

PROMISE: PROMOTING THE READINESS OF MINORS IN SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME

Understanding the Application:
Webinars & Teleconference

- ▶ May 30, 2013
- ▶ June 4, 2013
- ▶ June 27, 2013

www.ed.gov/promise

Overview of PROMISE: Timelines

- **Applications available**: May 21, 2013
- **Deadline for Notice of Intent to Apply**: June 20, 2013
- **Pre-Application Teleconference**: June 27, 2013
- **Request for Waivers**: August 19, 2013
- **Deadline for Transmittal of Applications**: August 19, 2013
 - 4:30 PM (Eastern Time)

Overview of PROMISE:

The Initiative

- Competitive, multi-year grants, for up to 5 years, funding States to develop and implement model demonstration projects (MDPs) to promote positive outcomes for children who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and their families.
- PROMISE is intended to improve the provision and coordination of services and supports for child SSI recipients and their families to enable them to achieve improved outcomes.

Overview of PROMISE:

Core Features

- Strong and effective partnerships;
- Model set of coordinated services and supports targeted to the needs of child SSI recipients and their families; and
- Capacity to achieve and test results, including capacity to collect data that allows for rigorous evaluation of the project.

Overview of PROMISE: Award Information

- **Type of Award**: Cooperative agreements
- **Estimated Available Funds**: \$100,000,000 available now
- **Estimated Range of Awards**: \$22,500,000 - \$50,000,000 (\$37,500,000 on average) over 5 years
- **Estimated Number of Awards**: 3 to 6
- **Project Period**: Up to 5 years
- **Targeted participants**: Child SSI recipients between the ages of 14-16 at the time the project services are initiated and their families
- **Minimum sample size**: 2,000 child SSI recipients (applies to both single State and consortium of States applicants); half will receive MDP interventions

See page A-39 in the Notice Inviting Applicants (NIA).

Overview of PROMISE: Eligible Applicants

- Eligible applicants are the 50 States and the District of Columbia; a consortium of States may also apply.
 - **Single State applicant:**
 - Must have adequate child SSI recipients to meet required minimum sample size;
 - Must designate a lead coordinating State agency; and
 - Must submit an application signed by the State's Governor.

See pages A-41 – A-42 in the NIA.

Overview of PROMISE:

Eligible Applicants (cont.)

- **Consortium of States applicant:**
 - Collectively meet the minimum sample size;
 - One State submits the application on behalf of the consortium;
 - Each consortium State designate a lead coordinating State agency;
 - Application signed by the Governor of each participating State;
 - Each member of consortium must be legally responsible for carrying out agreed upon activities;
 - Each State partner have at least 3 common agencies (or equivalent for administering common programs) to ensure consistency in services and supports;
 - Consortium must have a consistent model and service strategy across States (i.e., consistent services and supports); and
 - States in a consortium do not have to be contiguous.

Overview of the NIA: Project Activities

- At a minimum, the MDP must conduct the following activities:
 1. Create partnerships;
 2. Develop and implement methods of providing a coordinated set of services and supports based on promising strategies and practices;
 3. Carry out participant outreach and recruitment; and
 4. Deliver technical assistance and training.

See pages A-17 – A-23 in the NIA.

Overview of the NIA: Evaluation & Project Assessment Activities

- Each MDP, at a minimum, must participate in the following activities:
 1. Rigorous national program evaluation;
 2. Formative evaluation;
 3. Performance measures; and
 4. Data collection.

See pages A-23 – A-26 in the NIA.

Overview of the NIA: Application Requirements

1. Description of proposed project and plan for implementation.
2. Description of coordinated set of required and other services and supports.
3. Description of evidence that proposed services and supports have yielded promising results.
4. Description of project's proposed partners.
5. Description of proposed outreach and recruitment plan.
6. Description of applicant's commitment to work with ED, SSA, and the national evaluator for PROMISE.

See pages A-28 – A-31 in the NIA.

Overview of the NIA:

Application Requirements (cont.)

7. Assurance that applicant will provide or arrange for provision of technical assistance and training to ensure consistency in implementation and evaluation of MDP.
8. Description of performance measures
9. Description of data collection plan.
10. Description of applicant's plan for conducting a formative evaluation
11. Plan for attendance at Departmental and other meetings and conferences.

Overview of the NIA: Waivers

- Applicants may apply for one or more waivers authorized under current law that would enable the applicant to achieve better outcomes for project participants.
 - Requests for waivers must be submitted to the appropriate Federal agency that will process the request (i.e., ED, DOL, DHHS, or SSA).
 - The requested waiver should NOT be referred to in the PROMISE application narrative; waiver content will not be considered as part of the application scoring process.

See pages A-32 – A-33 in the NIA.

Overview of the NIA: Invitational Priority

- Incorporation of an Outcome-based Payment (OBP) model into a PROMISE MDP is an **invitational priority**.
 - An OBP model ties payments to providers to the achievement of established outcomes for child SSI recipients and their families.
 - Applicants must include a plan for implementing the OBP model during the project that describes a validation methodology and a payment plan.
 - **NO points are awarded** for invitational priority; no preference over other applications will be given for its use.

See pages A-33 – A-34 in the NIA.

Submitting an Application: Content & Form of Application

- The application narrative (Part III of the application package) addresses the selection criteria used to evaluate the application.
 - The application narrative must be **limited to the equivalent of no more than 100 pages**, using the following standards:
 - A “page” is 8.5” x 11”, on one side only, with 1” margins at top, bottom, and both sides.
 - Double space all text in application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
 - Use a font either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).
 - Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Ariel.
 - **Page limit only applies to Part III**, not Parts I, II, or IV.

See page A-44 in the NIA.

Submitting an Application: Application Submission

- Applications must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site (www.Grants.gov).
- Applications may **not** be submitted via email.
- Applications **must** be submitted **no later than** 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.
- Application narrative sections and all other attachments to the application **must** be uploaded as files in a PDF read-only, non-modifiable format.

See pages A-47 – A-48 in the NIA.

Submitting an Application: Tips for Applicants

1. **Register early.** Grants.gov may take five or more business days to complete.
2. **Submit early.** Don't 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.
3. **Verify submission is ok.** Verify that Grants.gov received your submission on time and that it was validated successfully.

Submitting an Application: Criteria for Ineligibility

- Applications exceeding maximum total award size of \$50,000,000 across five years or an average annual amount of \$6,500 per child SSI recipient to be served in the treatment group.
- Applications exceeding the page limit in the narrative.
 - Narrative sections and all other attachments to the application submitted as file types other than a read-only, non-modifiable PDF (e.g., interactive or fillable PDF, password-protected file) **will not be reviewed**.
- Applications submitted in paper format (**unless** applicant qualifies for exception to electronic submission requirement).
- Applications received after deadline date (after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time).

Application Review Process: Evaluation Criteria

- Applications will be evaluated based on the following selection criteria established for PROMISE:
 1. Quality of the project design (35 points);
 2. Quality of participant recruitment plan (25 points);
 3. Quality of management plan and personnel (35 points);
 4. Significance (20 points); and
 5. Capacity for continuous feedback and improvement (10 points).

See pages A-53 – A-56 in the NIA.

Resources and Assistance

- For further information or questions on the application process, applicants are encouraged to contact Corinne Weidenthal (202-245-6529 or corinne.weidenthal@ed.gov).
- To obtain the application via the Internet, use the following address: www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/index.html.
- To obtain the application in an accessible format, contact ED's Grants and Contracts Services Team (202-245-7363, TDD/TTY 1-800-877-8339).
- For problems submitting an application through Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Support Desk (1-800-518-4726; obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number and keep record of it).
- For further information on the PROMISE Initiative visit www.ed.gov/promise.