Dear Upward Bound or Upward Bound Math and Science Project Director:

I invite you to submit a proposal for a one-time supplemental award of up to $40,000. The supplemental award, if approved, would be in addition to the amount of your fiscal year (FY) 2018 continuation award under your existing Upward Bound (UB) or Upward Bound Math and Science (UBMS) program grant. The UB and UBMS Programs are authorized by Title IV, Part A of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1070a-11 and 1070a-13).

Without exceeding the scope or objectives of your existing grant, you may propose activities for the project period associated with your FY 2018 non-competing continuation award (that is, for UB, activities during the period June 1, 2018, through August 31, 2019; and for UBMS, activities during the period September 1, 2018 through October 30, 2019) that are consistent with one or more of the following elements of the Secretary’s supplemental priorities for discretionary grant programs (Supplemental Priorities), which were published in the Federal Register on March 2, 2018 (83 FR 9096):

- Supporting student mastery of key prerequisites (e.g., Algebra I) to ensure success in all STEM\(^1\) fields, including computer science\(^2\); exposing students to building-block skills (such as critical thinking and problem-solving, gained through hands-on, inquiry-based learning); or supporting the development of proficiency in the use of computer applications necessary to transition from a user of technologies, particularly computer technologies, to a developer of them.

- Creating or expanding partnerships between schools, local educational agencies, State educational agencies, businesses, not-for-profit organizations, or institutions of higher education to give students access to internships, apprenticeships, or other work-based learning experiences in STEM fields, including computer science.

- Increasing access to STEM coursework, including computer science, and hands-on learning opportunities, such as through expanded course offerings, high-quality online coursework, or other innovative delivery mechanisms.

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\(^1\) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

\(^2\) As defined in the Supplemental Priorities, computer science means the study of computers and algorithmic processes and includes the study of computing principles and theories, computational thinking, computer hardware, software design, coding, analytics, and computer applications. Computer science often includes computer programming or coding as a tool to create software, including applications, games, websites, and tools to manage or manipulate data; or development and management of computer hardware and the other electronics related to sharing, securing, and using digital information. In addition to coding, the expanding field of computer science emphasizes computational thinking and interdisciplinary problem-solving to equip students with the skills and abilities necessary to apply computation in our digital world. Computer science does not include using a computer for everyday activities, such as browsing the internet; use of tools like word processing, spreadsheets, or presentation software; or using computers in the study and exploration of unrelated subjects.
After awarding non-competing continuation grants, we are making $46,600,000, up to $40,000 per grantee, available in additional funding. You may request the maximum amount of $40,000 per grantee, with the understanding that the full amount may not be awarded. Grantees with large available balances remaining from their FY 2017 awards may not be awarded supplemental awards.

In order for the U.S. Department of Education to issue an award, we must receive from you a budget showing (1) how the funds will be used and (2) a description of the activities being supplemented. We recommend a minimum description of two pages and a maximum description of five pages.

Examples of activities that are consistent with the supplemental priorities and that might be consistent with the scope and objectives of a UB or UBMS grant include, but are not limited to the following:

- Innovative tutoring in the area of STEM coursework, with a particular focus on computer science.
- Increased STEM-focused activities, including a particular focus on computer science.
- Creating or expanding partnerships for internships, apprenticeships, or other work-based learning in STEM, including a particular focus on computer science.
- Stipend for summer school recess for a period not to exceed three months, except that youth participating in a work-study position may be paid $300 per month during the summer school recess.
- STEM coursework, including a particular focus on computer science.

To be considered for this one-time supplement, the proposed budget and activities description must be submitted to the following applicable program specialist by email by 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time on Friday, July 13, 2018:

- Upward Bound Program
  Ken Waters
  Ken.Waters@ed.gov

- Upward Bound Math and Science Program
  Sharon Easterling
  Sharon.Easterling@ed.gov

If you have questions, please contact the program specialist for UB, Kenneth Waters, at 202-453-6273, or the program specialist for UBMS, Sharon Easterling, at 202-453-7425. You also may contact Gaby Watts, Division Director, at 202-453-7195.

Sincerely,

Adam Kissel
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Higher Education Programs