



Archived Information

Gulf Coast Recovery Grant



FY 2010 NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS

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Housekeeping Issues



- If you have a question during the presentation:
 - Do not “raise your hand”
 - Please hold questions until Q&A session at the end of the session; or
 - Send it to gulfcoastrecovery@ed.gov (answered after the webinar)
- We will do our best to address every question
- Not all questions can be answered

Overview



- \$12,000,000 in available funds
 - ED expects to award between 6-10 grants
 - Awards will be made by September 30, 2010
- Notice Inviting Applications
 - Published in the *Federal Register* on May 27, 2010
- Application package
 - Available at www.ed.gov/programs/gulf/applicant.html
- Deadlines
 - June 21, 2010 – Notice of intent to apply (optional)
 - July 9, 2010 – Application submission (electronic)

Topics for Discussion



- Background and Purpose
- Eligibility
- Project Period and Award Size
- Application Components and Instructions
- Competitive Preference Priority
- Selection Criteria
- Budget Narrative
- Key Reminders
- Resources

Background and Purpose



- Initiative funded in the FY 2010 Consolidated Appropriations Act.
- General purpose is to assist local educational agencies in improving education in areas affected by Hurricanes Katrina, Ike, and Gustav.

Background and Purpose



- Statutory Language:

“... such awards shall be used to improve education in areas affected by such hurricanes and shall be for such activities as replacing instructional materials and equipment; paying teacher incentives; modernizing or renovating or repairing school buildings; beginning or expanding Advanced Placement or other rigorous courses; supporting the expansion of charter schools; and supporting after-school or extended learning time activities.”

Background and Purpose



- Broad range of allowable activities
- Landscaping is not allowed
- Construction is not allowed
 - For the purposes of this competition, construction is considered new buildings or additions to existing buildings and other structures that establish or increase the square footage, height, or building footprint of any structure.

Eligibility



- Local educational agencies (LEAs) located in counties in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas designated by the Federal Management Agency (FEMA) as counties eligible for individual assistance due to damage caused by Hurricanes Katrina, Ike, or Gustav
- Includes charter school LEAs, Intermediate Education Units, and schools supported by the Bureau of Indian Education
- Lists of eligible LEAs found at:
www.ed.gov/programs/gulf/eligibility.html

Eligibility



- An LEA may submit multiple applications
 - However, an LEA may not submit multiple applications that include the same school
- An LEA *must* not include more than 3 schools in its application
 - Applications that include more than 3 schools will be rejected from the competition

Project Period and Award Size



- Grants will be awarded *up to* 24 months
- No continuation awards
- Estimated range of awards: \$150,000 - \$3,000,0000
- Estimated number of awards: 6-10
- Maximum award amounts
 - An applicant may request up to \$500,000 per year for each school it intends to serve through the grant
 - An applicant must not include more than 3 schools in an application for funding
 - Applications that include more than 3 schools or that exceed the maximum amounts will be rejected from the competition

Project Period and Award Size



Maximum Awards

Number of schools served	Project Period	
	1 year	2 year
1	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
2	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000
3	\$1,500,000	\$3,000,000

Application Components and Instructions



- Copies of the application package are available at:
www.ed.gov/programs/gulf/applicant.html
- Electronic submission is *required* for this competition
 - e-Application
 - <http://e-grants.ed.gov>
 - Register and become familiar with the system prior to the due date
 - See “Application Submission Procedures” section of the Application Package (p. 12)

Application Components and Instructions



- Submission involves uploading forms, documents, and narratives
- Webinar focuses on:
 - One-page abstract (competitive priority)
 - *Project narrative (selection criteria)
 - Budget narrative

Competitive Preference Priority



- Competitive priority for applicants that propose to serve at least one school designated by its State as a “persistently lowest-achieving school” for purposes of using school improvement funds under section 1003(g) of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended
- Each State’s definition of “persistently lowest-achieving school” and its approved application (which includes the list of schools) is available at:
www.ed.gov/programs/sif/summary/index.html

Competitive Preference Priority



- “Persistently lowest-achieving schools” are any school on the list except schools in Tier III or schools identified as “newly eligible”
- Applicants that meet the priority will receive 5 additional points
 - Not 5 points per school served
- ED staff will assign the priority points
 - Be sure to list the schools (by name) in the one-page Project Abstract

Competitive Preference Priority



- Special consideration for “persistently lowest-achieving school”
 - Some schools will receive School Improvement Grant (SIG) funding and will be required to adopt one of four school intervention models (turnaround, restart, school closure, or transformation)
 - If you plan to serve a school you believe will receive SIG funds, be sure that the services you propose can be implemented and are not inconsistent with the SIG reform models
 - More information on SIG is available at:
www.ed.gov/programs/sif

Selection Criteria



- The selection criteria are addressed in your project narrative. The project narrative is limited to no more than 20 pages. Applications that exceed the page limit will be rejected from the competition.
- There are 3 selection criteria:
 - Need for the project (40 points);
 - Project design and services (30 points); and
 - Project management (30 points).
- Each criterion has several subcriteria

Selection Criteria



- Need for the project (40 points)
 - The severity of the impact of the hurricane(s) on each school targeted for services under the project (10 points)
 - ✦ In addressing this factor, applicants should consider including quantitative data, qualitative data, or both, on the status of each targeted school *prior to the hurricane*, as well as *the impact of the hurricane(s)* on each targeted school.
 - The magnitude of the need for the services to be provided or the activities to be carried out at each targeted school (10 points)
 - ✦ In addressing this factor, applicants should consider including quantitative data, qualitative data, or both, highlighting the *specific needs* resulting from the impact of the hurricane(s).



- Need for the project (40 points)
 - The extent to which other sources of funds (including FEMA reimbursement, private insurance, other funds) are not available to meet the needs of the targeted schools (20 points)
 - ✦ In addressing this factor, applicants should consider describing the financial resources needed for recovery efforts at each targeted school, and the extent to which current or future funding exists to meet these needs.

Selection Criteria



- Project design and services (30 points)
 - The extent to which the proposed project services will successfully address the needs of each targeted school (15 points)
 - ✦ In addressing this factor, applicants should consider proposing services that focus on restoring the learning environment and that respond to the specific recovery needs of the targeted schools.
 - The likelihood that the services to be provided by the proposed project will lead to improvements in the achievement of students as measured against rigorous academic achievement standards (10 points)
 - ✦ In addressing this factor, applicants should consider including an explanation of how the proposed recovery efforts will result in the increased academic achievement of students.

Selection Criteria



- Project design and services (30 points)
 - The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project involve the collaboration of appropriate partners in order to maximize the effectiveness of proposed project services (5 points)
 - ✦ In addressing this factor, applicants should consider identifying how the proposed recovery efforts will be coordinated with other entities to meet the needs of the targeted schools.

Selection Criteria



- **Project Management (30 points)**
 - The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key personnel (10 points)
 - The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget (8 points)
 - The extent to which the management plan articulates clearly defined responsibilities and includes realistic timelines and milestones for accomplishing project tasks (5 points)
 - The extent to which the applicant has a sound financial management system, including effective internal controls, to administer the grant funds (7 points)
 - ✦ In addressing this factor, applicants should consider including an overview of their financial management system, including how they maintain effective internal controls and fund-accountability procedures

Budget Narrative



- Include a budget narrative that corresponds to the budget form (ED Form 524).
- The request should be carefully linked to the goals, objectives, and activities of the project narrative portion of the application.
- ED staff will review the budget narrative and determine whether or not the expenditures are allowable, allocable, and reasonable. Any costs not fully described or justified can be deleted from your funding request.

Budget Narrative



- Remember that construction is not allowed
- An applicant may use their approved negotiated *unrestricted* indirect cost rate to charge indirect costs to the grant
 - Include a copy of the indirect cost rate agreement with the application
- Matching is not required
 - If an applicant intends to provide a match, this information must be included in the budget narrative and in any future reporting document

Key Reminders



- Familiarize yourself with e-application
 - <http://e-grants.ed.gov>
- Submit your application ON TIME:
 - July 9, 2010 at 4:30 Washington DC time
 - ALSO: Intent to apply – June 21, 2010
- FAX the signed SF 424 to the Application Control Center within 3 working days after you submit your application
 - (202) 245-6272

Key Reminders



- Remember the things that can get your application rejected from the competition:
 - Limit the application narrative to 20 pages
 - Include no more than 3 schools in your application
 - Request no more than \$500,000 per school per year
- Address the selection criteria in order
- Limit attachments to necessary files that support the application narrative

Resources



- Additional FAQs
 - Application package
 - www.ed.gov/programs/gulf
- Questions about e-application and electronic submission through e-grants:
 - 1-888-336-8930 (e-Grants help desk)
- All other questions:
 - April Bolton-Smith – (202) 260-1475
 - Chuenée Boston – (202) 260-7008
 - gulfcoastrecovery@ed.gov