



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Request for Application (RFA Entitlement)

Bureau/Office

Division of Public Schools/Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development and Retention

Program Name

Title II, Part A - Teachers and Principals Training and Recruiting Fund

Specific Funding Authority (ies)

Federal, No Child Left Behind Act, 2001, P. L. 107-110, CFDA 84.367A

Title II, Part A - Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund

Funding Purpose/Priorities

The Title II, Part A – Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund assists with the implementation of Florida’s Standards. Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) and schools are held accountable for improvements in student academic achievement through evidence- and research-based programs. Projects are intended to increase student academic achievement through strategies such as improving teacher and principal quality, and increasing the number of highly qualified and/or infield and effective teachers in the classroom and highly effective principals and assistant principals in schools. Projects shall address and take action to support beginning teachers, develop the capacity of principals to improve teaching and learning and support professional learning of educators at high need schools taking into account the differences in teacher effectiveness and equitable distribution of highly effective teachers between particular types of schools.

Type of Award

Entitlement

Total Funding Amount

\$97,173,497.00 (Preliminary)

Budget Period

Effective July 1, 2015 or date received, whichever is later, through June 30, 2016

Program Performance Period

Effective July 1, 2015 or date received, whichever is later, through June 30, 2016

Target Population

Target populations include educators, administrators and staff.

Eligible Applicant(s)

Local Educational Agencies (LEAs)

Application Due Date

Entitlement projects will be effective on the date received or July 1, 2014 whichever is later and will remain in effect through June 30, 2016. Projects should be submitted as soon as possible and not later than December 7th, 2015.

The due date refers to the date of receipt in Grants Management.

For federal programs, the project effective date will be the date that the application is received within DOE meeting conditions for acceptance, or the date of receipt of the Federal Award Notification, whichever is later.

Contact Persons

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Assurances

The Department of Education has developed and implemented a document entitled, General Terms, Assurances and Conditions for Participation in Federal and State Programs, to comply with:

- 34 CFR 76.301 of the Education Department General Administration Regulations (EDGAR) which requires local educational agencies to submit a common assurance for participation in federal programs funded by the U.S. Department of Education;
- applicable regulations of other Federal agencies; and
- State regulations and laws pertaining to the expenditure of state funds.

In order to receive funding, applicants must have on file with the Department of Education Comptroller's Office, a signed statement by the agency head certifying applicant adherence to these General Assurances for Participation in State or Federal Programs. The complete text may be found at <http://fldoe.org/comptroller/doc/gbsectiond.doc>

School Districts, Community Colleges, Universities and State Agencies

The certification of adherence, currently on file with the Department of Education Comptroller's Office, shall remain in effect indefinitely. The certification does not need to be resubmitted with this application, unless a change occurs in federal or state law, or there are other changes in circumstances affecting a term, assurance, or condition.

Funding Method

CARDS - Cash Advance and Reporting of Disbursements System - Federal cash advances will be made by state warrant or electronic funds transfer (EFT) to a recipient for disbursements. For federally funded projects, requests for federal cash advance must be made on the CARDS - Cash Advance and Reporting of Disbursements System. If, at times it is determined that disbursements are going to exceed the amount of cash on hand plus cash in transit, an on-line amendment can be made prior to the due date of the next Federal Cash Advance distribution on the CARDS System.

Other

Payment made as specified under Section 12, Terms and Special Conditions, of the Project Award Notification (DOE 200).

All accounts, records, and other supporting documentation pertaining to all costs incurred shall be maintained for five years. Supporting documentation for expenditures is required for all funding methods. Examples of such documentation include but are not limited to invoices with check numbers verifying payment, and/or bank statements, time and effort logs for staff, and salary/benefits schedules for staff. All or any of which must be available upon request.

Executive Order 11-116 (Supersedes Executive Order 11-02)

Employment of unauthorized aliens by any contractor is considered a violation of Section 274A (e) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. If the contractor knowingly employs unauthorized aliens, such violation shall be cause for unilateral cancellation of the contract. In addition, pursuant to Executive Order 11-116, for all contracts providing goods or services to the state in excess of nominal value; (a) the Contractor will utilize the E-Verify system established by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to verify the employment eligibility of all new employees hired by the contractor during the Contract term, (b) require that Contractors include in such subcontracts the requirement that subcontractors performing work or providing services pursuant to the state contract utilize the E-Verify system to verify the employment eligibility of all new employees hired by the subcontractor during the contract term.

NARRATIVE SECTION

Project Design-Narrative

Allowable activities under Title II, Part A are in the attached application. Activities are chosen by the applicant based on the required needs assessment.

The description of program activities will be based on the required needs assessment. The needs assessment shall include the aggregate assessment of local needs for professional development (teachers and principals); results of annual performance appraisals; data on the number of teachers who are not highly qualified and/or infield, based on State Board of Education (SBE) Rule 6A-1.0503, FAC, reasons why teachers are not highly qualified and/or infield as determined by section 1012.34 F.S. and what may be keeping teachers from being effective or highly effective. LEAs shall consider the historical and current value added data.

LEAs are to conduct activities that will be inclusive of Florida's college and career ready academic standards, Florida Educator Accomplished Practices (FEAPs), standards of high quality professional learning on instructional and leadership practices that will impact student success, Florida Principal Leadership Standards (FPLS) and state assessments.

Activities conducted shall be (scientifically) research-based and specifically assist teachers who are not highly qualified and/or infield or are not effective based on elements evaluated in the LEA's Performance Evaluation System, and how the LEA will continue to maintain teachers' infield and/or highly qualified status. The plans must be developed through consultation with principals, highly effective teachers, and be coordinated with, and support other reform efforts at the school(s).

To that end, LEAs are directed to focus on the three areas below.

1. LEAs shall implement evidence- and research-based programs that provide targeted, specific support for beginning teachers. These may include, but are not limited to, summer academies for new teachers teaching summer school to actual students, full release and trained mentors/coaches, a differentiated system of support utilizing real-time coaching, whisper/elbow coaching, planning conferences and/or video-taping.

2. LEAs are expected to implement activities that will develop the capacity of principals and other instructional leaders to improve teaching and learning, coach and/or train principals to recognize effective teaching skills, ineffective teaching and know how to take action to ensure quality learning for all students as determined by F.S 1012.34. LEAs are expected to establish effective ways to build and sustain a school-site learning culture that supports collegial learning practices. These activities may include, but are not limited to, partnerships with approved external organizations, collaborative learning activities between and among principals and principal supervisors, differentiated instructional leadership coaching/support based on district and individual school principal needs, and/or a focus on the skills of observing, analyzing and developing instructional expertise.
3. LEAs are expected to address and take action to support the professional learning of educators at high need schools, as well as address and take action to ensure an equitable distribution of effective teachers and principals among particular types of schools. Priority shall be given to principals and assistant principals who need training and/or assistance in determining levels of teacher effectiveness/performance. Activities are expected to address high need schools (other than Title I and differential accountability schools) based on student achievement data, teacher effectiveness and/or other documented elements of the school/district needs assessment. Activities are expected to include and build upon, but not limited to, job-embedded, high fidelity collegial professional learning.

LEAs are required to include an evaluation component that will determine the effectiveness of the delivery of professional development utilizing equipment and technology, if purchased, with Title II, Part-A funds. The evaluation must be based on the Professional Development System Evaluation Protocol.

Support for Reading/Strategic Imperatives

Just Read Florida URL: <http://www.justreadflorida.com>

Incorporate one or more of the Areas of Focus included in Florida's Next Generation PreK-20 Education Strategic Plan. URL: http://www.fldoe.org/Strategic_Plan/pdfs/StrategicPlanApproved.pdf

Describe how the project will address the reading and math/science initiatives of the Department of Education. Math/Science Initiative URL: <http://www.fldoestem.org/center13.aspx>

Reporting Outcomes

Describe methods/strategies to be used to report outcomes and/or the status of project activities.

Each applicant is required to evaluate and submit annually. The evaluation will be used to make decisions about appropriate changes in programs for the subsequent year. The evaluation will describe how program(s) affected student academic achievement and will include, at a minimum, information and data on the use of funds and the types of services furnished.

For Federal Programs - General Education Provisions Act (GEPA)

Provide a concise description of the process to ensure equitable access to, and participation of students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs. For details refer to URL:

<http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/gepa427.pdf>

Equitable Services for Private School Participation

In accordance with P.L. 107-110, Title IX, Part E Uniform Provisions, Subpart 1, Section 9501, the applicant must provide a detailed plan of action for providing consultation for equitable services to private school children and teachers with the local education agency(ies) service area. For details, refer to URL: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg111.html>.

Conditions for Acceptance

The requirements listed below must be met for applications to be considered for review:

- 1) Application is received in DOE within the timeframe specified by the RFA
- 2) Application includes required forms: DOE 100A Project Application Form and DOE 101 - Budget Narrative Form
- 3) All required forms must have the assigned TAPS Number included on the form
- 4) All required forms have original signatures by an authorized entity
- 5) Application must be submitted to:

Office of Grants Management
Florida Department of Education
325 W. Gaines Street, Room 332
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

NOTE: Applications signed by officials other than the appropriate agency head identified above must have a letter signed by the agency head, or documentation citing action of the governing body delegating authority to the person to sign on behalf of said official. Attach the letter or documentation to the DOE 100A when the application is submitted.

Method of Review

Department staff will review for federal requirements, state initiatives and professional development goals.