

**Promise Neighborhoods**  
**Frequently Asked Questions ADDENDUM #5**  
**June 7, 2010**

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**Please note that the following FAQs are an addendum to the FAQs published on June 2, 2010. The FAQs below have been incorporated into the relevant sections of the June 2, 2010 FAQs and the revised document is also now posted on the Promise Neighborhoods website at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/promiseneighborhoods/faq.html>.**

**B. Eligible Applicants and Partners**

**B-16. May an eligible entity propose to serve a geographic area located in the outlying areas?**

Yes. An eligible entity may propose to serve a geographic area in the outlying areas (as defined in Section 9101(30) of the ESEA), which include Puerto Rico, United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and, because Promise Neighborhoods is a discretionary grant program, the Freely Associated States of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau.

**B-17. If an entity uses an advisory board to meet the definition of “representative of the geographic area proposed to be served,” are there additional requirements beyond those described in the notice that the advisory board must meet?**

No. In order for an entity to be considered “representative of the geographic area proposed to be served,” residents of that geographic area must have an active role in decision-making and at least one-third of the eligible entity’s governing board or advisory board must meet the descriptions in paragraphs (a)-(d) of the definition of “representative of the geographic area proposed to be served,” in the notice. The Department has not established any additional requirements for an advisory board. *See* B-7 for additional information regarding newly created boards.

**C. Priorities**

**C-21. Must an eligible applicant identify the project director and other project personnel in its planning grant application?**

An applicant is not required to identify the project director or other project personnel in its application. However, as part of their review of applications, peer reviewers will consider the quality of the project personnel who will carry out the proposed project (*see* selection criterion, “Quality of Project Personnel”). Specifically, reviewers will consider the qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of the applicant, including the project director, and the prior performance of the applicant on efforts similar or related to the proposed Promise Neighborhood.

## **E. Project Design**

### **E-12. Must an eligible applicant’s proposal include a plan to implement one of the four school intervention models<sup>1</sup> in the proposed target school?**

As described in Absolute Priority 1 of the notice, all eligible applicants must partner with at least one target school that is either a persistently lowest-achieving school, a low-performing school, or an effective school (all as described in the notice). An applicant that partners with a target school that is a *persistently lowest-achieving school* must plan to implement one of the four school intervention models (turnaround model, restart model, school closure, or transformation model). An applicant that partners with a target school that is a *low-performing school that is not also a persistently lowest-achieving school* must implement ambitious, rigorous, and comprehensive interventions to assist, augment, or replace the school, which may include implementing one of the four school intervention models, or may include another model of sufficient ambition, rigor, and comprehensiveness to significantly improve academic and other outcomes for students, with elements that address the effectiveness of teachers and leaders and the school’s use of time and resources, including increased learning time (as defined in the notice). An applicant that partners with a target school that is an *effective school* must support and sustain that school by providing academic programs in a manner that significantly enhances and expands current efforts to improve the academic outcomes of the children in the neighborhood.

## **J. Selection Criteria**

### **J-2. Will preference be given to solutions that are based on evidence from a particular source or database?**

No, preference will not be given to solutions that are based on evidence from any specific source. Peer reviewers will consider the extent to which an applicant describes proposed solutions that are based on the best available evidence including, where available, strong or moderate evidence (both as described in the notice). *See* selection criterion, “Quality of Project Services.”

## **K. Application Process**

### **K-5. What are the page limits for the project narrative and the memorandum of understanding? Are these page limits required or recommended?**

The page limit for the project narrative is 40 pages double-spaced, which includes the table of contents. This page limit is required.

The page limit for the memorandum of understanding is 10 pages double-spaced. This page limit is recommended, but not required. For additional information, *see* K-3.

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<sup>1</sup> The four school intervention models are the turnaround model, restart model, school closure, and transformation model described in Appendix C of the Race to the Top Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for FY 2010, 74 FR 59836, 59866 (November 18, 2009)

**K-6. Must all eligible applicants provide a DUNS number on the ED Standard Form 424, question 8(c)?**

Yes, all Federal grant applicants must provide a DUNS number on ED Standard Form 424. A DUNS number is a unique 9-digit number that identifies the organization. Check with your fiscal office to see if your organization already has a DUNS number. If your organization does not have a DUNS number, contact Dun & Bradstreet at 1-888-814-1435 or [http://www.dnb.com/US/duns\\_update/index.html](http://www.dnb.com/US/duns_update/index.html).

**K-7. Must a Promise Neighborhoods planning grant application be approved by State officials before it is submitted to the Department?**

No; however, Promise Neighborhoods applications are subject to intergovernmental review after submission. For additional information about the regulations pertaining to Intergovernmental Review, applicants can refer to the application package and to 34 CFR Part 79 of EDGAR, which can be viewed at <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/fund/reg/edgarReg/edgar.pdf>. In addition, all eligible applicants are strongly encouraged to partner with such entities as an LEA; Federal, State, and local government leaders; and providers of family and community supports.