less commonly taught languages;
- (f) The development and dissemination of materials designed to serve as a resource for foreign language teachers at the elementary and secondary school levels; and
- (g) The operation of intensive summer language institutes to train advanced foreign language students, to provide professional development, and to improve language instruction through pre-service and in-service language training for teachers.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1123)

[64 FR 7741, Feb. 16, 1999]

§ 669.4 What regulations apply?

The following regulations apply to this program:

- (a) The regulations in 34 CFR part 655.

(b) The regulations in this part 669.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1123)
[58 FR 32577, June 10, 1993]

§ 669.5 What definitions apply?

The following definitions apply to this part:

- (a) The definitions in 34 CFR 655.4.
- (b) “Language Resource Center” means a coordinated concentration of educational research and training resources for improving the nation's capacity to teach and learn foreign languages.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1123)

Subpart B [Reserved]

Subpart C—How Does the Secretary Make a Grant?

§ 669.20 How does the Secretary evaluate an application?

The Secretary evaluates an application for an award on the basis of the criteria contained in §§669.21 and 669.22. The Secretary informs applicants of the maximum possible score for each criterion in the application package or in a notice published in the Federal Register.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1123)
[70 FR 13377, Mar. 21, 2005]

§ 669.21 What selection criteria does the Secretary use?

The Secretary evaluates an application on the basis of the criteria in this section.

- (a) *Plan of operation.* (See 34 CFR 655.31(a))
- (b) *Quality of key personnel.* (See 34 CFR 655.31(b))
- (c) Budget and cost-effectiveness. (See 34 CFR 655.31(c))
- (d) *Evaluation plan.* (See 34 CFR 655.31 (d))
- (e) *Adequacy of resources.* (See 34 CFR 655.31(e))
- (f) *Need and potential impact.* The Secretary reviews each application to determine—
 - (1) The extent to which the proposed materials or activities are needed in the foreign languages on which the project focuses;

- (2) The extent to which the proposed materials may be used throughout the United States; and
- (3) The extent to which the proposed work or activity may contribute significantly to strengthening, expanding, or improving programs of foreign language study in the United States.

(g) *Likelihood of achieving results.* The Secretary reviews each application to determine—

- (1) The quality of the outlined methods and procedures for preparing the materials; and
- (2) The extent to which plans for carrying out activities are practicable and can be expected to produce the anticipated results.

(h) *Description of final form of results.* The Secretary reviews each application to determine the degree of specificity and the appropriateness of the description of the expected results from the project.

(i) *Priorities.* If, under the provisions of §669.22, the application notice specifies priorities for this program, the Secretary determines the degrees to which the priorities are served.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1840–0608)

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1123)

[55 FR 2773, Jan. 26, 1990, as amended at 58 FR 32577, June 10, 1993; 70 FR 13377, Mar. 21, 2005]

§ 669.22 What priorities may the Secretary establish?

(a) The Secretary may each year select funding priorities from among the following:

- (1) Categories of allowable activities described in §669.3.
- (2) Specific foreign languages for study or materials development.
- (3) Levels of education, for example, elementary, secondary, postsecondary, or teacher education.

(b) The Secretary announces any priorities in the application notice published in the Federal Register.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1123)

Subpart D—What Conditions Must Be Met by a Grantee?

§ 669.30 What are allowable equipment costs?

Equipment costs may not exceed fifteen percent of the grant amount.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1123)

Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) and Performance Indicators for the LRC Program

What is GPRA?

The Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA) requires all federal agencies to manage their activities with attention to the consequences of those activities. Each agency is to clearly state what it intends to accomplish, identify the resources required, and periodically report their progress to Congress. In so doing, it is expected that the GPRA will contribute to improvements in accountability for the expenditures of public funds, improve Congressional decision-making through more objective information on the effectiveness of federal programs, and promote a new government focus on results, service delivery, and customer satisfaction.

How has the Department of Education Responded to the GPRA Requirements?

As required by GPRA, the Department of Education has prepared a strategic plan for 2014-2018. This plan reflects the Department's priorities and integrates them with its mission and program authorities and describes how the Department will work to improve education for all children and adults in the U.S. The 2014-2018 plan includes the following six goals:

- Goal 1: Increase college access, affordability, quality, and completion by improving postsecondary education and lifelong learning opportunities for youth and adults
- Goal 2: Improve the elementary and secondary system's ability to consistently deliver excellent instruction aligned with rigorous academic standards while providing effective support services to close achievement and opportunity gaps, and ensure all students graduate high school college- and career-ready
- Goal 3: Improve the health, social-emotional, and cognitive outcomes for all children from birth through third grade, so that all children, particularly those with high needs, are on track for graduating from high school college- and career-ready
- Goal 4: Increase educational opportunities for and reduce discrimination against underserved students so that all students are well-positioned to succeed
- Goal 5: Enhance the education system's ability to continuously improve through better and more widespread use of data, research, and evaluation, evidence, transparency, innovation, and technology
- Goal 6: Improve the organizational capacities of the Department to implement its strategic plan

What are the Performance Indicators for the Language Resource Centers (LRCs)?

Language Resource Centers (LRCs) provide grants for establishing, strengthening and operating centers that serve as resources for improving the nation's capacity for teaching and learning

foreign languages through teacher training, research, materials development and dissemination projects.

The Department has developed (and OMB has approved) the following GPRA measures to evaluate the overall success of this IFLE grant program:

LRC GPRA Measure 1: Percentage of LRC products or activities judged to be successful by LRC customers with respect to quality, usefulness and relevance.

LRC GPRA Measure 2: Percentage of LRC products judged to be successful by an independent expert review panel with respect to quality, usefulness and relevance.

LRC GPRA Measure 3: Efficiency: Cost per LRC project that increased the number of training programs for K-16 instructors of LCTLs.*

The information provided by grantees in their performance reports submitted via the IRIS reporting system will be the source of data for these measures.

*The US/ED IFLE office will be able to calculate Measure 3 (efficiency measure) based on future LRC performance reports submitted to the IRIS reporting system.

Guidance on Developing an Evaluation Plan

Overview of GPRA Measures, Program Evaluation, and Project Evaluation

The U.S. Congress passed the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993 and the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010 to assess and improve federally funded programs. GPRA requires that federal agencies document the achievements of grant-funded programs. Specifically, GPRA requires federal agencies, such as the U.S. Department of Education, to develop and report quantifiable annual and long-term measures to Congress. GPRA stipulates that these measures be limited in number, be specific, and have baselines and targets that are ambitious, yet achievable. Performance reporting occurs *at the program level*, meaning that the U.S. Department of Education (ED) aggregates data from all IFLE grantees and reports on measures of the IFLE program overall. ED's challenge is to articulate program-level measures that are relevant to several grant programs and that capture the achievements of many disparate grantees. ED's Budget Service and the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review and approve IFLE's GPRA measures to make sure that the measures reflect the programs' overall goals. Therefore, once approved, GPRA measures remain relatively constant over time.

IFLE must collect data from grantees to respond to the GPRA measures for each program. ED aggregates the GPRA information reported by all grantees to report the impact of each grant program (e.g., the Center for International Business and Education - CIBE grant program as a whole) to Congress and other interested stakeholders. This information contributes to ED/IFLE's overall evaluation of each grant program.

By contrast, individual *project* measures yield specific information that enables grantees to make mid-course corrections in implementing their proposed projects, if necessary. Project-specific evaluation measures are tailored by project leadership to that project's goals. Project leadership may establish specific measures to garner internal institutional support, attract and train staff, attract and retain students, and sustain the project's effort beyond the grant period.

Project-specific measures will vary greatly between institutions that have received IFLE grants before and novice applicant institutions. For example, an institution that is a current recipient of a CIBE grant or that has received CIBE grants in the past might offer many Study Abroad programs. Based on feedback from its prior project evaluations, that institution might propose a new Study Abroad program in a world region not previously served, or expand the duration of an existing program. In this case, a project-specific measure might be the number of students enrolled in the new program. However, a first-time CIBE applicant might propose to offer a few short-term Study Abroad summer programs in its first year as part of a multi-year plan that includes expanding the world regions served over time. In this case, a project-specific measure might be the number of faculty qualified to lead a summer program to specific world regions.

The Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA) and the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010 (GPRAMA)

GPRAs and GPRAMAs are intended to improve accountability for the expenditure of public funds, enhance congressional decision-making by providing Congress with objective information on the effectiveness of federal programs, and promoting federal programs' results, delivery of services, and customers' satisfaction. Accordingly, GPRAs and the GPRAMA mandate that federal agencies, including ED, submit three major products to Congress: multi-year strategic plans, annual plans, and annual reports. To comply with GPRAs and GPRAMAs, ED must state clearly in these products what it intends to accomplish, identify the resources required, and report on its progress annually to Congress.

How has the Department of Education Responded to the GPRAs Requirements?

As required by GPRAs, ED has developed a strategic plan that reflects its organizational priorities and also integrates IFLE's mission and program authorities. ED's stated goal for IFLE is "to meet the nation's security and economic needs through the development and maintenance of a national capacity in foreign languages, and area and international studies."

The Title VI international education programs' overarching goals are to maintain a U.S. higher education system with the capacity to produce experts in less commonly taught languages and area studies who are capable of contributing to the needs of U.S. government, academic, and business institutions. The Fulbright-Hays programs provide opportunities for U.S. educators and postsecondary students to advance their studies of foreign languages, to create and improve curriculum, or to conduct learning and research activities in host country settings. Each IFLE grant program addresses a specific objective related to the overarching goal. The next section of this document provides program-specific guidance to applicants on selecting appropriate performance and evaluation measures.

IFLE Grant Project Evaluation

A strong project proposal by an applicant for an IFLE grant includes a well-designed evaluation plan that is based on clearly stated goals and objectives. The evaluation plan must address all IFLE GPRAs measures, as well as include project-specific measures that are tied to the project's goals and objectives. The evaluation plan also must identify how each of the specific objectives will be achieved, and establish the quantitative and qualitative measures that will be used to demonstrate the successful implementation of the proposed project. The Performance-Measure Form (PMF) serves as a guide for applicants to plan and articulate key aspects of a well-designed evaluation plan.

IFLE offers applicant institutions the following suggestions to consider in developing the Impact and Evaluation section of the grant application.

Developing an Evaluation Plan

Working with an Independent Project Evaluator

Please note that an independent project evaluator may not be required for every IFLE grant program. Applicants and grantees should consult with their IFLE program officer and refer to program-specific materials for guidance.

The independent project evaluator should be involved in the project throughout the entire grant cycle from the proposal development phase through the project's funding and implementation to ensure that a well-designed evaluation plan is developed and implemented. The independent project evaluator works with key project personnel to draft measurable objectives, identify appropriate progress indicators and benchmarks, and to formalize the data collection, calculation, and analytical methodologies. The primary role of the independent project evaluator is to provide technical support and expertise to the project in order to best demonstrate its progress toward achieving stated goals and objectives. The independent project evaluator may also provide support and guidance for the development of a dissemination plan to publicize the project results to internal and external entities.

A grant applicant may wish to collaborate with other projects on a given campus to pool resources and share the cost of a professional evaluator. The guidance provided in this document is intended to help maximize evaluation resources by streamlining an evaluation process and by supporting collaboration between key project personnel and an independent evaluator. Very small projects may have very limited funds available to compensate an evaluator. In such cases, limited resources are best expended on working with an evaluator at the project's start, as opposed to its later stages.

To ensure both the quality and the credibility of the evaluation, it should be conducted by a qualified evaluator with appropriate expertise and training. The evaluator should be independent, whether the evaluator is internal or external to the grant project. The applicant should provide a plan to ensure that the evaluator maintains sufficient independence from the project team, thus avoiding any potential or perceived conflict of interest.

Developing Clear Goals and Objectives

A well-designed evaluation plan includes clearly articulated goals, measurable objectives, and a way to collect concrete data to substantiate the project's progress toward achieving its goals. The evaluation plan should be limited to a few clear and specific objectives that are linked directly to the proposed goals of the project and that can be measured. The applicant/grantee should consider the following when developing measurable objectives and planning for data collection:

1. What will indicate or demonstrate that the project is meeting its goals? Describe the expected measurable outcomes.
2. What types and sources of data will best demonstrate that the project is achieving, or will achieve, its objectives? Identify the data and its sources that can serve as indicators or benchmarks that the project is meeting, or will meet, the intended outcomes.

3. How will the data be collected? Describe access and frequency.
4. How will the data be analyzed and reported? Describe the methodology and key personnel responsible.
5. Will the results demonstrate the project's proposed outcome and impact (e.g., an increase in qualified language instructors, higher graduation rate in international studies, better employment rate of program graduates, etc.)? Describe how the results may demonstrate short-term and long-term outcomes and impact.

Examples of possible project-specific quantitative objectives include:

- Increase the number of students completing advanced courses in priority languages;
- Increase the number of students in business, health, or science majors graduating with foreign language skills;
- Increase the number of study abroad opportunities for students on campus; or,
- Increase the number of certificates and degrees conferred in targeted programs of study.

Examples of possible project-specific qualitative objectives include:

- Improve employment opportunities for students who possess advanced language skills and international experience;
- Strengthen collaboration between foreign language departments, international education, and other disciplines; or,
- Improve quality of assessment tools for priority and/or less-commonly-taught languages.

Examples of specific activities that may support project objectives include:

- Recruit and hire qualified priority language faculty; or,
- Create or increase professional development and training sessions for faculty.

Progress indicators that relate to the quantitative and qualitative examples cited in the above sections include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Increase in the number of new faculty positions in priority and/or less-commonly-taught languages, area studies courses, or interdisciplinary courses that are institutionalized after grant support has ended;

- Increase in the number and type of courses developed, piloted, and subsequently submitted to the institution's review board for inclusion in the college catalog for the upcoming academic year.

Developing Evaluation Questions

An applicant should formulate evaluation questions that interest all stakeholders and audiences related to the proposed project, and align the questions with appropriate information gathering techniques.

1. Who/what will change?
2. When will the change(s) take place?
3. How much change is expected?
4. How will change be measured, recorded, or documented?

Planning Data Collection and Analysis

In order to show change, baseline data must be included in the final evaluation plan, submitted to the program office, once the grant is awarded. Applicants should determine if baseline data already exist and where to find them. Data collection instruments that are not readily available need to be developed. Data collection instruments may include surveys, standardized tests, exams, focus groups, and topic guides. Institutions may have additional instruments that are specific to the proposed project. The final evaluation plan must specify the types and sources of data that will be collected and describe how the data will be collected, including access and frequency. The plan must also describe how the data will be compiled, analyzed, and reported, as well as the methodology that will be used and key personnel responsible for these tasks. The institutions should work with evaluation specialists to develop a detailed analysis plan to analyze the data and interpret results. In addition, the evaluation plan should include a timeline to delineate tasks and specify when and how progress benchmarks or indicators will be met. The timeline will help projects to stay on track toward achieving their goals.

Guidance to LRC Program Applicants

The Title VI international education programs' overarching goal is to maintain a U.S. higher education system with the capacity to produce experts in less commonly taught languages and area studies who are capable of contributing to the needs of U.S. government, academic and business institutions. Each IFLE grant program addresses a specific objective related to this overarching goal. The objective of the LRC program is to strengthen and improve K-12 and undergraduate instruction in foreign languages. The overriding goal of all LRC projects is to develop prototypes for teaching and measuring performance that can be applied broadly and used as resources to improve foreign language education nationally. The LRC program provides grants to establish, strengthen and operate centers that provide teacher training, research, materials development and dissemination projects to improve teachers' abilities to teach and students' capacities to learn foreign languages.

The Department has developed (and the Office of Management and Budget has approved) the following GPRA measures to evaluate the overall success of this IFLE grant program:

- **LRC GPRA Measure 1:** Percentage of LRC products or activities judged to be successful by LRC customers with respect to quality, usefulness, and relevance.
- **LRC GPRA Measure 2:** Percentage of LRC products judged to be successful by an independent expert review panel with respect to quality, relevance, and usefulness.
- **Efficiency:** Cost per LRC project that increased the number of training programs for K-16 instructors of LCTLs.

Applicants must define how they will collect and report data for the measure when they develop their proposed projects. **Successful LRC applicants** (later grantees) will be required to collect data on LRC GPRA measures, and report those data to US/ED in their interim and final performance reports.

LRC Project-Specific Performance Measure Form (PMF)

ATTENTION APPLICANTS: READ CAREFULLY

For applicant COMPLETE PMFs FOR ITEMS 1, 2, and 3 ONLY.

IFLE will request fully completed PMFs from grantees after funding is awarded.

Include your LRC PMFs in the appendices section of your application.

Figure 1: Blank Template

1. Project Goal Statement:

To be completed by the applicant

2. Performance Measures:

To be completed by the applicant

3. Activities:

To be completed by the applicant

4. Data/Indicators	5. Frequency	6. Data Source	7. BL	T1	T2	T3	T4

ALL grantees must report Project-Specific Measures on an annual basis. You must create a PMF for each Project Goal. One example of a PMF completed for LRC Project-Specific Measures is provided in Figure 2.

Note to Applicants: We recommend all LRC applicants to include at least 3 project-specific performance measures. Please submit **one** project-specific performance measure per form. Upload each form separately in the “Other Attachments” section of the application.

Instructions for Completing an LRC Project-Specific PMF

1. **Project Goal Statement** – Each project will likely have more than one goal, such as “Expand outreach for foreign language instruction in LCTLs to under-resourced post-secondary institutions” or “Expand the center’s course offerings in South Asian area studies.” Complete a separate PMF template for each project goal. State the first project-specific goal in the first (header) row of the template, then proceed to steps 2-7 below. Repeat the process for each project-specific goal.
2. **Performance Measures** – State the project-specific measure in an objective and time-bound manner. Make sure that the units of measure (e.g., number of courses, number of students, etc.) are well defined.
3. **Activities** – Fill in the major activities that the institution will undertake to achieve the project-specific goal.
4. **Data/Indicators** – State the data or indicators that will be used to track progress of each activity stated in #2. Because the performance measure might not change from the baseline in the early year(s) of the grant, supporting indicators will be used to track and demonstrate progress.
5. **Frequency** – State period of measurement (e.g., quarterly, by semester, or annually).
6. **Data Source** – State the source of the data (e.g., center records or university registrar).
7. **Baseline (BL) and Targets (T1-T4)** – State the level of each measure at the time that the application is submitted as the “Baseline” and provide the target levels at the end of each grant year. Where the measure specifies “new,” the baseline is stated as the existing total at the time of the application and the targets are stated as the incremental increase.

Should the LRC applicant become a grantee, a complete PMF will need to be completed for the applicable Project-Specific Measure.

Figure 2: Sample PMF for LRC Project-Specific Measures

1. Project Goal Statement:

To increase the number of highly qualified credentialed teachers in less commonly taught languages (LCTLs), first, in the state of XXX and, second, throughout the nation.

2. Performance Measures:

A) Research to identify alternative teacher credentialing pathways for critical and less commonly taught languages

3. Activities:

- A.1 Review XXX state teacher credentialing requirements for a language teaching credential.
- A.2 List all of the competency requirements for each of the content areas: language, culture, linguistics, etc.
- A.3 Research and identify exams or coursework that can meet the stated competency requirements and their availability.
- A.4 Propose to XXX (XXX State Teacher Credentialing Commission) alternative means by which experienced teachers from other subject matters or countries could demonstrate teaching experience and have student teaching requirements waived.

4. Data/Indicators	5. Frequency	6. Data Source	7. BL	T1	T2	T3	T4
A list of alternative ways that teacher candidates may demonstrate their competencies in each of the required subject matter areas for a language teaching credential (updated annually).	Annually	Online and peer-to-peer research	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
A comprehensive manual to assist a teacher candidate seeking to be credentialed in a less commonly taught language (updated annually).	Annually	Compilation of online and peer-to-peer research	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

B) Develop an online language instruction module to assist less commonly taught language teacher candidates in successfully passing the XXX Subject Examinations for Teachers (XSET) in order to qualify for their teaching credential.

3. Activities

- B.1 Identify the required language and culture components on the XSET that teacher candidates must pass.
- B.2 Create a working group to develop online language and culture modules for each of the components (Year 1: Filipino; Year 2: Chinese & Arabic; Year 3: Korean & Vietnamese; Year 4: Review and Revise all based on learners’ feedback).
- B.3 Recruit teacher candidates to test the online modules designed to prepare them to pass the XSET.
- B.4 Document the teacher candidates who completed the online modules for each language and their success rate of passing the XSET.
- B.5 Collect and analyze examinees’ feedback to improve the online modules.

4. Data/Indicators	5. Frequency	6. Data Source	7. BL	T1	T2	T3	T4
The number of language modules developed for each LCTL	Annually	Posted on LRC website	0	4	4	4	12
The number of cultural modules developed for each LCTL	Annually	Posted on LRC Website	0	4	8	8	20
The number of teacher candidates who complete the online modules	Annually	LRC Records	0	12	36	60	60
The number of teacher candidates who successfully pass the CSET.	Annually	Survey of teacher candidates	0	10	31	52	54

- C) Develop an online forum that includes researchers, experienced educators, and credentialed language teachers to integrate theories and practice to further the language instruction field.

3. Activities

- C.1 Identify and invite leading researchers and educators in the field of second language acquisition and foreign language instruction and practicing foreign language teachers at K-16 levels. Be sure to have a wide representation of languages.
- C.2 Design and create an online forum that allows asynchronous multimedia participation including text, chat, audio, and video.

- C.3 Identify forum participation protocols to maximize constructive interactions and exchanges and hold an online orientation session.
- C.4 Ensure that there is always one person who acts as a rotating facilitator to keep the conversation moving and to summarize the exchanges at the end of each time period.

4. Data/Indicators	5. Frequency	6. Data Source	7. BL	T1	T2	T3	T4
The number of people who actively participate each week.	Weekly	Center Records	0	10	25	35	40
The innovative or substantive ideas that emerge from each week's forum that are being documented.	Annually	Center Records	0	40	40	40	40

LRC Evaluation Plan Selection Criterion

This section describes the sub-criteria that reviewers will use to score the “Evaluation Plan” criterion. The following questions are followed by guidance to help the applicant provide information that will enable reviewers to award the appropriate level of points for the applicant’s planned evaluation efforts. The applicant should provide actual baseline numbers, including trend data if possible, when answering the questions in the grant application. If the applicant has not tracked the data requested, the applicant should explain what mechanisms will be put into place to collect the desired data and analyze it to track progress toward the proposed project’s goals and objectives.

For the LRC program, there are two questions that an applicant must answer concerning the Evaluation Plan:

What is the quality of the evaluation plan for the project?

The applicant should review the section entitled “Guidance on Developing an Evaluation Plan” earlier in this document. This guidance document simplifies and demonstrates the key elements of a comprehensive and objective evaluation plan. Applicants need to clearly express: Who/what will change? When will the change(s) take place? How much change is expected? What are the proposed data collection methodologies? Are the credentials, qualifications and impartial statuses of those who will carry out the evaluation plan sufficient to ensure that the results will be valid and reliable?

Does the plan have methods of evaluation that are appropriate for the project and, to the extent possible, are objective and produce data that are quantifiable?

Applicants should design the evaluation plan to reflect a clear and well-defined set of goals and objectives. For instance, if a project’s desired outcome is the development of a new and improved curriculum; its evaluation plan should contain questions to assess whether the curriculum development followed established best practice guidelines. The success of a new curriculum may be assessed from the students’ perspective to ascertain whether they are engaged in a classroom setting, be it virtual or in person. The assessment may be based on feedback from those students pertaining to their sense of engagement with the course, and on objective feedback pertaining to their mastery of the material as compared to a similar class of students using the old teaching method.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Our center has received an LRC grant in the past. Is it appropriate to refer to this in our application?

A: Yes, however, IIFLE strongly suggests that you refrain from referring to your proposal as an application for "renewal" of your grant. A new competition for grant awards is held every four years. In selecting applications for funding, no preference is given to applicants who have received LRC grants in the past.

Q: What techniques does the U.S. Department of Education (US/ED) consider helpful for presenting the application narrative and other important information?

A: In presenting the application narrative (your responses to the selection criteria), we encourage you to follow the order of the selection criteria as listed in the "Instructions for the Project Narrative" section in the application booklet. Additional useful techniques include: using cross-references in the budget and appendices, providing an acronyms list and using tables and graphs to present information effectively.

Q: What criteria do the reviewers use when scoring the selection criteria?

A: Three peer reviewers score each application using the selection criteria in 34 CFR 655.31 and 669.21. The selection criteria are explained further in the section, "Instructions for the Project Narrative." The review panels provide written comments and scores to support their judgments about the quality, significance and impact of the proposed project.

Q: What criteria do the reviewers use when scoring the competitive preference priorities?

A: Please see [Federal Register](#) notice for more information.

Q: What happens to my application if US/ED finds it to be ineligible?

A: It is not evaluated. Section 75.216 of EDGAR prohibits US/ED from evaluating an application if it does not meet the program eligibility criteria or does not otherwise comply with application requirements. If ineligible, a letter is sent to the applicant explaining why it was not evaluated.

Q: Should references, footnotes, endnotes or the bibliography be included in the narrative? How long should they be?

A: References, footnotes, endnotes and the bibliography will certainly strengthen an application. However, they will be considered part of the application narrative, and subject to the page limit restrictions. Please check the [Federal Register](#) notice for more information regarding the narrative page limit.

Q: Do the provisions of the "Fly America Act" apply to this program?

A: Yes. Travel paid for with grant funds must be in accordance with the **Fly America Act** (International Air Transportation Fair Competitive Practices Act of 1974, PL 93-624, PL 96-192). To be in compliance, travel must be on American carriers wherever available, based on jet economy high season rates.

Q: How will funding continuation decisions be made?

A: Annual performance reports will be submitted in lieu of formal continuation requests. Continuation funding will be contingent upon demonstration of substantial progress toward the completion of the project activities in the annual performance report. Instructions for completing performance reports will be forwarded to successful grantees shortly after the grant awards have been determined.

Q: When will selections be announced?

A: The awards will be announced no later than September 30, 2014.

Q: If an applicant has programmatic questions, whom should he or she contact?

A: He or she should contact US/ED program officer at LRC@ed.gov.

Instructions for Completing the LRC Application Package

Abstract & Project Narrative:

- ✓ Provide an abstract of no more than one page describing your program's background, resources, goals, purpose, intended audiences and any special features. Please attach this document under "Abstract Attachment" in the online application.
- ✓ The project narrative must be limited to **50 pages** and should adhere to the following format:
 - A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides. Page numbers and an identifier may be within the 1" margin. Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures and graphs.
 - Applicants may **only** 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.** Applicants must use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).
 - The page limit does not apply to the cover sheet, the budget section (including the narrative budget justification), the assurances and certifications, or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the timeline of project activities, the letters of support or the appendices. However, the page limit does apply to all of the application narrative section.
- ✓ Before preparing the Program Narrative, applicants should also review the Dear Applicant Letter, Competition Highlights, the [Federal Register](#) notice and program statute for specific guidance and requirements. Note that applications will be evaluated according to the specific selection criteria specified in the [Notice](#) and this package.
- ✓ The Secretary evaluates an application on the basis of the broad criteria in 34 CFR Part 75, sections 75.209(a) and 75.210 of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR). Please see "Selection Criteria" in the [Federal Register](#) notice.

To facilitate the review of the application, please construct the narrative in the order of the selection criteria provided below. Be sure to address the components in each of the categories, as the reviewers will be using these guidelines to score the applications.

Appendices to be Included in the Application

- ✓ **The curricula vitae of key personnel and professional staff directly involved in the applicant's program.**
- ✓ **A timeline of project activities for the duration of the grant.**
 - The timeline should reflect all proposed program development activities to be funded during the four-year grant period and represent activities that contribute to strengthening of the overall program.
 - Cross-reference pages in the narrative, when appropriate. Identify activities that are new, continuing or ending during the four-year cycle. Demonstrate which costs will be shared by the institution(s). Use color or shading to illustrate program development, cost sharing and other strategies for institutionalizing the activities. If colors are used, please ensure that all copies have color.
 - If applying as a consortium, clearly identify the institutions conducting the activity(ies).
- ✓ **Letters of support.**
- ✓ **A table of objectives that will guide project activities for the FY 2014-2017 performance period.**
 - IFLE is requesting these objectives to assist with our review of the performance reports that you will be submitting in IRIS. In addition to the status information and data that you report, the objectives will provide a helpful context for assessing progress.
 - Helpful hints for developing objectives:
 - Objectives must be clear.
 - Objectives should not have too many parameters.
 - Objectives should define the outcome (effect or benefit) to be realized.
 - Objectives should be time-phased and measurable
- ✓ **Performance Measure Form PMF (Please see Guidance to LRC applicants) – IFLE recommends developing at least 3 project-specific measures. One Project-Specific Measure per form.**

Selection Criteria

To facilitate the review of the application, provide responses to each of the following selection criteria in the following order:

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. <u>Plan of Operation</u> | (15 points) |
| 2. <u>Quality of Key Personnel</u> | (10 points) |
| 3. <u>Adequacy of Resources</u> | (5 points) |
| 4. <u>Need for Potential Impact</u> | (20 points) |
| 5. <u>Likelihood of Achieving Results</u> | (10 points) |
| 6. <u>Description of Final Form of Results</u> | (10 points) |
| 7. <u>Evaluation Plan</u> | (20 points) * |
| 8. <u>Budget and Cost Effectiveness</u> | (10 points) |
| Total Base Score | (100 points) |
| 9. Competitive Preference Priority I | (5 points) |
| 10. Competitive Preference Priority II | (5 points) |

Total Maximum Score for Selection Criteria

110 points

The following guidance may assist you in addressing each of the selection criteria:

1. PLAN OF OPERATION (15 points)

Does the application demonstrate:

- a. A high quality in the project design?
- b. An effective plan of management that ensures proper and efficient administration of the project?
- c. A clear description of how the objectives of the project relate to the purpose of the program?
- d. The way the applicant plans to use its resources and personnel to achieve each objective?
- e. A clear description of how the applicant will provide equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have been traditionally underrepresented, such as:
 - i. Members of racial or ethnic minority groups
 - ii. Women
 - iii. Handicapped persons

2. QUALITY OF KEY PERSONNEL (10 points)

Does the application demonstrate the quality of the key personnel the applicant plans to use on the project?

- a. What are the qualifications of the project director?
- b. What are the qualifications of each of the other key personnel to be used in the project?

- i. In the case of faculty – what are the qualifications of the faculty and the degree to which that faculty is directly involved in the actual teaching and supervision of students?
- c. How much time does each of the mentioned key personnel plan to commit to the project?
- d. To what extent does the applicant, as part of its nondiscriminatory employment practices, encourage applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have been traditionally underrepresented, such as members of racial or ethnic minority groups, women, handicapped persons and the elderly?
- e. Do the qualifications of the proposed key personnel include evidence of past experience and training in fields related to the objectives of the project, as well as other information that the applicant provides?

3. ADEQUACY OF RESOURCES (5 points)

Does the application demonstrate that the applicant plans to devote adequate resources to the project?

- a. Other than libraries, are the facilities that the applicant plans to use adequate (language laboratories, museums, etc.)?
- b. Are the equipment and supplies that the applicant plans to use adequate?

4. NEED AND POTENTIAL IMPACT (20 points)

- a. To what extent are the proposed materials or activities needed in the foreign language(s) on which the project focuses?
- b. To what extent may the proposed materials be used throughout the United States?
- c. To what extent may the proposed work or activity contribute significantly to strengthening, expanding or improving programs of foreign language study in the United States?

5. LIKELIHOOD OF ACHIEVING RESULTS (10 points)

- a. What is the quality of the outlined methods and procedures for preparing the materials?
- b. To what extent are the plans for carrying out activities practicable, and can they be expected to produce the anticipated results?

6. DESCRIPTION OF FINAL FORM OF RESULTS (10 points)

- a. What is the degree of specificity and the appropriateness of the description of the expected results from the project?

7. EVALUATION PLAN (20 points)

- a. What is the quality of the evaluation plan for the project?
- b. Does the plan have methods of evaluation that are appropriate for the project and, to the extent possible, are objective and produce data that are quantifiable?

***Note – Please see Guidance on Developing an Evaluation Plan section of this application.**

8. BUDGET AND COST EFFECTIVENESS (10 points)

- a. Is the budget for the project adequate to support the project activities?
- b. Are costs reasonable in relation to the objectives of the project?

Competitive Preference Priorities

Competitive Preference Priority # 1: (0 or 5 points)

Applications that propose activities that focus on any of the 78 priority languages selected from the U.S. Department of Education's list of Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTLs). We will award an additional five points to an application that meets this priority.

The list includes the following:

Akan (Twi-Fante), Albanian, Amharic, Arabic (all dialects), Armenian, Azeri (Azerbaijani), Balochi, Bamanakan (Bamana, Bambara, Mandikan, Mandingo, Maninka, Dyula), Belarusian, Bengali (Bangla), Berber (all languages), Bosnian, Bulgarian, Burmese, Cebuano (Visayan), Chechen, Chinese (Cantonese), Chinese (Gan), Chinese (Mandarin), Chinese (Min), Chinese (Wu), Croatian, Dari, Dinka, Georgian, Gujarati, Hausa, Hebrew (Modern), Hindi, Igbo, Indonesian, Japanese, Javanese, Kannada, Kashmiri, Kazakh, Khmer (Cambodian), Kirghiz, Korean, Kurdish (Kurmanji), Kurdish (Sorani), Lao, Malay (Bahasa Melayu or Malaysian), Malayalam, Marathi, Mongolian, Nepali, Oromo, Panjabi, Pashto, Persian (Farsi), Polish, Portuguese (all varieties), Quechua, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Sinhala (Sinhalese), Somali, Swahili, Tagalog, Tajik, Tamil, Telugu, Thai, Tibetan, Tigrigna, Turkish, Turkmen, Ukrainian, Urdu, Uyghur/Uigur, Uzbek, Vietnamese, Wolof, Xhosa, Yoruba, and Zulu.

Competitive Preference Priority #2 (up to 5 points):

Applications that incorporate significant and sustained collaborative activities with one or more Minority-Serving Institutions (as defined in this notice) or one or more community colleges (as defined in this notice). These activities should be designed to incorporate foreign languages into the curriculum and to improve foreign language instruction on the MSI or community college campus. We will award up to an additional 5 points to an application that meets this priority.

- **Minority-Serving Institution (MSI)**: means an institution that is eligible to receive assistance under sections 316 through 320 of part A or under part B of Title III or under Title V of the HEA.
- **Community college** is defined in section 312(f) of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1058(f); or an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1001)) that awards degrees and certificates, more than 50% of which are not bachelor's degrees (or an equivalent); or master's , professional, or other advanced degrees.

Invitational Priorities (0 points):

While no additional points will be awarded to an application that meets these priorities, we encourage applications from any of the following:

Invitational Priorities: For FY 2014, 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: New Applicants.

Applications from applicants who have not received an LRC grant, either as an individual institution or as a member of a consortium, during the last two funding cycles (FY 2006-2009, FY 2010-2013).

Invitational Priority 2: Heritage Language Programs and Projects. Applications that propose programs or projects that engage in collaborative activities with heritage language centers or schools to support the language maintenance and development of heritage language speakers. For the purpose of the LRC program, a heritage language speaker is a person who grew up using the language at home or received K-12 education in the language.

Instructions for Budget Summary Form & Itemized Line Item Budget

NOTE: Applicants to the LRC program must submit: (1) a budget summary form to categorize requested funds (ED Form 524, Sections A & B) **AND** (2) a detailed line item budget and accompanying budget narrative.

The budget summary is to be included on the “Department of Education Budget Summary Form – (ED Form 524).” The applicant must complete both Sections A & B.

The detailed line item budget AND accompanying budget narrative should be submitted for all four years. This should be included in the “Budget Narrative Attachment Form” in the online application.

This section requests information on the applicant’s financial plan for carrying out the project. Please show both the Federal and any non-Federal match (not required, but highly encouraged). Explain how these costs support the project activities.

1. **Personnel:** On line 1 (ED Form 524), enter only the project personnel salaries and wages. [Fees and expenses for consultants should be included on line 8.] The budget should include the total commitment of time and the total salary to be charged to the project for each key staff member. You should provide a breakdown of project personnel that includes: the position titles, the percent of time and number of months committed to the project for each key staff member, the salary for each key staff member and the total salary costs to be charged to the grant.
2. **Fringe Benefits:** On line 2 (ED Form 524), enter the amount of fringe benefits. The institution’s normal fringe benefit contribution may be charged to the program. Leave this blank if fringe benefits applicable to direct salaries and wages are treated as part of the indirect costs. In the budget, include an explanation and appropriate justification if the institution’s normal fringe benefit contribution exceeds 20 percent of salaries.
3. **Travel:** On line 3 (ED Form 524), provide the travel costs for project personnel and student participants. [Consultants’ travel should be included on line 8.] In the budget, you should detail the proposed travel costs: for each trip, explain the purpose and objective of the travel and provide the number of persons traveling. Transportation costs should not exceed tourist class airfare. For automobile mileage, the established institution rate should be used. Reimbursement is allowed for taxi, bus, train or van transportation. Per diem at the established institution rate is permitted when an individual is away from home overnight on official project business (see OMB Circular A-21, J.48.c - Commercial Air Travel). Foreign travel can be authorized under the grant. Please include in your travel budget funds to travel to the annual LRC Project Directors’ Meeting. You may include costs for up to two people to attend. Allowable expenses

include: airfare and ground transportation, hotels, conference fees, meals and incidentals.

4. Equipment: On line 4 (ED Form 524), indicate the cost of equipment -- non-expendable personal property, which has a usefulness of greater than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit. [Consistent with an applicant's policy, a lower dollar amount may be used to define equipment.] In the budget, explain why the requested equipment is necessary to carry out project activities and include a list of all equipment in the following format: item, quantity, cost per unit and total cost. Note: no more than 15% of your total budget can be used in this category.
5. Supplies: On line 5 (ED Form 524), include the costs of all tangible personal property that was not included as "equipment" on line 4. In the budget, provide an itemized list of the supplies.
6. Contractual: Not applicable. Leave blank.
7. Construction: Not applicable. Leave blank.
8. Other: On line 8 (ED Form 524), indicate all direct costs not covered on lines 1 through 5. The costs/fees for consultants and consultants' travel should be included here. Examples of "other" costs are: equipment rental, required fees, communications costs, rental of space, utilities, custodial services and printing costs. In the budget, provide a breakdown of all direct costs not clearly covered by other budget categories.

Evaluators and Consultants: If the project proposes to use external/outside evaluators and consultants, identify the consultants who will work on the project, the scope of work to be performed by each consultant and justify why project personnel cannot perform this work. Also, provide a detailed breakdown of the costs (daily fees to be paid, estimated number of days of services and all travel expenses, including per diem). Cost allowances for consultant fees, honoraria, per diem and travel should not exceed amounts permitted by comparable institutional policies.

9. Total Direct Costs: On line 9 (ED Form 524), provide the total direct costs requested -- the sum of lines 1 through 8.
10. Indirect Costs: On line 10 (ED Form 524), provide the amount of indirect costs that you propose to charge against the grant.

Remember: Indirect costs are limited to 8 percent of a modified total direct cost base. {See EDGAR, 34 CFR 75.562 (c)}

11. Training Stipends: Not applicable. Leave blank.

12. Total Cost: On line 12 (ED Form 524), provide total amount that you are requesting – the sum of lines 9 and 10. Note: This amount should be the same as that shown as 14a on the application face sheet (SF 424).

IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ FIRST

U.S. Department of Education
Grants.gov Submission Procedures and Tips for Applicants

To facilitate your use of Grants.gov, this document includes important submission procedures you need to be aware of to ensure your application is received in a timely manner and accepted by the Department of Education.

ATTENTION – Adobe Forms and PDF Files Required

Applications submitted to Grants.gov for the Department of Education will be posted using Adobe forms. Therefore, applicants will need to download the latest version of Adobe reader (at least Adobe Reader 10.1.14). (Please note that in early 2013, Grants.gov discovered an issue with the newest version of Adobe Reader XI but it was subsequently resolved.) Information on computer and operating system compatibility with Adobe and links to download the latest version is available on Grants.gov at this link: [compatibility table](#). We strongly recommend that you review these details on www.Grants.gov before completing and submitting your application. In addition, applicants should submit their application a day or two in advance of the closing date as detailed below. Also, applicants are required to upload their attachments in .pdf format only. (See details below under “Attaching Files – Additional Tips.”) If you have any questions regarding this matter please email the Grants.gov Contact Center at support@grants.gov or call 1-800-518-4726.

- 1) **REGISTER EARLY** – Grants.gov registration involves many steps including registration on SAM (www.sam.gov) which may take approximately one week to complete, but could take upwards of several weeks to complete, depending upon the completeness and accuracy of the data entered into the SAM database by an applicant. You may begin working on your application while completing the registration process, but you cannot submit an application until all of the Registration steps are complete. Please note that once your SAM registration is active, it will take 24-48 hours for the information to be available in Grants.gov, and before you can submit an application through Grants.gov. For detailed information on the Registration Steps, please go to: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html> [Note: Your organization will need to update its SAM registration annually (formerly Central Contractor Registry (CCR).)]

Primary information about SAM is available at www.sam.gov. However, to further assist you with obtaining and registering your DUNS number and TIN in SAM or updating your existing SAM account the Department of Education has prepared a SAM.gov Tip Sheet which you can find at : <http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/sam-faqs.html>

- 2) **SUBMIT EARLY – We strongly recommend that you do not wait until the last day to submit your application. Grants.gov will put a date/time stamp on your application and then process it after it is fully uploaded.** The time it takes to upload an application will vary depending on a number of factors including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection, and the time it takes Grants.gov to process the application will vary as well. If Grants.gov rejects your application (see step three below), you will need to resubmit successfully to Grants.gov before 4:30:00 p.m. Washington, DC time on the deadline date.

Note: To submit successfully, you must provide the DUNS number on your application that was used when you registered as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) on Grants.gov. This DUNS number is typically the same number used when your organization registered with the SAM (formerly CCR -Central Contractor Registry). If you do not enter the same DUNS number on your application as the DUNS you registered with, Grants.gov will reject your application.

- 3) **VERIFY SUBMISSION IS OK –** You will want to verify that Grants.gov received your application submission on time and that it was validated successfully. To see the date/time your application was received, login to Grants.gov and click on the Track My Application link. For a successful submission, the date/time received should be earlier than 4:30:00 p.m. Washington, DC time, on the deadline date, AND the application status should be: Validated, Received by Agency, or Agency Tracking Number Assigned. Once the Department of Education receives your application from Grants.gov, an Agency Tracking Number (PR/award number) will be assigned to your application and will be available for viewing on Grants.gov’s Track My Application link.

If the date/time received is later than 4:30:00 p.m. Washington, D.C. time, on the deadline date, your application is late. If your application has a status of “Received” it is still awaiting validation by Grants.gov. Once validation is complete, the status will either change to “Validated” or “Rejected with Errors.” If the status is “Rejected with Errors,” your application has not been received successfully. Some of the reasons Grants.gov may reject an application can be found on the Grants.gov site:

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-faqs.html>. For more detailed information on troubleshooting Adobe errors, you can review the Adobe Reader Error Messages document at <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support/technical-support/troubleshooting/encountering-error-messages.html>. If you discover your application is late or has been rejected, please see the instructions below. Note: You will receive a series of confirmations both online and via e-mail about the status of your application. Please do not rely solely on e-mail to confirm whether your application has been received timely and validated successfully.

Submission Problems – What should you do?

If you have problems submitting to Grants.gov before the closing date, please contact Grants.gov Customer Support at 1-800-518-4726 or

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/about/contact-us.html>, or access the Grants.gov Self-Service web portal at: <https://grants-portal.psc.gov/Welcome.aspx?pt=Grants>

If electronic submission is optional and you have problems that you are unable to resolve before the deadline date and time for electronic applications, please follow the transmittal instructions for hard copy applications in the Federal Register notice and get a hard copy application postmarked by midnight on the deadline date.

If electronic submission is required, you must submit an electronic application before 4:30:00 p.m., unless you follow the procedures in the Federal Register notice and 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. (See the Federal Register notice for detailed instructions.)

Helpful Hints When Working with Grants.gov

Please note, once you download an application from Grants.gov, you will be working offline and saving data on your computer. Please be sure to note where you are saving the Grants.gov file on your computer. You will need to logon to Grants.gov to upload and submit the application. **You must provide the DUNS number on your application that was used when you registered as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) on Grants.gov.**

Please go to <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/about/contact-us.html> for help with Grants.gov. For additional tips related to submitting grant applications, please refer to the Grants.gov Submit Application FAQs found on the Grants.gov <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support/general-support/faqs.html>.

Dial-Up Internet Connections

When using a dial up connection to upload and submit your application, it can take significantly longer than when you are connected to the Internet with a high-speed connection, e.g. cable modem/DSL/T1. While times will vary depending upon the size of your application, it can take a few minutes to a few hours to complete your grant submission using a dial up connection. **If you do not have access to a high-speed connection and electronic submission is required, you may want to consider following the instructions in the Federal Register notice to obtain an exception to the electronic submission requirement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.** (See the Federal Register notice for detailed instructions.)

MAC Users

For MAC compatibility information, review the Operating System Platform Compatibility Table at the following Grants.gov link: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support/technical-support/recommended-software.html>. **If electronic submission is required and you are concerned about your ability to submit electronically as a non-windows user, please follow instructions in the Federal Register notice to obtain an exception to the electronic submission**

requirement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date. (See the Federal Register notice for detailed instructions.)

Attaching Files – Additional Tips

Please note the following tips related to attaching files to your application, especially the requirement that applicants **only include read-only, non-modifiable .PDF files** in their application:

1. Ensure that you attach **.PDF files only** for any attachments to your application, and they must be in a **read-only, non-modifiable format**. PDF files are the only Education approved file type accepted as detailed in the Federal Register application notice. Applicants must submit individual .PDF files only when attaching files to their application. Specifically, the Department will not accept any attachments that contain files within a file, such as PDF Portfolio files, or an interactive or fillable .PDF file. Any attachments uploaded that are not .PDF files or are password protected files will not be read. If you need assistance converting your files to a .pdf format, please refer to the following Grants.gov webpage with links to conversion programs under the heading of additional resources:
<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support/technical-support/software/pdf-conversion-software.html>
2. Grants.gov cannot process an application that includes two or more files that have the same name within a grant submission. Therefore, each file uploaded to your application package should have a unique file name.
3. When attaching files, applicants should follow the guidelines established by Grants.gov on the size and content of file names. Uploaded files must be less than 50 characters, contain no spaces, no special characters (example: -, &, *, %, /, #, \) including periods (.), blank spaces and accent marks. Applications submitted that do not comply with the Grants.gov guidelines will be rejected at Grants.gov and not forwarded to the Department.
4. Applicants should limit the size of their file attachments. Documents submitted that contain graphics and/or scanned material often greatly increase the size of the file attachments and can result in difficulties opening the files. For reference, the average discretionary grant application package totals 1 to 2 MB. Therefore, you may want to check the total size of your package before submission.

Application Checklist

Use This Checklist While Preparing Your Application. All items listed on this checklist are required. The list is organized in the same manner that the submitted application should be organized.

Part I: 424 Forms

- ✓ Application for Federal Assistance - (SF 424)
- ✓ Department of Education Supplemental Information Form for the SF 424 -
- ✓ **Note: Please do not attach any narratives, supporting files or application components to the Standard Form (SF 424). Although the form accepts attachments, the Department of Education will only review materials/files attached to the forms listed below.**

Part II: 524 Forms

- ✓ Department of Education Budget Summary Form - (ED 524) – Sections A & B

Part III: Program Narrative Forms

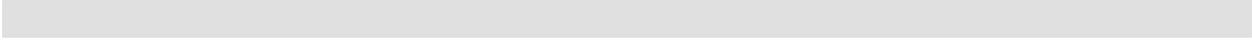
- ✓ Ed Abstract Attachment Form
- ✓ Project Narrative Attachment Form
- ✓ Other Attachments Form
- ✓ Budget Narrative Attachment Form

NOTE: The “Ed Abstract Attachment Form” is where you would attach your program abstract. The “Project Narrative Attachment Form” will include table of contents and the narrative sections addressing the program selection criteria that will be used to evaluate applications submitted for this competition. The “Other Attachments Form” should include appendices such as a detailed **Performance Measure Form**, (see [Federal Register](#) notice), curricula vitas of key personnel, letters of support, examples of evaluation materials, etc. The “Budget Narrative Attachment Form” is where you would attach a detailed line item budget and any supplemental budget information.

Part IV: Assurances and Certifications

- ✓ GEPA Section 427 Requirement
- ✓ Assurances – Non-Construction Programs (SF 424B)

- ✓ Grants.gov Lobbying Form (formerly ED Form 80-0013)
- ✓ Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunity for Applicants
- ✓ Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)



Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number is **1840-0808**. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 110 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain or retain benefit (20 USC 1123). Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to regulations.gov during the public comment period for this collection of information. If you have specific questions about the form, instrument or survey, please contact (Office of Postsecondary Education/IFLE, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, N.W., Sixth Floor, Washington, D.C. 20006-6078).

Standard Instructions (Included for reference, Official instructions found on Grants.gov)

- **Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424)**
- **Supplemental Information Required for Department of Education**
- **Assurances – Non-Construction Programs (SF 424B)**
- **U.S. Department of Education Budget Information Non-Construction Programs**
 - **Section A – Budget Summary (ED 524)**
 - **Section B – Budget Summary Non-Federal Funds (ED 524)**
- **Grants.gov Lobbying Form (formerly ED 80-0013)**
- **Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF LLL)**

Instructions for the SF-424

This is a standard form required for use as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications and applications and related information under discretionary programs. Some of the items are required and some are optional at the discretion of the applicant or the Federal agency (agency). Required fields on the form are identified with an asterisk (*) and are also specified as “Required” in the instructions below. In addition to these instructions, applicants must consult agency instructions to determine other specific requirements.

Item:	Entry:
1.	<p>Type of Submission: (Required): Select one type of submission in accordance with agency instructions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preapplication • Application • Changed/Corrected Application – If requested by the agency, check if this submission is to change or correct a previously submitted application. Unless requested by the agency, applicants may not use this to submit changes after the closing date.
2.	<p>Type of Application: (Required) Select one type of application in accordance with agency instructions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New – An application that is being submitted to an agency for the first time. • Continuation - An extension for an additional funding/budget period for a project with a projected completion date. This can include renewals. • Revision - Any change in the Federal Government’s financial obligation or contingent liability from an existing obligation. If a revision, enter the appropriate letter(s). More than one may be selected. If "Other" is selected, please specify in text box provided. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Increase Award B. Decrease Award C. Increase Duration D. Decrease Duration E. Other (specify)
3.	<p>Date Received: Leave this field blank. This date will be assigned by the Federal agency.</p>
4.	<p>Applicant Identifier: Enter the entity identifier assigned by the Federal agency, if any, or applicant’s control number, if applicable.</p>
5a.	<p>Federal Entity Identifier: Enter the number assigned to your organization by the Federal Agency, if any.</p>
5b.	<p>Federal Award Identifier: For new applications leave blank. For a continuation or revision to an existing award, enter the previously assigned Federal award identifier number. If a changed/corrected application, enter the Federal Identifier in accordance with agency</p>

Item:	Entry:
	instructions.
6.	Date Received by State: Leave this field blank. This date will be assigned by the State, if applicable.
7.	State Application Identifier: Leave this field blank. This identifier will be assigned by the State, if applicable.
8.	<p>Applicant Information: Enter the following in accordance with agency instructions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Legal Name: (Required): Enter the legal name of applicant that will undertake the assistance activity. This is the name that the organization has registered with the Central Contractor Registry. Information on registering with CCR may be obtained by visiting the Grants.gov website. b. Employer/Taxpayer Number (EIN/TIN): (Required): Enter the Employer or Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN or TIN) as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service. If your organization is not in the US, enter 44-4444444. c. Organizational DUNS: (Required) Enter the organization's DUNS or DUNS+4 number received from Dun and Bradstreet. Information on obtaining a DUNS number may be obtained by visiting the Grants.gov website. d. Address: Enter the complete address as follows: Street address (Line 1 required), City (Required), County, State (Required, if country is US), Province, Country (Required), Zip/Postal Code (Required, if country is US). e. Organizational Unit: Enter the name of the primary organizational unit (and department or division, if applicable) that will undertake the assistance activity, if applicable. f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application: Enter the name (First and last name required), organizational affiliation (if affiliated with an organization other than the applicant organization), telephone number (Required), fax number, and email address (Required) of the person to contact on matters related to this application.
9.	<p>Type of Applicant: (Required) Select up to three applicant type(s) in accordance with agency instructions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. State Government B. County Government C. City or Township Government D. Special District Government E. Regional Organization F. U.S. Territory or Possession G. Independent School District H. Public/State Controlled Institution of Higher Education I. Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Federally Recognized) J. Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Other than Federally Recognized)

Item:	Entry:
	K. Indian/Native American Tribally Designated Organization L. Public/Indian Housing Authority M. Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education) N. Nonprofit without 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education) O. Private Institution of Higher Education P. Individual Q. For-Profit Organization (Other than Small Business) R. Small Business S. Hispanic-serving Institution T. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) U. Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs) V. Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions W. Non-domestic (non-US) Entity Other (specify)
10.	Name Of Federal Agency: (Required) Enter the name of the Federal agency from which assistance is being requested with this application.
11.	Catalog Of Federal Domestic Assistance Number/Title: Enter the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number and title of the program under which assistance is requested, as found in the program announcement, if applicable.
12.	Funding Opportunity Number/Title: (Required) Enter the Funding Opportunity Number and title of the opportunity under which assistance is requested, as found in the program announcement.
13.	Competition Identification Number/Title: Enter the Competition Identification Number and title of the competition under which assistance is requested, if applicable.
14.	Areas Affected By Project: List the areas or entities using the categories (e.g., cities, counties, states, etc.) specified in agency instructions. Use the continuation sheet to enter additional areas, if needed.
15.	Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project: (Required) Enter a brief descriptive title of the project. If appropriate, attach a map showing project location (e.g., construction or real property projects). For preapplications, attach a summary description of the project.
16.	Congressional Districts Of: (Required) 16a. Enter the applicant's Congressional District, and 16b. Enter all District(s) affected by the program or project. Enter in the format: 2 characters State Abbreviation – 2-3 characters District Number, e.g., CA-12 for California 12 th district, NC-103 for North Carolina's 103 rd district. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If all congressional districts in a state are affected, enter "all" for the district number, e.g., MD-all for all congressional districts in Maryland. • If nationwide, i.e. all districts within all states are affected, enter US-all.

Item:	Entry:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the program/project is outside the US, enter 00-000.
17.	<p>Proposed Project Start and End Dates: (Required) Enter the proposed start date and end date of the project.</p>
18.	<p>Estimated Funding: (Required) Enter the amount requested or to be contributed during the first funding/budget period by each contributor. Value of in-kind contributions should be included on appropriate lines, as applicable. If the action will result in a dollar change to an existing award, indicate only the amount of the change. For decreases, enclose the amounts in parentheses.</p>
19.	<p>Is Application Subject to Review by State Under Executive Order 12372 Process? Applicants should contact the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for Federal Executive Order 12372 to determine whether the application is subject to the State intergovernmental review process. Select the appropriate box. If "a." is selected, enter the date the application was submitted to the State</p>
20.	<p>Is the Applicant Delinquent on any Federal Debt? (Required) Select the appropriate box. This question applies to the applicant organization, not the person who signs as the authorized representative. Categories of debt include delinquent audit disallowances, loans and taxes. If yes, include an explanation on the continuation sheet.</p>
21.	<p>Authorized Representative: (Required) To be signed and dated by the authorized representative of the applicant organization. Enter the name (First and last name required) title (Required), telephone number (Required), fax number, and email address (Required) of the person authorized to sign for the applicant. A copy of the governing body's authorization for you to sign this application as the official representative must be on file in the applicant's office. (Certain Federal agencies may require that this authorization be submitted as part of the application.)</p>

Instructions for Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424

1. Project Director.

Name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application.

2. Novice Applicant.

Check “Yes” or “No” only if assistance is being requested under a program that gives special consideration to novice applicants. Otherwise, **leave blank**.

Check “Yes” if you meet the requirements for novice applicants specified in the regulations in 34 CFR 75.225 and included on the attached page entitled “Definitions for Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424.” By checking “Yes” the applicant certifies that it meets these novice applicant requirements. Check “No” if you do not meet the requirements for novice applicants.

3. Human Subjects Research.

(See I. A. “Definitions” in attached page entitled “Definitions for Department of Education Supplemental Information For SF 424.”)

If Not Human Subjects Research. Check “No” if research activities involving human subjects are not planned at any time during the proposed project period. The remaining parts of Item 3 are then not applicable.

If Human Subjects Research. Check “Yes” if research activities involving human subjects are planned at any time during the proposed project period, either at the applicant organization or at any other performance site or collaborating institution. Check “Yes” even if the research is exempt from the regulations for the protection of human subjects. (See I. B. “Exemptions” in attached page entitled “Definitions for Department of Education Supplemental Information For SF 424.”)

3a. If Human Subjects Research is Exempt from the Human Subjects Regulations.

Check “Yes” if all the research activities proposed are designated to be exempt from the regulations. Insert the exemption number(s) corresponding to one or more of the six exemption categories listed in I. B. “Exemptions.” In addition, follow the instructions in II. A. “Exempt Research Narrative” in the attached page entitled “Definitions for Department of Education Supplemental Information For SF 424.”

3a. If Human Subjects Research is Not Exempt from Human Subjects Regulations.

Check “No” if some or all of the planned research activities are covered (not exempt). In addition, follow the instructions in II. B. “Nonexempt Research Narrative” in the page entitled “Definitions for Department of Education Supplemental Information For SF 424

3a. Human Subjects Assurance Number. If the applicant has an approved Federal Wide (FWA) on file with the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, that covers the specific activity, insert the number in the

space provided. If the applicant does not have an approved assurance on file with OHRP, enter "None." In this case, the applicant, by signature on the SF-424, is declaring that it will comply with 34 CFR 97 and proceed to obtain the human subjects assurance upon request by the designated ED official. If the application is recommended/selected for funding, the designated ED official will request that the applicant obtain the assurance within 30 days after the specific formal request.

Note about Institutional Review Board Approval. ED does not require certification of Institutional Review Board approval with the application. However, if an application that involves non-exempt human subjects research is recommended/selected for funding, the designated ED official will request that the applicant obtain and send the certification to ED within 30 days after the formal request.

Paperwork Burden Statement. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1890-0017. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average between 15 and 45 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4537. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form write directly to: Application Control Center, U.S. Department of Education, Potomac Center Plaza, 550 12th Street, S.W. Room 7076, Washington, D.C. 20202-4260

**Definitions for Department of Education Supplemental Information For SF 424
(Attachment to Instructions for Supplemental Information for SF 424)**

Definitions:

Novice Applicant (See 34 CFR 75.225). For discretionary grant programs under which the Secretary gives special consideration to novice applications, a novice applicant means any applicant for a grant from ED that—

- Has never received a grant or subgrant under the program from which it seeks funding;
- Has never been a member of a group application, submitted in accordance with 34 CFR 75.127-75.129, that received a grant under the program from which it seeks funding; and
- Has not had an active discretionary grant from the Federal government in the five years before the deadline date for applications under the program. For the purposes of this requirement, a grant is active until the end of the grant’s project or funding period, including any extensions of those periods that extend the grantee’s authority to obligate funds.

In the case of a group application submitted in accordance with 34 CFR 75.127-75.129, a group includes only parties that meet the requirements listed above.

PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS IN RESEARCH

I. Definitions and Exemptions

A. Definitions.

A research activity involves human subjects if the activity is research, as defined in the Department’s regulations, and the research activity will involve use of human subjects, as defined in the regulations.

—Research

The ED Regulations for the Protection of Human Subjects, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 97, define research as “a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.” *If an activity follows a deliberate plan whose purpose is to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge it is research.* Activities which meet this definition constitute research whether or not they are conducted or supported under a program that is considered research for other purposes. For example, some demonstration and service programs may include research activities.

—Human Subject

The regulations define human subject as “a living individual about whom an investigator (whether professional or student) conducting research obtains (1) data through

intervention or interaction with the individual, or (2) identifiable private information.” (1) *If an activity involves obtaining information about a living person by manipulating that person or that person’s environment, as might occur when a new instructional technique is tested, or by communicating or interacting with the individual, as occurs with surveys and interviews, the definition of human subject is met.* (2) *If an activity involves obtaining private information about a living person in such a way that the information can be linked to that individual (the identity of the subject is or may be readily determined by the investigator or associated with the information), the definition of human subject is met.* [Private information includes information about behavior that occurs in a context in which an individual can reasonably expect that no observation or recording is taking place, and information which has been provided for specific purposes by an individual and which the individual can reasonably expect will not be made public (for example, a school health record).]

B. Exemptions.

Research activities in which the **only** involvement of human subjects will be in one or more of the following six categories of **exemptions** are not covered by the regulations:

- (1) Research conducted in established or commonly accepted educational settings, involving normal educational practices, such as (a) research on regular and special education instructional strategies, or (b) research on the effectiveness of or the comparison among instructional techniques, curricula, or classroom management methods.
- (2) Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior, unless: (a) information obtained is recorded in such a manner that human subjects can be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects; and (b) any disclosure of the human subjects’ responses outside the research could reasonably place the subjects at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects’ financial standing, employability, or reputation. ***If the subjects are children, exemption 2 applies only to research involving educational tests and observations of public behavior when the investigator(s) do not participate in the activities being observed. Exemption 2 does not apply if children are surveyed or interviewed or if the research involves observation of public behavior and the investigator(s) participate in the activities being observed.*** [Children are defined as persons who have not attained the legal age for consent to treatments or procedures involved in the research, under the applicable law or jurisdiction in which the research will be conducted.]
- (3) Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior that is not exempt under section (2) above, if the human subjects are elected or appointed public officials or candidates for public office; or federal statute(s) require(s) without exception that the confidentiality of the personally identifiable information will be maintained throughout the research and thereafter.

- (4) Research involving the collection or study of existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens, if these sources are publicly available or if the information is recorded by the investigator in a manner that subjects cannot be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects.
- (5) Research and demonstration projects which are conducted by or subject to the approval of department or agency heads, and which are designed to study, evaluate, or otherwise examine: (a) public benefit or service programs; (b) procedures for obtaining benefits or services under those programs; (c) possible changes in or alternatives to those programs or procedures; or (d) possible changes in methods or levels of payment for benefits or services under those programs.
- (6) Taste and food quality evaluation and consumer acceptance studies, (a) if wholesome foods without additives are consumed or (b) if a food is consumed that contains a food ingredient at or below the level and for a use found to be safe, or agricultural chemical or environmental contaminant at or below the level found to be safe, by the Food and Drug Administration or approved by the Environmental Protection Agency or the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

II. Instructions for Exempt and Nonexempt Human Subjects Research Narratives

If the applicant marked “Yes” for Item 3 of Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, the applicant must provide a human subjects “exempt research” or “nonexempt research” narrative. Insert the narrative(s) in the space provided. If you have multiple projects and need to provide more than one narrative, be sure to label each set of responses as to the project they address.

A. Exempt Research Narrative.

If you marked “Yes” for item 3 a. and designated exemption numbers(s), provide the “exempt research” narrative. The narrative must contain sufficient information about the involvement of human subjects in the proposed research to allow a determination by ED that the designated exemption(s) are appropriate. The narrative must be succinct.

B. Nonexempt Research Narrative.

If you marked “No” for item 3 a. you must provide the “nonexempt research” narrative. The narrative must address the following seven points. Although no specific page limitation applies to this section of the application, be succinct.

- (1) **Human Subjects Involvement and Characteristics:** Provide a detailed description of the proposed involvement of human subjects. Describe the characteristics of the subject population, including their anticipated number, age range, and health status. Identify the criteria for inclusion or exclusion of any subpopulation. Explain the rationale for the involvement of special classes of subjects, such as children, children with disabilities, adults

with disabilities, persons with mental disabilities, pregnant women, prisoners, institutionalized individuals, or others who are likely to be vulnerable

- (2) **Sources of Materials:** Identify the sources of research material obtained from individually identifiable living human subjects in the form of specimens, records, or data. Indicate whether the material or data will be obtained specifically for research purposes or whether use will be made of existing specimens, records, or data.
- (3) **Recruitment and Informed Consent:** Describe plans for the recruitment of subjects and the consent procedures to be followed. Include the circumstances under which consent will be sought and obtained, who will seek it, the nature of the information to be provided to prospective subjects, and the method of documenting consent. State if the Institutional Review Board (IRB) has authorized a modification or waiver of the elements of consent or the requirement for documentation of consent.
- (4) **Potential Risks:** Describe potential risks (physical, psychological, social, legal, or other) and assess their likelihood and seriousness. Where appropriate, describe alternative treatments and procedures that might be advantageous to the subjects.
- (5) **Protection Against Risk:** Describe the procedures for protecting against or minimizing potential risks, including risks to confidentiality, and assess their likely effectiveness. Where appropriate, discuss provisions for ensuring necessary medical or professional intervention in the event of adverse effects to the subjects. Also, where appropriate, describe the provisions for monitoring the data collected to ensure the safety of the subjects.
- (6) **Importance of the Knowledge to be Gained:** Discuss the importance of the knowledge gained or to be gained as a result of the proposed research. Discuss why the risks to subjects are reasonable in relation to the anticipated benefits to subjects and in relation to the importance of the knowledge that may reasonably be expected to result.
- (7) **Collaborating Site(s):** If research involving human subjects will take place at collaborating site(s) or other performance site(s), name the sites and briefly describe their involvement or role in the research.

Copies of the Department of Education's Regulations for the Protection of Human Subjects, 34 CFR Part 97 and other pertinent materials on the protection of human subjects in research are available from the Grants Policy and Oversight Staff, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4250, telephone: (202) 260-3353-6120, and on the U.S. Department of Education's Protection of Human Subjects in Research Web Site: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/humansub.html>

NOTE: The **State Applicant Identifier** on the SF 424 is for State Use only. Please complete it on the OMB Standard 424 in the upper right corner of the form (if applicable).

Instructions for ED 524

General Instructions

This form is used to apply to individual U.S. Department of Education (ED) discretionary grant programs. Unless directed otherwise, provide the same budget information for each year of the multi-year funding request. Pay attention to applicable program specific instructions, if attached. Please consult with your Business Office prior to submitting this form.

Section A - Budget Summary U.S. Department of Education Funds

All applicants must complete Section A and provide a breakdown by the applicable budget categories shown in lines 1-11.

Lines 1-11, columns (a)-(e): For each project year for which funding is requested, show the total amount requested for each applicable budget category.

Lines 1-11, column (f): Show the multi-year total for each budget category. If funding is requested for only one project year, leave this column blank.

Line 12, columns (a)-(e): Show the total budget request for each project year for which funding is requested.

Line 12, column (f): Show the total amount requested for all project years. If funding is requested for only one year, leave this space blank.

Indirect Cost Information:

If you are requesting reimbursement for indirect costs on line 10, this information is to be completed by your Business Office. (1): Indicate whether or not your organization has an Indirect Cost Rate Agreement that was approved by the Federal government. (2): If you checked "yes" in (1), indicate in (2) the beginning and ending dates covered by the Indirect Cost Rate Agreement. In addition, indicate whether ED or another Federal agency (Other) issued the approved agreement. If you check "Other," specify the name of the Federal agency that issued the approved agreement. (3): If you are applying for a grant under a Restricted Rate Program (34 CFR 75.563 or 76.563), indicate whether you are using a restricted indirect cost rate that is included on your approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement or whether you are using a restricted indirect cost rate that complies with 34 CFR 76.564(c)(2). Note: State or Local government agencies may not use the provision for a restricted indirect cost rate specified in 34 CFR 76.564(c)(2). Check only one response. Leave blank, if this item is not applicable.

Section B - Budget Summary
Non-Federal Funds

If you are required to provide or volunteer to provide matching funds or other non-Federal resources to the project, these should be shown for each applicable budget category on lines 1-11 of Section B.

Lines 1-11, columns (a)-(e): For each project year, for which matching funds or other contributions are provided, show the total contribution for each applicable budget category.

Lines 1-11, column (f): Show the multi-year total for each budget category. If non-Federal contributions are provided for only one year, leave this column blank.

Line 12, columns (a)-(e): Show the total matching or other contribution for each project year.

Line 12, column (f): Show the total amount to be contributed for all years of the multi-year project. If non-Federal contributions are provided for only one year, leave this space blank.

Section C - Budget Narrative [Attach separate sheet(s)]
Pay attention to applicable program specific instructions, if attached.

1. Provide an itemized budget breakdown, and justification by project year, for each budget category listed in Sections A and B. For grant projects that will be divided into two or more separately budgeted major activities or sub-projects, show for each budget category of a project year the breakdown of the specific expenses attributable to each sub-project or activity.
2. If applicable to this program, provide the rate and base on which fringe benefits are calculated.
3. If you are requesting reimbursement for indirect costs on line 10, this information is to be completed by your Business Office. Specify the estimated amount of the base to which the indirect cost rate is applied and the total indirect expense. Depending on the grant program to which you are applying and/or your approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement, some direct cost budget categories in your grant application budget may not be included in the base and multiplied by your indirect cost rate. For example, you must multiply the indirect cost rates of "Training grants" (34 CFR 75.562) and grants under programs with "Supplement not Supplant" requirements ("Restricted Rate" programs) by a "modified total direct cost" (MTDC) base (34 CFR 75.563 or 76.563). Please indicate which costs are included and which costs are excluded from the base to which the indirect cost rate is applied.

When calculating indirect costs (line 10) for "Training grants" or grants under "Restricted Rate" programs, you must refer to the information and examples on ED's website at: <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html>.

You may also contact (202) 377-3838 for additional information regarding calculating indirect cost rates or general indirect cost rate information.

4. Provide other explanations or comments you deem necessary.

Certification Regarding Lobbying

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

- (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

* APPLICANT'S ORGANIZATION	
* PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	
Prefix:	
* First Name:	
Middle Name:	
* Last Name:	
Suffix:	
* Title:	
* SIGNATURE:	
* DATE:	

Instructions for Completion of SF-LLL: Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

This disclosure form shall be completed by the reporting entity, whether subawardee or prime Federal recipient, at the initiation or receipt of a covered Federal action, or a material change to a previous filing, pursuant to title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. The filing of a form is required for each payment or agreement to make payment to any lobbying entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with a covered Federal action. Complete all items that apply for both the initial filing and material change report. Refer to the implementing guidance published by the Office of Management and Budget for additional information.

1. Identify the type of covered Federal action for which lobbying activity is and/or has been secured to influence the outcome of a covered Federal action.
2. Identify the status of the covered Federal action.
3. Identify the appropriate classification of this report. If this is a followup report caused by a material change to the information previously reported, enter the year and quarter in which the change occurred. Enter the date of the last previously submitted report by this reporting entity for this covered Federal action.
4. Enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the reporting entity. Include Congressional District, if known. Check the appropriate classification of the reporting entity that designates if it is, or expects to be, a prime or subaward recipient. Identify the tier of the subawardee, e.g., the first subawardee of the prime is the 1st tier. Subawards include but are not limited to subcontracts, subgrants and contract awards under grants.
5. If the organization filing the report in item 4 checks "Subawardee," then enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the prime Federal recipient. Include Congressional District, if known.
6. Enter the name of the federal agency making the award or loan commitment. Include at least one organizational level below agency name, if known. For example, Department of Transportation, United States Coast Guard.
7. Enter the Federal program name or description for the covered Federal action (item 1). If known, enter the full Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for grants, cooperative agreements, loans, and loan commitments.
8. Enter the most appropriate Federal identifying number available for the Federal action identified in item 1 (e.g., Request for Proposal (RFP) number; Invitations for Bid (IFB) number; grant announcement number; the contract, grant, or loan award number; the application/proposal control number assigned by the Federal agency). Included prefixes, e.g., "RFP-DE-90-001."

9. For a covered Federal action where there has been an award or loan commitment by the Federal agency, enter the Federal amount of the award/loan commitment for the prime entity identified in item 4 or 5.
10. (a) Enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the lobbying registrant under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 engaged by the reporting entity identified in item 4 to influence the covered Federal action.

(b) Enter the full names of the individual(s) performing services, and include full address if different from 10(a). Enter Last Name, First Name, and Middle Initial (MI).
11. The certifying official shall sign and date the form, print his/her name, title, and telephone number.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is OMB No. 0348-0046. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0046), Washington, DC 20503.