

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**[Docket No.: ED–2014–ICCD–0009]****Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Financial Status and Program Performance Final Report for State and Partnership for the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)****AGENCY:** Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE), Department of Education (ED).**ACTION:** Notice.**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 3501 *et seq.*), ED is proposing a revision of an existing information collection.**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 9, 2014.**ADDRESSES:** Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting Docket ID number ED–2014–ICCD–0009 or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. If the www.regulations.gov site is not available to the public for any reason, ED will temporarily accept comments at ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted; ED will ONLY accept comments during the comment period in this mailbox when the www.regulations.gov site is not available. Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ, Mailstop L–OM–2–2E319, Room 2E105, Washington, DC 20202.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Sariane Leigh, 202–502–7806.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also

helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: Financial Status and Program Performance Final Report for State and Partnership for the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP).

OMB Control Number: 1840–0782.

Type of Review: A revisions of an existing information collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 125.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 5,625.

Abstract: The purpose of this information collection is to determine whether recipients of Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) have made substantial progress towards meeting the objectives of their respective projects, as outlined in their grant applications and/or subsequent work plans. In addition, the final report will enable the Department to evaluate each grant project's fiscal operations for the entire grant performance period, and compare total expenditures relative to federal funds awarded, and actual cost-share/matching relative to the total amount in the approved grant application. This report is a means for grantees to share the overall experience of their projects and document achievements and concerns, and describe effects of their projects on participants being served; project barriers and major accomplishments; and evidence of sustainability. The report will be GEAR UP's primary method to collect/analyze data on students' high school graduation and immediate college enrollment rates.

Summary of Changes

If grantees choose to serve students for 7 years, they must report on the 7th year of activities which include following GEAR UP students into the first year of postsecondary education and any students still in high school. The 5 hour burden increase is due to the additional time required to collect data on GEAR UP students enrolled in postsecondary education.

Dated: April 3, 2014.

Stephanie Valentine,

Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Privacy, Information and Records Management Services, Office of Management.

[FR Doc. 2014–07857 Filed 4–8–14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Applications for New Awards; Training and Information for Parents of Children With Disabilities—Parent Training and Information Centers****AGENCY:** Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education.**ACTION:** Notice.**Overview Information**

Training and Information for Parents of Children With Disabilities—Parent Training and Information Centers

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2014

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.328M.

DATES:

Applications Available: April 9, 2014.

Deadline for Transmittal of

Applications: May 27, 2014.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 23, 2014.

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

Purpose of Program: The purpose of this program is to ensure that parents of children with disabilities receive training and information to help improve results for their children.

Priority: This competition has one absolute priority. In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(iv) and (v), this priority is from allowable activities specified in the statute, or otherwise authorized in the statute (see sections 671 and 681(d) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)).

Absolute Priority: For FY 2014 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition, this

priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), we consider only applications that meet this priority.

Background

The purpose of this priority is to fund 24 Parent Training and Information Centers (PTIs) designed to meet the information and training needs of parents of infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities, ages birth through 26 (collectively, “children with disabilities”), and the information and training needs of youth with disabilities living in the States served by the centers.

More than 35 years of research and experience has demonstrated that the education of children with disabilities can be made more effective by strengthening the ability of parents to participate fully in the education of their children at school and at home (see section 601(c)(5)(B) of IDEA). Since the Department first funded PTIs over 35 years ago, they have helped parents set high expectations for their children with disabilities and provided parents with the information and training they need to help their children meet those expectations. The following Web site provides further information on the work of currently funded PTIs: www.parentcenterhub.org.

PTIs, consistent with section 671(b) of IDEA, have successfully helped families: (a) Navigate systems that provide early intervention, special education, general education, postsecondary options, and related services; (b) understand the nature of their children’s disabilities; (c) learn about their rights and responsibilities under IDEA; (d) expand their knowledge of evidence-based education practices to help their children succeed; (e) strengthen their collaboration with professionals; (f) locate resources available for themselves and their children, which connects them to their local communities; and (g) advocate for improved student achievement, increased graduation rates, and improved postsecondary outcomes for all children through participation in school reform activities. In addition, PTIs have helped youth with disabilities have high expectations for themselves, understand their rights and responsibilities, and learn self-advocacy skills. PTIs have been valuable partners to Federal, State, and local agencies, providing expertise on how to better support families and youth with disabilities so that they can effectively and efficiently access IDEA services.

The PTIs to be funded through this priority will build on the strong history of the program by helping youth become

effective self-advocates and by providing parents with information, individual assistance, and training to enable them to: (a) Ensure that their children are included in general education classrooms and extracurricular activities with their peers; (b) help their children meet developmental and academic goals; (c) help their children meet challenging expectations established for all children, including college- and career-ready academic standards; and (d) prepare their children to achieve positive postsecondary outcomes that lead to lives that are as productive and independent as possible.

Priority

The Department intends to fund 24 grants to establish and operate 24 PTIs. Based on the quality of applications received, the Department intends to fund one PTI in each of the following States: ¹ Arizona, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Iowa, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia, Virgin Islands, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

At a minimum, the PTIs must: (a) Increase parents’ ² capacity to help their children with disabilities ³ improve their early learning, school-aged, and postsecondary outcomes; and (b) increase youth with disabilities’ capacity to be effective self-advocates.

To be considered for funding under this priority, an applicant must meet the application, programmatic, and administrative requirements of this priority. The requirements are as follows:

(a) Demonstrate, in the narrative section of the application under “Significance of the Project,” how the proposed project will, within its State—

(1) Address the needs of parents of children with disabilities for high-quality services that increase parents’ capacity to help their children with disabilities improve their early learning, school-aged, and postsecondary outcomes. To meet this requirement the applicant must—

(i) Present appropriate information on the needs of parents, including underserved parents, low-income

parents, parents with limited English proficiency, parents of incarcerated youth with disabilities, and parents with disabilities;

(ii) Demonstrate knowledge of best practices on providing training and information to a variety of audiences, including underserved parents, low-income parents, parents with limited English proficiency, parents of incarcerated youth with disabilities, and parents with disabilities;

(iii) Demonstrate knowledge of best practices in outreach and family-centered services; and

(iv) Demonstrate knowledge of current evidence-based education practices and policy initiatives to improve outcomes in early intervention and early childhood, general and special education, transition services, and postsecondary options, including, if applicable to its State, the PROMISE initiative; and

(v) Demonstrate knowledge of how to identify and work with appropriate partners in the State, including local providers and lead agencies providing Part C services; State and local educational agencies; State child welfare agencies; disability-specific systems and entities serving families, such as the State’s protection and advocacy system; and other nonprofits serving families in order to improve outcomes; and

(2) Address the needs of youth with disabilities for high-quality services that increase their capacity to be effective self-advocates. To meet this requirement the applicant must—

(i) Present appropriate information on the needs of youth with, including underserved youth, incarcerated youth, youth in foster care, and youth with limited English proficiency;

(ii) Demonstrate knowledge of best practices on providing training and information to youth with disabilities;

(iii) Demonstrate knowledge of current evidence-based education practices and policy initiatives in self-advocacy; and

(iv) Demonstrate knowledge of how to work with appropriate partners serving youth with disabilities, including State and local agencies, other nonprofits, and Independent Living Centers that are providing assistance such as postsecondary education options, employment training, and supports.

(b) Demonstrate, in the narrative section of the application, under “Quality of the Project Services,” how the proposed project will—

(1) Use a project logic model (see paragraph (f)(1) of this priority) to guide the development of project plans and activities within its State;

¹ Under section 602(31) of IDEA, the term “State” includes the District of Columbia and the Virgin Islands.

² The term “parent” includes natural, adoptive, and foster parents, and individuals acting in the role of parent as defined in section 602(23) of IDEA.

³ The term “disabilities” refers to the full range of disabilities described in section 602(3) of IDEA.

(2) Develop and implement an outreach plan to inform parents of children with disabilities of how they can benefit from the services provided by the PTI, including—

- (i) Parents of children who may be inappropriately identified as having a disability;
 - (ii) Underserved parents, including parents who are underserved based on race or ethnicity;
 - (iii) Parents with limited English proficiency;
 - (iv) Low-income parents; and
 - (v) Parents with disabilities;
- (3) Develop and implement an outreach plan to inform youth with disabilities of how they can benefit from the services provided by the PTI;
- (4) Provide high-quality services that increase parents' capacity to help their children with disabilities improve their early learning, school-aged, and postsecondary outcomes. To meet this requirement the applicant must include information as to how the services will—
- (i) Increase parents' knowledge of—
 - (A) The nature of their children's disabilities, including their children's strengths, and academic, behavioral, and developmental challenges;
 - (B) The importance of having high expectations for their children and how to help them meet those expectations;
 - (C) The local, State, and Federal resources available to assist them and their children and local resources that strengthen their connection to their communities;
 - (D) IDEA, Federal IDEA regulations, and State implementation of IDEA, including:
 - (1) Their rights and responsibilities under IDEA, including procedural safeguards and dispute resolution;
 - (2) Their role on Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) and Individualized Education Program (IEP) Teams and how to effectively participate on IFSP and IEP Teams; and
 - (3) How services are provided under IDEA;
 - (E) Other relevant educational and health care legislation, including the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Section 504); and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA);
 - (F) Transition services at all levels, including: Part C early intervention to Part B preschool, preschool to elementary school, elementary school to secondary school, secondary school to postsecondary education and workforce options, and re-entry of incarcerated youth to school and the community;
 - (G) How their children can have access to the general education

curriculum, including access to college- and career-ready academic standards and assessments, extracurricular and enrichment opportunities available to all children, and other initiatives to make students college- and career-ready;

(H) How their children can have access to inclusive early learning programs, inclusive general education classrooms and settings, and extracurricular and enrichment opportunities available to all children;

(I) Evidence-based early intervention and education practices that improve early learning, school-aged, and postsecondary outcomes;

(J) School reform efforts to improve student achievement and increase graduation rates; and

(K) The use of data to inform instruction and advance school reform efforts;

(ii) Increase parents' capacity to—

(A) Effectively support their children with disabilities and participate in their children's education;

(B) Communicate effectively and work collaboratively in partnership with early intervention service providers, school-based personnel, related services personnel, and administrators;

(C) Resolve disputes effectively; and

(D) Participate in school reform activities to improve outcomes for children;

(5) Provide high-quality services that increase youth with disabilities' capacity to be effective self-advocates. To meet this requirement the applicant must include information as to how the services will—

(i) Increase the knowledge of youth with disabilities about—

(A) The nature of their disabilities, including their strengths, and of their academic, behavioral, and developmental challenges;

(B) The importance of having high expectations for themselves and how to meet those expectations;

(C) The resources available to support their success in secondary and postsecondary education and employment and full participation in their communities;

(D) IDEA, Section 504, ADA, and other legislation and policies that affect people with disabilities;

(E) Their rights and responsibilities while receiving services under IDEA and after transitioning to post-school programs, services, and employment;

(F) How they can participate on IEP Teams; and

(G) Supported decisionmaking necessary to transition to adult life; and

(ii) Increase the capacity of youth with disabilities to advocate for themselves, including communicating

effectively and working collaboratively in partnership with providers;

(6) Use various methods to deliver services, including in-person and remotely through the use of technology;

(7) Use best practices for providing training and information to adult learners and youth;

(8) Establish cooperative partnerships with any Community Parent Resource Centers (CPRCs) and any other PTIs funded in the State under sections 672 and 671 of IDEA, respectively; and

(9) Network with local, State, and national organizations and agencies, such as protection and advocacy agencies that serve parents and families of children with disabilities, to better support families and children with disabilities to effectively and efficiently access IDEA services.

(c) Demonstrate, in the narrative section of the application, under "Quality of the Evaluation Plan," how—

(1) The applicant will evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed project by undertaking a formative evaluation and a summative evaluation, including a description of how the applicant will measure the outcomes proposed in the logic model (see paragraph (f)(1) of this priority). The description must include—

(i) Proposed evaluation methodologies, including proposed instruments, data collection methods, and analyses;

(ii) Proposed criteria for determining effectiveness, to include, at a minimum, the effectiveness of strategies used to reach and serve youth with disabilities and parents, including underserved parents of children with disabilities; and

(2) The proposed project will use the evaluation results to examine the effectiveness of its implementation and its progress toward achieving intended outcomes.

(d) Demonstrate, in the narrative section of the application under "Adequacy of Project Resources," how—

(1) The proposed personnel, consultants, and contractors have the qualifications and experience to carry out the proposed activities and achieve the intended outcomes identified in the project logic model (see paragraph (f)(1) of this priority);

(2) The applicant will encourage applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, linguistic diversity, gender, age, or disability, as appropriate; and

(3) The applicant and key partners have adequate resources to carry out the proposed activities.

(e) Demonstrate, in the narrative section of the application under "Quality of the Management Plan," how—

(1) The proposed management plan will ensure that the intended outcomes identified in the project logic model (see paragraph (f)(1) of this priority) will be achieved on time and within budget;

(2) The time of key personnel, consultants, and contractors will be sufficiently allocated to the project;

(3) The proposed management plan will ensure that the services provided are of high quality;

(4) The board of directors will be used to provide appropriate oversight to the project;

(5) The proposed project benefits from a diversity of perspectives, including those of parents, providers, and administrators in the State served by the center;

(6) The proposed project will ensure that the Annual Performance Reports submitted to the Department will—

(i) Be accurate and timely;

(ii) Include information on the projects' outputs and outcomes; and

(iii) Include, at a minimum, the number and demographics of parents and youth to whom the PTI provided information and training, the parents' and youth's unique needs, and the levels of service provided to them; and

(7) The project management and staff will—

(i) Make use of the technical assistance (TA) and products provided by the OSEP-funded Center on Parent Information and Resources (CPIR), Regional Parent Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs), Native American PTAC, Military PTAC, and other TA centers as appropriate, including the

PROMISE TA Center (if funded), in order to serve parents of children with disabilities and youth with disabilities as effectively as possible;

(ii) Participate in developing individualized TA plans with the Regional PTAC as appropriate; and

(iii) Facilitate one site visit from the Regional PTAC during the grant cycle.

(f) In the narrative under "Required Project Assurances" or appendices as directed, the applicant must—

(1) Include in Appendix A a logic model that depicts, at a minimum, the goals, activities, outputs, and intended outcomes of the proposed project. A logic model communicates how a project will achieve its intended outcomes and provides a framework for both the formative and summative evaluations of the project.

Note: The following Web sites provide more information on logic models: www.researchutilization.org/matrix/logicmodel_resource3c.html and www.tadnet.org/pages/589.

(2) Include in Appendix A person-loading charts and timelines, as applicable, to illustrate the management plan described in the narrative;

(3) Include in the budget attendance by the project director at one OSEP meeting in Washington, DC annually, to be determined by OSEP; and

Note: Within 30 days of receipt of the award, a post-award teleconference must be held between the OSEP project officer and the grantee's project director and other authorized representatives.

(4) Maintain a Web site that meets government or industry-recognized standards for accessibility and that includes, at a minimum, a current calendar of upcoming events, free informational publications for families, and links to Webinars or other online multimedia resources.

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking: Under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553), the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed priorities and requirements. Section 681(d) of IDEA, however, makes the public comment requirements of the APA inapplicable to the priority in this notice.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1471 and 1481.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The Education Department debarment and suspension regulations in 2 CFR part 3485.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian tribes.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: \$6,645,988 for FY 2014.

Contingent upon the availability of funds and the quality of applications, we may make additional awards in FY 2015 from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition.

Information concerning funding amounts for individual States for this competition is provided in the "Maximum Award" columns of the table in this section.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: See table.

Maximum Award: See table.

Estimated Number of Awards: See table.

Project Period: See table.

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

Training and Information for Parents of Children with Disabilities--Parent Training and Information Centers
Application Notice for Fiscal Year 2014

CFPA Number and Name	Estimated Funds Available (See Note 2)	Estimated Average Size of Awards (See Note 2)	Maximum Award for FY 2014 (See Notes 1 and 3)	Maximum Award for FY 2015 (See Notes 1 and 3)	Maximum Award for FY 2016 (See Notes 1 and 3)	Maximum Award for FY 2017 (See Notes 1 and 3)	Maximum Award for FY 2018 (See Notes 1 and 3)	Estimated Number of Awards (See Note 2)	Project Period	Page Limit	Contact Person
84.328M Parent Training and Information Centers (See Note 3)	\$6,645,988	\$276,916						24	Up to 60 mos. (See Note 1)	50	Carmen Sanchez (202) 245-6595 PCP-4057
Arizona			\$353,586	\$408,588	\$392,873	\$392,873	\$392,873				
Delaware			\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000				
District of Columbia			\$182,061	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000				
Hawaii			\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000				
Idaho			\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000				
Indiana			\$359,973	\$415,969	\$399,970	\$399,970	\$399,970				
Iowa			\$201,543	\$201,543	\$201,543	\$201,543	\$201,543				
Louisiana			\$262,901	\$302,569	\$290,932	\$290,932	\$290,932				
Massachusetts			\$311,995	\$360,527	\$346,661	\$346,661	\$346,661				
Minnesota			\$276,916	\$319,991	\$307,684	\$307,684	\$307,684				
Mississippi			\$213,590	\$213,590	\$213,590	\$213,590	\$213,590				
Missouri			\$322,252	\$372,380	\$358,058	\$358,058	\$358,058				
New Hampshire			\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000				
North Carolina			\$531,408	\$614,071	\$590,453	\$590,453	\$590,453				
Oklahoma			\$215,942	\$249,533	\$239,936	\$239,936	\$239,936				
Pennsylvania			\$625,712	\$723,044	\$695,235	\$695,235	\$695,235				
Rhode Island			\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000				
South Dakota			\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000				
Tennessee			\$347,425	\$401,469	\$386,028	\$386,028	\$386,028				
Virgin Islands			\$103,612	\$103,612	\$103,612	\$103,612	\$103,612				
Virginia			\$416,541	\$481,336	\$462,823	\$462,823	\$462,823				
Washington			\$346,032	\$399,859	\$384,480	\$384,480	\$384,480				
West Virginia			\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000				
Wyoming			\$174,500	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000				

Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the **Federal Register**.

Note 2: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Note 3: Maximum awards for each fiscal year vary due to the consolidation of the PTI competition schedule.

Project Period: In order to allocate resources equitably, create a unified system of service delivery, and provide the broadest coverage for the parents and families in every State, the Department is making awards to PTIs in five-year cycles for each State. In FY 2014, applications for five-year awards will be accepted for the following States: Arizona, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virgin Islands, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming. These projects will be funded for a period up to 60 months.

Estimated Project Awards: Project award amounts are for a single budget period of 12 months.

The Department took into consideration current funding levels, population distribution, poverty rates, and low-density enrollment when determining the award amounts for grants under this competition. For the States listed in the funding table, one award may be made for up to the amounts listed in the table to a qualified applicant for a PTI Center to serve the entire State.

III. Eligibility Information

1. **Eligible Applicants:** Parent organizations.

Note: Section 671(a)(2) of IDEA defines a "parent organization" as a private nonprofit organization (other than an institution of higher education) that—

(a) Has a board of directors—

(1) The majority of whom are parents of children with disabilities ages birth through 26;

(2) That includes—

(i) Individuals working in the fields of special education, related services, and early intervention; and

(ii) Individuals with disabilities; and

(3) The parent and professional members of which are broadly representative of the population to be served, including low-income parents and parents of limited English proficient children; and

(b) Has as its mission serving families of children with disabilities who are ages birth through 26, and have the full range of disabilities described in section 602(3) of IDEA.

2. **Cost Sharing or Matching:** This program does not require cost sharing or matching.

3. **Other General Requirements:**

(a) Recipients of funding under this program must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities (see section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Each applicant for, and recipient of, funding under this program must involve individuals with disabilities, or parents of individuals with disabilities ages birth through 26, in planning, implementing, and evaluating the project (see section 682(a)(1)(A) of IDEA).

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. **Address to Request Application Package:** You can obtain an application package via the Internet, from the Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), or from the program office.

To obtain a copy via the Internet, use the following address: www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/index.html. To obtain a copy from ED Pubs, write, fax, or call the following: ED Pubs, U.S. Department of Education, P.O. Box 22207, Alexandria, VA 22304. Telephone, toll free: 1-877-433-7827. FAX: (703) 605-6794. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call, toll free: 1-877-576-7734.

You can contact ED Pubs at its Web site, also: www.EDPubs.gov or at its email address: edpubs@inet.ed.gov.

If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this competition as follows: CFDA number 84.328M.

To obtain a copy from the program office, contact: Carmen Sanchez, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Room 4057, Potomac Center Plaza (PCP), Washington DC 20202-2600. Telephone: (202) 245-6595. If you use a TDD or TTY, call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities can obtain a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) by contacting the person or team listed under *Accessible Format* in section VIII of this notice.

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 (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection

criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to no more than 50 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, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, reference citations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, graphs, and screen shots.

- Use a font that is 12 point or larger.

- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial. An application submitted in any other font (including Times Roman or Arial Narrow) will not be accepted.

The page limit and double-spacing requirement does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the abstract (follow the guidance provided in the application package for completing the abstract), the table of contents, the list of priority requirements, the resumes, the reference list, the letters of support, or the appendices. However, the page limit and double-spacing requirement does apply to all of Part III, the application narrative, including all text in charts, tables, figures, graphs, and screen shots.

We will reject your application if you exceed the page limit in the application narrative section; or if you apply standards other than those specified in the application package.

3. **Submission Dates and Times:** Applications Available: April 9, 2014. Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 27, 2014.

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 in paper format by mail or hand delivery if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, please refer to section IV. 7. **Other Submission Requirements** of this notice.

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

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice. If the Department provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an

individual with a disability in connection with the application process, the individual's application remains subject to all other requirements and limitations in this notice.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 23, 2014.

4. *Intergovernmental Review:* This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for this competition.

5. *Funding Restrictions:* We reference regulations outlining funding restrictions in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

6. *Data Universal Numbering System Number, Taxpayer Identification Number, and System for Award Management:* To do business with the Department of Education, you must—

- a. Have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN);
- b. Register both your DUNS number and TIN with the System for Award Management (SAM) (formerly the Central Contractor Registry (CCR)), the Government's primary registrant database;
- c. Provide your DUNS number and TIN on your application; and
- d. Maintain an active SAM registration with current information while your application is under review by the Department and, if you are awarded a grant, during the project period.

You can obtain a DUNS number from Dun and Bradstreet. A DUNS number can be created within one-to-two business days.

If you are a corporate entity, agency, institution, or organization, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service. If you are an individual, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service or the Social Security Administration. If you need a new TIN, please allow 2–5 weeks for your TIN to become active.

The SAM registration process can take approximately seven business days, but may take upwards of several weeks, depending on the completeness and accuracy of the data entered into the SAM database by an entity. Thus, if you think you might want to apply for Federal financial assistance under a program administered by the Department, please allow sufficient time to obtain and register your DUNS number and TIN. We strongly recommend that you register early.

Note: Once your SAM registration is active, you will need to allow 24 to 48 hours for the information to be available in Grants.gov. and before you can submit an application through Grants.gov.

If you are currently registered with SAM, you may not need to make any changes. However, please make certain that the TIN associated with your DUNS number is correct. Also note that you will need to update your registration annually. This may take three or more business days.

Information about SAM is available at www.SAM.gov. To further assist you with obtaining and registering your DUNS number and TIN in SAM or updating your existing SAM account, we have prepared a SAM.gov Tip Sheet, which you can find at: <http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/sam-faqs.html>.

In addition, if you are submitting your application via Grants.gov, you must (1) be designated by your organization as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR); and (2) register yourself with Grants.gov as an AOR. Details on these steps are outlined at the following Grants.gov Web page: www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html.

7. *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 Parent Training and Information Centers competition, CFDA number 84.328M, must be submitted electronically using the Governmentwide Grants.gov Apply site at 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 email 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 Parent Training and Information Centers competition at www.Grants.gov. You must search for the downloadable application package for this competition by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.328, not 84.328M).

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 date and time stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted and must be date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not accept your application if it is received—that is, date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system—after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements. When we retrieve your application from Grants.gov, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because it was date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system after 4:30:00 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 under News and Events on the Department's G5 system home page at www.G5.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 you typically provide on the following

forms: The Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.

- You must upload any narrative sections and all other attachments to your application as files in a PDF (Portable Document) read-only, non-modifiable format. Do not upload an interactive or fillable PDF file. If you upload a file type other than a read-only, non-modifiable PDF or submit a password-protected file, we will not review that material. Additional, detailed information on how to attach files is in the application instructions.
- Your electronic application must comply with any page-limit requirements described in this notice.
- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. (This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only, not receipt by the Department.) The Department then will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send a second notification to you by email. This second notification indicates that the Department has received your application and has assigned your application 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 experiencing problems submitting your application through Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov Support Desk, toll free, at 1-800-518-4726. You must obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number and must keep a record of it.

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 4:30:00 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 described elsewhere in this notice.

If you submit an application after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice and provide an explanation of the technical problem

you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number. 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 4:30:00 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: The extensions to which we refer 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 application 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: Carmen Sanchez, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Room 4057, Potomac Center Plaza (PCP), Washington, DC 20202-2600. FAX: (202) 245-7617.

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 following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.328M) LBJ Basement Level 1, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20202-4260.

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.
- (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.
- (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 84.328M) 550 12th Street SW., Room 7039, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-4260.

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30:00 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 11 of the SF 424 the CFDA number, including suffix letter, if any, of the competition under which you are submitting your application; and
- (2) The Application Control Center will mail to you a notification of receipt of your

grant application. If you do not receive this notification 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 program are from 34 CFR 75.210 and are listed in the application package.

2. *Review and Selection Process:* We remind potential applicants that in reviewing applications in any discretionary grant competition, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.217(d)(3), the past performance of the applicant in carrying out a previous award, such as the applicant's use of funds, achievement of project objectives, and compliance with grant conditions. The Secretary may also consider whether the applicant failed to submit a timely performance report or submitted a report of unacceptable quality.

In addition, in making a competitive grant award, the Secretary also requires various assurances including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department of Education (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

3. *Additional Review and Selection Process Factors:* In the past, the Department has had difficulty finding peer reviewers for certain competitions because so many individuals who are eligible to serve as peer reviewers have conflicts of interest. The standing panel requirements under section 682(b) of IDEA also have placed additional constraints on the availability of reviewers. Therefore, the Department has determined that for some discretionary grant competitions, applications may be separated into two or more groups and ranked and selected for funding within specific groups. This procedure will make it easier for the Department to find peer reviewers by ensuring that greater numbers of individuals who are eligible to serve as reviewers for any particular group of applicants will not have conflicts of interest. It also will increase the quality, independence, and fairness of the review process, while permitting panel members to review applications under discretionary grant competitions for which they also have submitted applications. However, if the Department decides to select an equal number of applications in each group for funding, this may result in different

cut-off points for fundable applications in each group.

4. *Special Conditions:* Under 34 CFR 74.14 and 80.12, the Secretary may impose special conditions on a grant if the applicant or grantee is not financially stable; has a history of unsatisfactory performance; has a financial or other management system that does not meet the standards in 34 CFR parts 74 or 80, as applicable; has not fulfilled the conditions of a prior grant; or is otherwise not responsible.

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); or we may send you an email containing a link to access an electronic version of your GAN. We may notify you informally, also.

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:* (a) If you apply for a grant under this competition, you must ensure that you have in place the necessary processes and systems to comply with the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 170 should you receive funding under the competition. This does not apply if you have an exception under 2 CFR 170.110(b).

(b) 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 directed by the Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html.

4. *Performance Measures:* Under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), the Department has established a set of performance

measures, including long-term measures, that are designed to yield information on various aspects of the effectiveness and quality of the Training and Information for Parents of Children with Disabilities program. The measures focus on the extent to which projects provide high-quality products and services, the relevance of project products and services to educational and early intervention policy and practice, and the use of products and services to improve educational and early intervention policy and practice. Projects funded under this competition are required to submit data on these measures as directed by OSEP.

Grantees will be required to report information on their project's performance in annual and final performance reports to the Department (34 CFR 75.590).

5. *Continuation Awards:* In making a continuation award, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.253, the extent to which a grantee has made "substantial progress toward meeting the objectives in its approved application." This consideration includes the review of a grantee's progress in meeting the targets and projected outcomes in its approved application, and whether the grantee has expended funds in a manner that is consistent with its approved application and budget. In making a continuation grant, the Secretary also considers whether the grantee is operating in compliance with the assurances in its approved application, including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

VII. Agency Contact

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carmen Sanchez, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Room 4057, PCP, Washington, DC 20202-2600. Telephone: (202) 245-6595.

If you use a TDD or a TTY, call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

VIII. Other Information

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) by contacting the Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Room 5075, PCP, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 245-

7363. If you use a TDD or a TTY, call the FRS, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Electronic Access to This Document: 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 via the Federal Digital System at: www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can 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). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Dated: April 4, 2014.

Michael K. Yudin,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 2014-07969 Filed 4-8-14; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program

AGENCY: Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

Overview Information

Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Program Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2014

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.031S.

DATES: *Applications Available:* April 9, 2014.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 9, 2014.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 8, 2014.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The HSI Program provides grants to assist HSIs to expand educational opportunities for, and improve the academic attainment of, Hispanic students. The HSI Program grants also enable HSIs to expand and enhance their academic offerings,

program quality, and institutional stability.

Background

In 2008, the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) was amended by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (HEOA). The HEOA made a number of changes to the HSI Program. The regulations for the HSI Program in 34 CFR part 606 have not been updated since before the HEA was amended by the HEOA. Therefore, we encourage applicants to carefully read this notice, which references the statutory provisions when the corresponding regulatory provisions for this program have not been updated.

For example, section 501 of the HEOA amended section 503(b) of the HEA to include, among the authorized activities under the HSI Program—

- (1) Activities to improve student services, including innovative and customized instruction courses designed to help retain students and move the students into core courses;
- (2) Articulation agreements and student support programs designed to facilitate the transfer of students from 2-year to 4-year institutions; and
- (3) Providing education, counseling services, or financial information designed to improve the financial and economic literacy of students or their families.

The list of authorized activities in section 503(b) of the HEA was also amended to use the term “distance education technologies” in place of “distance learning academic instruction capabilities.” Therefore, notwithstanding the description of authorized activities in 34 CFR 606.10, applicants may include these activities in their proposals under this competition.

Priorities: This notice contains two competitive preference priorities. These priorities are from the notice of final supplemental priorities and definitions for discretionary grant programs, published in the **Federal Register** on December 15, 2010 (75 FR 78486), and corrected on May 12, 2011 (76 FR 27637).

Competitive Preference Priorities: For FY 2014 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applicants from the competition, these priorities are competitive preference priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), we award up to an additional four points to an application, depending on how well the application meets these competitive preference priorities.

Note: In order to receive any competitive preference priority points, applicants must

address both priorities and may receive from zero to four points. In scoring these priorities, an applicant will receive up to two points per priority if it addresses the priority clearly and persuasively. An applicant that has successfully addressed both of the competitive priorities will receive the full four points. Applicants that do not address both of the competitive preference priorities will not receive any additional points.

These priorities are:

Competitive Preference Priority 1: Increasing Postsecondary Success

Projects that are designed to increase the number and proportion of high-need students (as defined in this notice) who persist in and complete college or other postsecondary education and training.

Note: Applicants that address this priority should identify the specific interventions that they intend to implement, provide documentation (in the form of research, data, or studies) that the planned activities have, in other circumstances, improved student persistence and completion, and demonstrate that the applicant has systems in place to track the activities and their effects on student persistence and completion. Applicants should also consider how all the activities described in the application will contribute to this priority.

Competitive Preference Priority 2: Improving Productivity

Projects that are designed to significantly increase efficiency in the use of time, staff, money, or other resources while improving student learning or other educational outcomes (i.e., outcome per unit of resource). Such projects may include innovative and sustainable uses of technology, modification of school schedules and teacher compensation systems, use of open educational resources (as defined in this notice), or other strategies.

Note 1: The types of projects identified in Competitive Preference Priority 2 are suggestions for ways to improve productivity. The Department recognizes that some of these examples, such as modifications of teacher compensation systems, may not be relevant for the context of this program. Accordingly, applicants that address this priority should respond to this competitive preference priority in a way that improves productivity in a relevant, higher education context. The Secretary is particularly interested in projects that improve student outcomes at lower costs.

Note 2: Applicants addressing this priority should identify the specific outcomes to be measured and demonstrate that they have the ability to collect accurate data on both project costs and desired outcomes. In addition, they should include a discussion of the expected cost-effectiveness of the practice compared with current practices.

Definitions: The following definitions are from the notice of final