

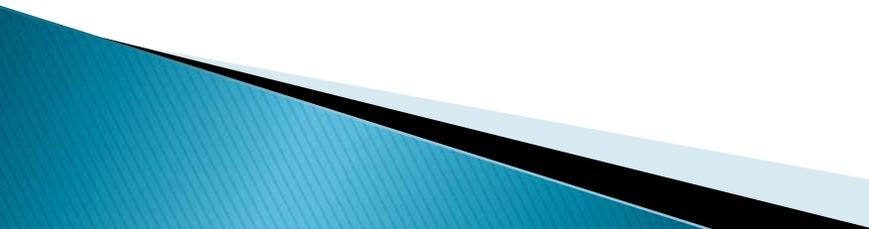
Alaska Native Education Program Almita Reed U.S. Department of Education

Competition Process
Selection Criteria
Anchorage, Alaska

Competition Process

- ▶ Applications for grants under this competition must be submitted electronically, unless you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement.
- ▶ Applicants must limit the program narrative to no more than 25 pages.
- ▶ Page limit does not apply to coversheet, required forms, the abstract, the table of contents proof of eligibility, the budget summary form and narrative justifications, the resumes or the assurances and certifications.

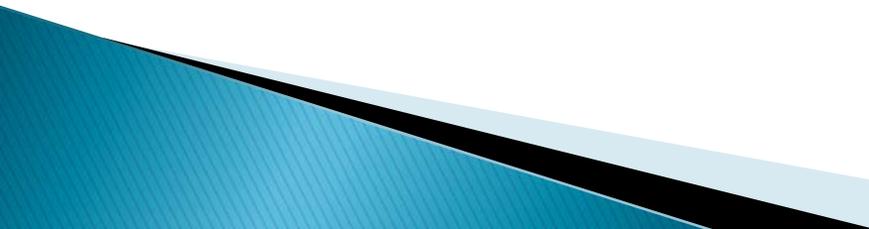
Please Note: Our reviewers will not read any pages of your applications that exceed the page limit.



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.**

Competition Process

- ▶ Applications must adhere to the following guidelines:
 - 8 ½' x11 paper with 1 inch margin on all sides, numbering pages through out the document at the bottom right of the page.
 - Double space all text in the program narrative, using a font that is 12 point or larger.
 - Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial
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Competition Process

- ▶ Your application must be fully loaded and submitted and must be date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30 pm., Washington, DC time on the application deadline.

Competition Process

- ▶ 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

The Peer Review Process

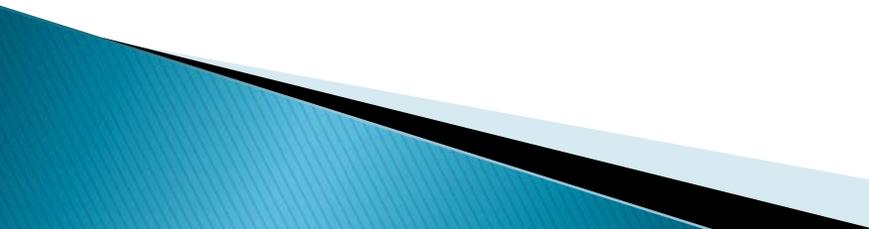
- ▶ Applications are evaluated by outside reviewers who meet as panels to discuss their opinions of the applications
 - ▶ The peer reviewers score applications based on the responses to the selection criterion
 - ▶ The peer reviewers are provided training and instruction on the program, specifically the application package
 - ▶ Program staff use the reviewer scores to develop the funding slate and their Technical Review forms to make project decisions.
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Alaska Native Education Program 2011 Selection Criterion

- ▶ Need for Project (20 Points)
 - ▶ Quality of Project Design (40 Points)
 - ▶ Quality of Management Plan (30 Points)
 - ▶ Quality of Project Evaluation (10 Points)
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Selection Criteria (cont)

- ▶ For this application, the NEED becomes the string that pulls the entire application together
 - ▶ The NEED sets the stage for the program
 - Make sure the need is identifiable
 - Make sure the need is something that meets with the purpose of the program
 - Present the need clearly
 - Use data to support your identified need
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Selection Criteria (cont)

- ▶ The PROJECT DESIGN answers the identified need to improve the situation
 - The PROJECT DESIGN should seek to solve the problems established in the needs section with REALISTIC GOALS and MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES
 - Activities developed should directly address the needs identified
 - Remember the restrictions of the program's allowable activities, Federal Regulations, and other constraints

Selection Criteria (cont)

- ▶ The individuals working on improving the need should have a **MANAGEMENT PLAN** to achieve the goals established in the project's design. This should include:
 - Timeline
 - Personnel
 - Administrative Resources
 - Fit of the project into the organizational structure

Selection Criteria

- ▶ EVALUATION should go back to the need to make sure things really are getting better
 - ▶ EVALUATION should:
 - Address the goals and objectives
 - Measure effectiveness of project activities
 - Include reporting requirements (annual performance report, GPRA Indicators)
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Selection Criteria

- ▶ Adhere to the selection criterion
 - ▶ Respond to all of the selection criterion
 - ▶ Read the full application
 - ▶ Pay attention to the instructions and rules for applying
 - ▶ Follow the rules of the application
 - Page limits
 - Fonts and spacing
- 



Competitive Priority Preference Points

- ▶ Priority 1 -- Alaska Native Regional Nonprofit
 - ▶ Priority 2 -- Improving the Effectiveness and Distribution of Effective Teachers or Principals.
 - ▶ Priority 3 -- Turning Around Persistently Lowest-Achieving Schools.
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Helpful Tips

- ▶ Use timely, specific and relevant data and cite risk factors, such as poverty rates, education levels, dropout and/or literacy rates, and the percentage of limited English proficient students and adults
 - ▶ Use charts, timetables, and position descriptions and/or skill sets for key staff to help describe the structure of your project and the procedures for managing it successfully.
 - ▶ Clearly spell out objectives, actors, events, beneficiaries, and anticipated results.
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Contact

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