



# **2016 EQUITY ASSISTANCE CENTER GRANT COMPETITION**

July 26 & 28, 2016

# REMINDERS



# AGENDA

- Program Information
- Competition Overview
- Application Requirements
- Submission Procedures
- Contact Information
- Q&A

# EQUITY ASSISTANCE CENTERS

## PROGRAM PURPOSE

The Secretary is authorized, upon the application of any school board, State, municipality, school district, or other governmental unit legally responsible for operating a public school or schools, to render technical assistance to such applicant in the preparation, adoption, and implementation of plans for the desegregation of public schools.

**Authority:** Title IV, Civil Rights Act of 1964, and 34 CFR Part 270



# EQUITY ASSISTANCE CENTERS

## PROGRAM PURPOSE

- EACs provide technical assistance (TA), upon request, in the areas of **race, national origin, sex, and religion** to school boards and other responsible governmental agencies located in the geographical service area.
- Technical assistance means a negotiated series of activities designed to reach a valued outcome. These activities should result in changes to policy, program, practice, or operations that support increased customer capacity or improved outcomes at one or more systems levels.

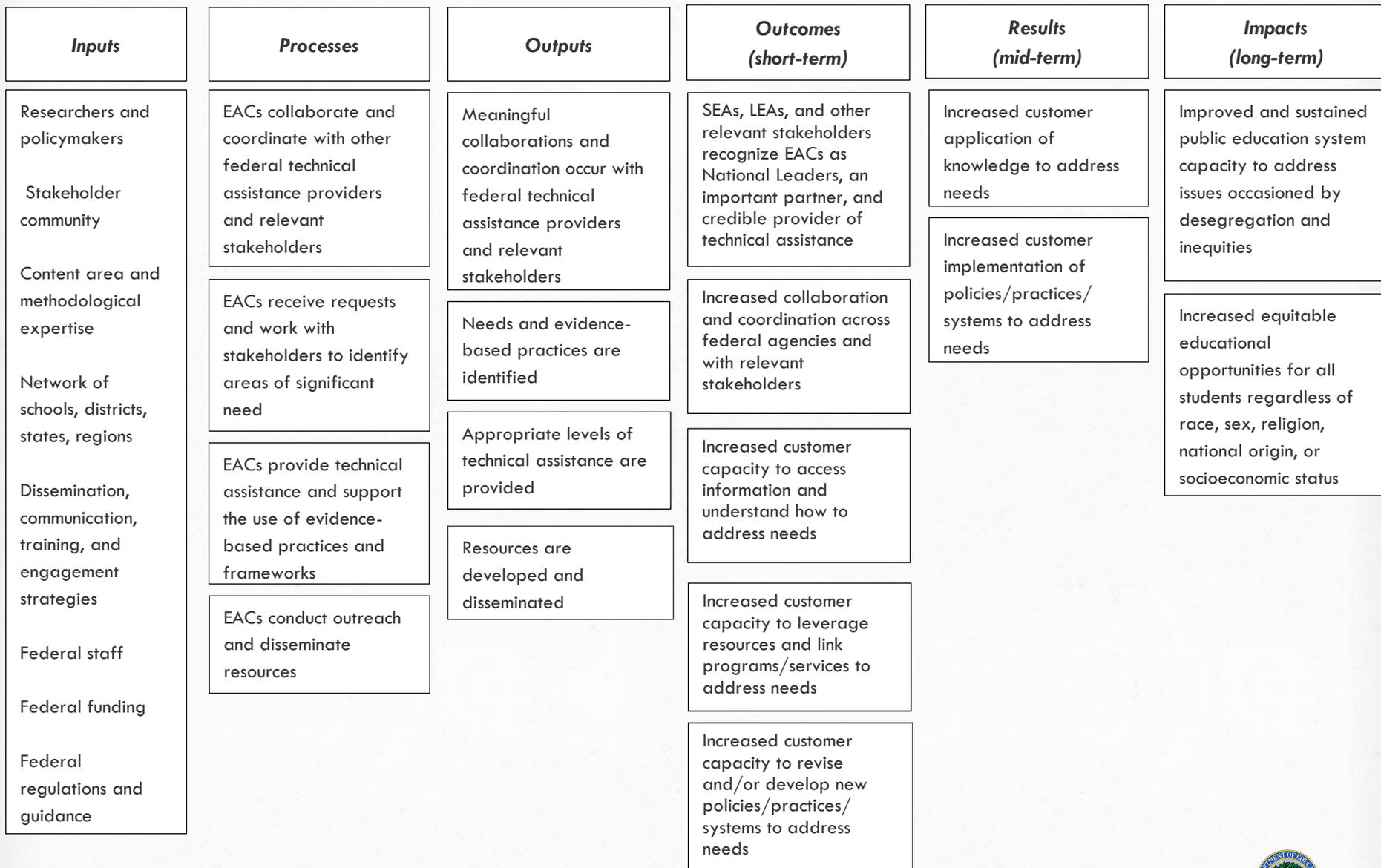


# EQUITY ASSISTANCE CENTERS

## THEORY OF CHANGE

Federal support for coordinated technical assistance to address issues occasioned by desegregation and inequities will improve the capacity of State education agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), and other relevant stakeholders to provide better educational opportunities for all students regardless of race, sex, religion, national origin, or socioeconomic status.

# PROGRAM LOGIC MODEL



# COMPETITION OVERVIEW

- **Number of Awards:** 4
- **Estimated Available Funds for FY16:** \$6,518,563
- **Estimated Range of Awards:** \$1,400,000-\$1,700,000
- **Project Performance Period:** Up to 60 Months
- **Eligible Applicants:** Any public agency (other than an SEA or school board) or a private, non-profit organization
- **Application Deadline:** August 22, 2016

**Important:** We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding \$1,700,000 for any single budget period of 12 months.

# COMPETITION OVERVIEW

## RELEVANT LINKS

- **CFDA:** 84.004D
- **Opportunity Number** - ED-GRANTS-071816-001
- **Application Package:**  
<http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?dpp=1&oppld=286249>
- **Application Submission:** <https://grants.gov>

**Applications must be submitted through grants.gov by 4:30:00pm Eastern Time on August 22, 2016**



# COMPETITION OVERVIEW

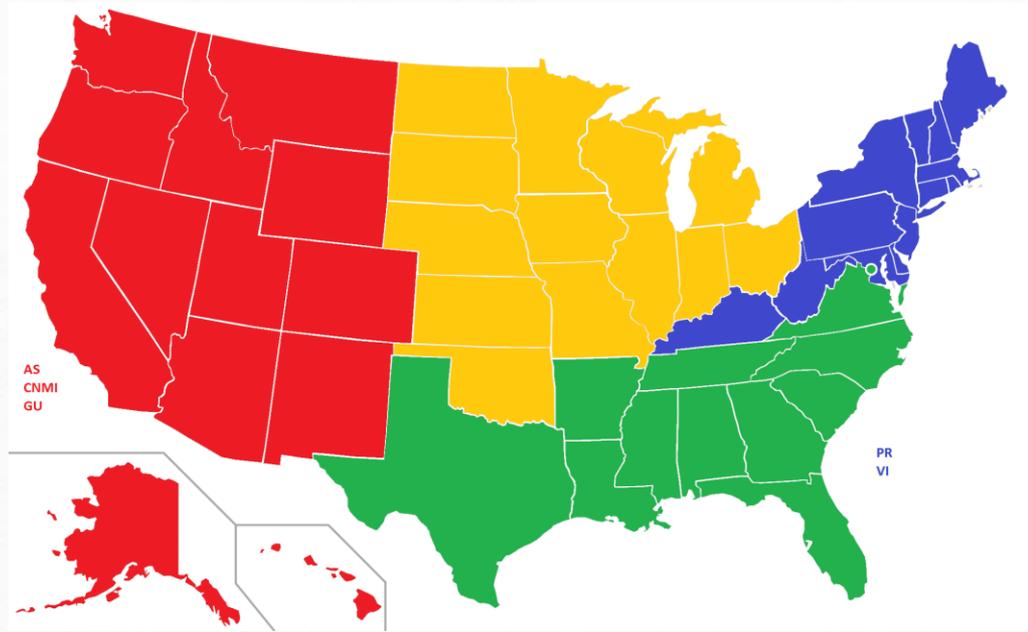
## GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS

- Four EACs will be funded under this grant program in four geographical regions, in accordance with 34 CFR 270.5.
- One award will be made in each region to the highest ranking proposal from that region.
- Eligible applicants **do not** need to be located in the geographic region for which they choose to apply.

**Important:** If an applicant wishes to apply to serve more than one region, such an applicant **must submit an application for each region it wishes to serve.**



# GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS



**Region I:** Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virgin Islands, West Virginia.

**Region II:** Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia.

**Region III:** Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

**Region IV:** Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

## APPLICATION NARRATIVE

The maximum score is 100 points

(not including competitive preference priority points)

- Significance (5 points)
- Quality of Project Services (20 points)
- Quality of Project Design (30 points)
- Quality of Project Personnel (15 points)
- Adequacy of Resources (15 points)
- Quality of the Project Evaluation (15 points)

**= 100 points**



# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

## SELECTION CRITERIA – APPLICATION NARRATIVE

### **Significance (up to 5 points)**

- The extent to which the proposed project is likely to build local capacity to provide, improve, or expand services that address the needs of the target population (5 points)

# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

## SELECTION CRITERIA – APPLICATION NARRATIVE

### **Quality of Project Services (20 points)**

- The extent to which the proposed training or professional development services are of sufficient quality, intensity, and duration to lead to improvements in practice among the recipients of those services. (10 points)
- The extent to which the proposed technical assistance services involve the use of efficient strategies, including the use of technology, as appropriate, and the leveraging of non-project resources. (5 points)
- The extent to which the results of the proposed project are to be disseminated in ways that will enable others to use the information or strategies. (5 points)



# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

## SELECTION CRITERIA – APPLICATION NARRATIVE

### **Quality of Project Design (30 points)**

- The extent to which there is a conceptual framework underlying the proposed research or demonstration activities and the quality of that framework. (10 points)
- The extent to which the design of the proposed project includes a thorough, high-quality review of the relevant literature, a high-quality plan for project implementation, and the use of appropriate methodological tools to ensure successful achievement of project objectives. (10 points)
- The extent to which the proposed project represents an exceptional approach for meeting statutory purposes and requirements. (10 points)



# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

## SELECTION CRITERIA – APPLICATION NARRATIVE

### **Quality of Project Personnel (up to 15 points):**

- The Secretary considers the qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel. (15 points)

# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

## SELECTION CRITERIA – APPLICATION NARRATIVE

### **Adequacy of Resources (up to 15 points):**

- The Secretary considers the extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the number of persons to be served and to the anticipated results and benefits. (15 points)

# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

## BUDGET

- Include in the budget a 2-day trip to occur twice per year to attend Department briefings, Department-sponsored conferences, or other meetings in Washington D.C., as requested by the Department.
- **Do not propose** a budget exceeding \$1,700,000 for any single budget period of 12 months.



# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

## SELECTION CRITERIA – APPLICATION NARRATIVE

### **Quality of Project Evaluation (up to 15 points):**

- The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable. (10 points)
- The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes. (5 points)



# FINAL PRIORITY AND REQUIREMENT

## COMPETITIVE PRIORITY

### Competitive Preference Priority (5 additional points)

- A track record of success or demonstrated expertise in developing or providing technical assistance to increase socioeconomic diversity in schools or school districts as a means to further desegregation by race, sex, national origin, and religion.
- If an applicant wishes to be considered for this priority, the applicant **must submit a supplemental narrative** describing how the applicant meets this priority.

# FINAL PRIORITY AND REQUIREMENT

## FINAL REQUIREMENT

When providing technical assistance on socioeconomic diversity, in response to requests from responsible governmental agencies:

- A grantee under this program must assist in conducting outreach and engagement on strategies or interventions designed to increase socioeconomic diversity with appropriate stakeholders, including community members, parents, and teachers.

# FINAL PRIORITY AND REQUIREMENT

## INVITATIONAL PRIORITY

### **Invitational Priority**

- A track record of success or demonstrated expertise in providing effective technical assistance on strategies to ensure equitable access to effective teachers and leaders, particularly for students from low-income families and minority students across and within schools and districts.

# REPORTING & ACCOUNTABILITY

## REPORTS

- Successful Applicants with multi-year grants must submit an **annual performance report** and a **final performance report**.
- The Department will provide specific reporting guidelines, including reporting deadlines, for each of the required annual reports and financial expenditure information in its cooperative agreement with each successful applicant. Cooperative agreements will be issued to each grantee following grant award.
- GPRA & Project Measures

# REPORTING & ACCOUNTABILITY

## GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE AND RESULT ACT (GPRA) MEASURES

- Measure 1: The percentage of customers reporting an increase in awareness and/or knowledge resulting from technical assistance provided.
- Measure 2: The percentage of customers who report changed policies or practices related to providing students with a full opportunity for participation in all educational programs regardless of their sex, race, religion, and national origin.
- Measure 3: The percentage of customers reporting an increase in capacity resulting from technical assistance provided.



# REPORTING & ACCOUNTABILITY

## PROJECT MEASURES

- Measure 1: The percentage of technical assistance requests received from organizations that were accepted during the performance period.
- Measure 2: The percentage of technical assistance requests received from new (not previously served by the EAC) organizations during the performance period.
- Measure 3: The percentage of customers willing to request additional technical assistance and/or refer another organization to an EAC for technical assistance during the performance period.



# SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Register early on System for Award Management (SAM) and Grants.gov.
  - SAM registration can take approximately 7 business days, but may take upwards of several weeks.
  - Once your SAM registration is active, it may be 24 to 48 hours before you can access the information in, and submit an application through, Grants.gov.



# SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

## PAGE LIMITS AND FORMAT

- Applicants are required to upload their attachments in .pdf format only
- Applicants are encouraged to limit their Application Narrative to **no more than 50 pages** and to limit their supplemental narrative to **3 pages** (if applicable)
- The Department suggests you use the following standards:
  - A "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides
  - Use a 12-point font
  - All text in the Application Narrative must be double-spaced including charts, tables, screen shots, graphs, headings, footnotes, and citations



# SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

## FORMAT AND EXCEPTIONS

- **All applications must be *submitted electronically***, unless you qualify for an exception.

Exceptions:

- You do not have access to the Internet; or
- You do not have the capacity to upload large documents to the Grants.gov system

*You must 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 no later than two weeks before the application deadline date **August 22, 2016** (14 calendar days, or August 8, 2016).*



# SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

## FORMAT AND EXCEPTIONS

If you mail your written statement requesting an exception to the Department, it **must be postmarked *no later than two weeks (August 8, 2016)*** before the **application deadline date to:**

Britt Jung, U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue SW  
Lyndon B. Johnson Building, Room 3E206  
Washington, DC 20202



# SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

## SUBMISSION OF PAPER APPLICATIONS BY MAIL

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, 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 84.004D), LBJ Basement Level 1,  
400 Maryland Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20202-4260**

- We will not consider applications postmarked after the deadline date



# SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Online Applications **will not** be accepted after August 22, 2016 at 4:30:00 PM Eastern Time

**No exceptions!**

# SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

## TECHNICAL ISSUES

- Contact Grants.gov Customer Support at 1-800-518-4726 if you have problems submitting to Grants.gov before the closing date of **August 22, 2016 (4:30:00 PM Eastern Time)**
- You must obtain a *Grants.gov* Support Desk Case Number and must keep a record of it.



# SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **Register early** for SAM and Grants.gov
- Submit your application at least one day before the deadline
- Applications submitted and timestamped after 4:30:00 Eastern Time on August 22, 2016, will not be accepted for review
- Follow application requirements
- Follow .pdf, suggested page limits, and formatting requirements



# APPLICATION INFORMATION

## RELEVANT LINKS

- **Notice Inviting Applications**

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/07/18/2016-16809/applications-for-new-awards-equity-assistance-centers>

- **Notice of Final Regulations**

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/07/18/2016-16811/equity-assistance-centers-formerly-desegregation-assistance-centers-dac>

- **Notice of Final Priority**

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/07/18/2016-16810/final-priority-and-requirement-equity-assistance-centers>



# CONTACT INFORMATION

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Programs

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(202) 205-4513



# QUESTIONS & COMMENTS



**Next Webinar: July 28, 2016 at 2:00pm EDT**



