

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before February 22, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Rachel Potter, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10222, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or faxed to (202) 395-6974.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: January 13, 2006.

Angela C. Arrington,
IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

**Office of Planning, Evaluation and
Policy Development**

Type of Review: New.

Title: 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program Quality Study.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs; Not-for-profit institutions.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 624.

Burden Hours: 1,055.

Abstract: SRI International and Policy Studies Associates have been contracted by the U.S. Department of Education's Policy and Program Studies Service to conduct an evaluation to examine quality programming considering the current research base, program structure and the academic content. SRI and PSA will collect survey and qualitative data to assess the quality of practice in a variety of 21st CCLC centers. The findings from this evaluation will provide a comprehensive picture of how 21st CCLC programs are being implemented under NCLB for students who attend underperforming schools in low-income communities.

Requests for copies of the information collection submission for OMB review may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2921. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20202-4700. Requests may also be electronically mailed to ICDocketMgr@ed.gov or faxed to 202-245-6623. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be electronically mailed to ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. E6-686 Filed 1-20-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Office of Elementary and Secondary
Education; Overview Information;
Native Hawaiian Education Program;
Notice Inviting Applications for New
Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2006**

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.362A.

Dates: Applications Available: January 23, 2006.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 24, 2006.

Eligible Applicants: Native Hawaiian educational organizations; Native Hawaiian community-based organizations; public and private nonprofit organizations, agencies, and institutions with experience in developing or operating Native Hawaiian programs or programs of instruction in the Native Hawaiian language, and consortia of the previously mentioned organizations, agencies, and institutions.

Estimated Available Funds: \$9,500,000. Contingent upon the availability of funds and quality of applications, the Secretary may make additional awards for FY 2007 from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$375,000—\$1,100,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$450,000 (The size of the awards will be commensurate with the nature and scope of the work proposed).

Estimated Number of Awards: 21.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Full Text of Announcement**I. Funding Opportunity Description**

Purpose of Program: The purpose of the Native Hawaiian Education program is to support innovative projects that enhance the educational services provided to Native Hawaiian children and adults. These projects may include those activities authorized under section 7205(a)(3) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA).

Priorities: In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(iv), the following competitive preference priorities are from section 7205(a)(2) of the ESEA.

Competitive Preference Priorities: For FY 2006, and any subsequent year in which we make awards based on the list of unfunded applicants from this competition, these priorities are competitive preference priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i) we award a maximum of 5 points (total) to an application, depending on the extent to which the application meets one or more of these priorities.

The Secretary will give a competitive preference to applicants proposing projects that are designed to address one or more of the following:

(a) Beginning reading and literacy among students in kindergarten through third grade;

(b) The needs of at-risk children and youth;

(c) The needs in fields or disciplines in which Native Hawaiians are underemployed; and

(d) The use of the Hawaiian language in instruction.

Note: In order to receive additional points under a competitive preference priority, an application should provide adequate and sufficient information that clearly substantiates its claim that it meets each priority addressed.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7515–7517; Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–149).

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grant.
Estimated Available Funds:

\$9,500,000. Contingent upon the availability of funds and quality of applications, the Secretary may make additional awards for FY 2007 from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$375,000 – \$1,100,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$450,000 (The size of the awards will be commensurate with the nature and scope of the work proposed).

Estimated Number of Awards: 21.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

III. Eligibility Information

1. **Eligible Applicants:** Native Hawaiian educational organizations; Native Hawaiian community-based organizations; public and private nonprofit organizations, agencies, and institutions with experience in developing or operating Native Hawaiian programs or programs of instruction in the Native Hawaiian language; and consortia of the previously mentioned organizations, agencies, and institutions.

2. **Cost Sharing or Matching:** This competition does not involve cost sharing or matching requirements, but the program does have a supplement-not-supplant funding requirement. Funds made available under this program may be used only to

supplement and expand programs and authorities in the area of education to further the purposes of the Native Hawaiian Education program (section 7203(3) of the ESEA).

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. **Address to Request Application Package:** To obtain a copy of the application package via the Internet use the following address: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/nathawaiian/applicant.html>

Individuals may also obtain a copy of the application package by contacting the program contact persons listed in this section.

Address and mail your request for information to: Beth Fine, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 3W223, Washington, DC 20202–6200. Telephone: (202) 260–1091 or by e-mail: beth.fine@ed.gov or Francisco Ramirez, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 3W225, Washington, DC 20202–6200. Telephone: (202) 260–1541 or by e-mail: francisco.ramirez@ed.gov

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the program contact persons listed in this section.

2. **Content and Form of Application Submission:** Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for this competition.

Page Limit: The application narrative is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. Applicants are strongly encouraged to limit the application narrative (text plus all figures, charts, tables, and diagrams) to the equivalent of no more than 25 pages, using the following standards:

- A “page” is 8.5” x 11”, on one side only, with 1” margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.

- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, except titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, captions, and all text in charts, tables, and graphs.

- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial.

- Use size 12-point font.

- Begin numbering at the right bottom of the first page in Arabic numerals (“1”) and number the pages consecutively throughout the document.

- Include all critical information in the program narrative.

The recommended page limit does not apply to the cover sheet; the budget section, including the budget narrative justification; the assurances and certifications; the project abstract; the resumes; and the appendices.

3. **Submission Dates and Times:**
Applications Available: January 23, 2006.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 24, 2006.

Applications for grants under this competition must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site (Grants.gov). For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically or by mail or hand delivery if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, please refer to section IV.6. **Other Submission Requirements** in this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

4. **Intergovernmental Review:** This competition is not subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79.

5. **Funding Restrictions:** This program has a statutory requirement prohibiting the use of Federal funds to supplant non-Federal funds. Under 34 CFR 75.563, if a grantee decides to charge indirect costs to a program with this type of statutory requirement, the grantee shall use a restricted indirect cost rate computed under 34 CFR 76.564 through 76.569. Also, under section 7205(b) of the ESEA, not more than five percent of funds provided to a grantee under this competition for any fiscal year may be used for administrative purposes. We reference additional regulations outlining funding restrictions in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

6. **Other Submission Requirements:** Applications for grants under this competition must be submitted electronically unless you qualify for an exception to this requirement in accordance with the instructions in this section.

a. **Electronic Submission of Applications.**

Applications for grants under the Native Hawaiian Education Program—CFDA Number 84.362A must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site at: <http://www.grants.gov>. Through this site, you

will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

We will reject your application if you submit it in paper format unless, as described elsewhere in this section, you qualify for one of the exceptions to the electronic submission requirement *and* submit, no later than two weeks before the application deadline date, a written statement to the Department that you qualify for one of these exceptions. Further information regarding calculation of the date that is two weeks before the application deadline date is provided later in this section under *Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement*.

You may access the electronic grant application for the Native Hawaiian Education Program at: <http://www.grants.gov>. You must search for the downloadable application package for this program by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search.

Please note the following:

- When you enter the Grants.gov site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, as well as the hours of operation.

- Applications received by Grants.gov are time and date stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted, and must be date/time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not consider your application if it is date/time stamped by the Grants.gov system later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. When we retrieve your application from Grants.gov, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because it was date/time stamped by the Grants.gov system after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.

- The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the submission process through Grants.gov.

- You should review and follow the Education Submission Procedures for submitting an application through Grants.gov that are included in the application package for this competition

to ensure that you submit your application in a timely manner to the Grants.gov system. You can also find the Education Submission Procedures pertaining to Grants.gov at <http://e-Grants.ed.gov/help/GrantsgovSubmissionProcedures.pdf>

- To submit your application via Grants.gov, you must complete all of the steps in the Grants.gov registration process (see <http://www.Grants.gov/GetStarted>). These steps include (1) registering your organization, (2) registering yourself as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR), and (3) getting authorized as an AOR by your organization. Details on these steps are outlined in the new Grants.gov 3-Step Registration Guide (see <http://www.grants.gov/assets/GrantsgovCoBrandBrochure8X11.pdf>). You must also provide on your application the same D-U-N-S Number used with this registration. Please note that the registration process may take five or more business days to complete, and you must have completed all registration steps to allow you to successfully submit an application via Grants.gov.

- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, as described elsewhere in this section, and submit your application in paper format.

- You must submit all documents electronically, including all information typically included on the Application for Federal Education Assistance (ED 424), Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications. You must attach any narrative sections of your application as files in a .DOC (document), .RTF (rich text), or .PDF (Portable Document) format. If you upload a file type other than the three file types specified above or submit a password-protected file, we will not review that material.

- Your electronic application must comply with any page limit requirements described in this notice.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgement from Grants.gov that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. The Department will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send you a second confirmation by e-mail that will include a PR/Award number (an ED-specified identifying number unique to your application).

- We may request that you provide us original signatures on forms at a later date.

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of Technical Issues with the Grants.gov System: If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because of technical problems with the Grants.gov system, we will grant you an extension until 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, the following business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically, or by hand delivery. You also may mail your application by following the mailing instructions as described elsewhere in this notice. If you submit an application after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the deadline date, please contact the person listed elsewhere in this notice under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, and provide an explanation of the technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number (if available). We will accept your application if we can confirm that a technical problem occurred with the Grants.gov system and that that problem affected your ability to submit your application by 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. The Department will contact you after a determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

Note: Extensions referred to in this section apply only to the unavailability of or technical problems with the Grants.gov system. We will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the Grants.gov system.

Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement: You qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, and may submit your application in paper format, if you are unable to submit an application through the Grants.gov system because—

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

and

- No later than two weeks before the application deadline date (14 calendar days or, if the fourteenth calendar day before the application deadline date falls on a Federal holiday, the next business day following the Federal holiday), you 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. If you mail your written statement to the Department, it must be postmarked no later than two weeks before the application deadline date. If you fax your written statement to the Department, we must receive the faxed statement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.

Address and mail or fax your statement to: Beth Fine, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW., Room 3W223, Washington, DC 20202-6200 or Francisco Ramirez, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW., Room 3W225, Washington, DC 20202-6200. FAX: (202) 260-8969.

Your paper application must be submitted in accordance with the mail or hand delivery instructions described in this notice.

b. Submission of Paper Applications by Mail.

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you may mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier) your application to the Department. You must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the applicable following address:

By mail through the U.S. Postal Service: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.362A), 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-4260.

or

By mail through a commercial carrier: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center—Stop 4260, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.362A), 7100 Old Landover Road, Landover, MD 20785-1506.

Regardless of which address you use, you must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

(1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark,

(2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service,

(3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier, or

(4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

(1) A private metered postmark, or
(2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

c. Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you (or a courier service) may deliver your paper application to the Department by hand. You must deliver the original and two copies of your application by hand, 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 84.362A), 550 12th Street, SW., Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-4260. The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications: If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department:

(1) You must indicate on the envelope and—if not provided by the Department—in Item 4 of the Application for Federal Education Assistance (ED 424) the CFDA number—and suffix letter, if any—of the competition under which you are submitting your application.

(2) The Application Control Center will mail a grant application receipt acknowledgment to you. If you do not receive the grant application receipt acknowledgment within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245-6288.

V. Application Review Information

1. *Selection Criteria:* The selection criteria for this competition are from 34 CFR 75.210 of EDGAR and are listed in the application package. The maximum possible score for this competition is 105 points (100 points under the selection criteria and 5 points under the competitive preference). The maximum possible points for each criterion are as follows:

- a. Significance and Need for Project (15 points)
- b. Quality of the Project Design (30 points)
- c. Quality of Project Personnel (10 points)
- d. Adequacy of Resources (15 points)

- e. Quality of the Management Plan (15 points)
- f. Quality of the Project Evaluation (15 points)

VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN). We may also notify you informally.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Reporting:* At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as specified by the Secretary in 34 CFR 75.118.

4. *Performance Measures:* Under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), the Department has developed three measures for evaluating the overall effectiveness of the Native Hawaiian Education Program—(1) Increasing the percentage of teachers who participate in professional development activities under the program that address the unique educational needs of program participants; (2) Increasing the percentage of Native Hawaiian children who participate in early education programs and improve on measures of school readiness and literacy; and (3) Increasing the percentage of students participating in the program who will meet or exceed proficiency standards in mathematics, science, or reading.

All grantees will be expected to submit an annual performance report addressing these performance measures, to the extent that they apply to the grantee's project.

VII. Agency Contacts

For Further Information Contact: Beth Fine, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW., room 3W223,

Washington, DC 20202-6200.
Telephone: (202) 260-1091 or by e-mail: beth.fine@ed.gov or Francisco Ramirez, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW., room 3W225, Washington, DC 20202-6200.
Telephone: (202) 260-1541 or by e-mail: francisco.ramirez@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact persons listed in this section.

VIII. Other Information

Electronic Access to This Document: You may view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>.

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Dated: January 17, 2006.

Henry L. Johnson,

Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. E6-750 Filed 1-20-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Innovation and Improvement; Overview Information; Charter School Program (CSP); Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.282A.

DATES: *Applications Available:* January 23, 2006.

Deadline for Transmittal of

Applications: March 10, 2006.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 9, 2006.

Eligible Applicants: State educational agencies (SEAs) in States with a State

statute specifically authorizing the establishment of charter schools.

Note: Non-SEA eligible applicants in states in which the SEA elects not to participate in or does not have an application approved under the CSP may apply for funding directly from the Department. The Department plans to hold a separate competition for non-SEA eligible applicants under CFDA Nos. 84.282B and 84.282C.

Estimated Available Funds:

\$36,000,000.

Estimated Range of Awards:

\$500,000-\$20,000,000 per year.

Estimated Average Size of Awards:

\$3,000,000 per year.

Estimated Number of Awards: 10-12.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to three years.

Note: Planning and implementation subgrants awarded by an SEA to non-SEA eligible applicants will be awarded for a period of up to three years, no more than 18 months of which may be used for planning and program design and no more than two years of which may be used for the initial implementation of a charter school. Dissemination subgrants are awarded for a period of up to two years.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The purpose of the CSP is to increase national understanding of the charter school model and to expand the number of high-quality charter schools available to students across the Nation by providing financial assistance for the planning, program design, and initial implementation of charter schools, and to evaluate the effects of charter schools, including their effects on students, student academic achievement, staff, and parents. The Secretary awards grants to SEAs to enable them to conduct charter school programs in their States. SEAs use their CSP funds to award subgrants to non-SEA eligible applicants for planning, program design, and initial implementation of a charter school and to support the dissemination of information about, including successful practices in, charter schools.

Priorities: In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(iv), these priorities are from section 5202(e) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), 20 U.S.C. 7221a(e).

Competitive Preference Priorities: For FY 2006 these priorities are competitive preference priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i) we award up to an additional 40 points to an application,

depending on how well the application meets these priorities.

In awarding grants to SEAs under this competition, the Secretary gives priority to States to the extent that the State meets the statutory criterion described in paragraph (a) of this section and one or more of the statutory criteria described in paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section. In order to receive preference, an applicant must identify the priorities that it believes it meets and provide documentation supporting its claims.

An SEA that meets priority (a) but does not meet one or more of the other priorities will not receive any priority points.

An SEA that does not meet priority (a) but meets one or more of the other priorities will not receive any priority points.

These priorities are:

(a) **Periodic Review and Evaluation** (10 points). The State provides for periodic review and evaluation by the authorized public chartering agency of each charter school at least once every five years, unless required more frequently by State law, to determine whether the charter school is meeting the terms of the school's charter, and is meeting or exceeding the student academic achievement requirements and goals for charter schools as provided under State law or the school's charter.

(b) **Number of High-Quality Charter Schools** (10 points). The State has demonstrated progress in increasing the number of high-quality charter schools that are held accountable in the terms of the schools' charters for meeting clear and measurable objectives for the educational progress of the students attending the schools, in the period prior to the period for which an SEA applies for a grant under this competition.

(c) **One Authorized Public Chartering Agency Other than a Local Educational Agency (LEA), or an Appeals Process** (10 points). The State:

(1) Provides for one authorized public chartering agency that is not an LEA, such as a State chartering board, for each individual or entity seeking to operate a charter school pursuant to State law; or

(2) In the case of a State in which LEAs are the only authorized public chartering agencies, allows for an appeals process for the denial of an application for a charter school.

(d) **High Degree of Autonomy** (10 points). The State ensures that each charter school has a high degree of autonomy over the charter school's budgets and expenditures.