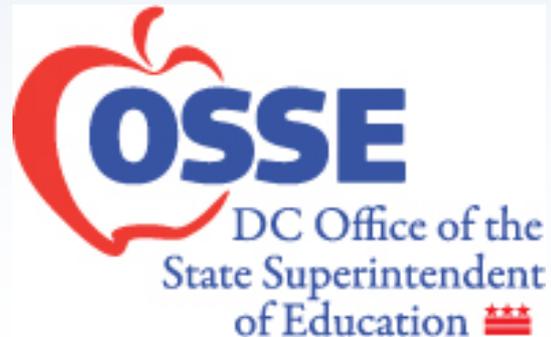


SAHE Partnerships

How Teacher Quality Improvement Grants can Support
Your LEA's Professional Development Efforts

LEA Federal Grants Boot Camp
August 31st – September 3rd, 2009



Objectives and Target Audience

This presentation is intended primarily for LEAs interested in forging professional development partnerships targeted to positively impact student academic achievement.

LEAs and other interested parties will:

- Receive an overview of the Teacher Quality Improvement (TQI) grant program;
- Discuss types of programs and eligible partnerships;
- Understand the OSSE priorities for the FY 2010 TQI grant program; and
- Discuss the program and application requirements.

What is SAHE?

- SAHE is an acronym for State Agency for Higher Education.
- The SAHE unit within the OSSE is responsible for managing the Teacher Quality Improvement competitive grant under Title II, Part A – Teacher and Principal Training and Recruitment Fund (ESEA §2131).
- Under Title II - Part A, OSSE is required by the USDE to make awards that support partnership activities and encourage improved student achievement in high-need LEAs.

Eligible Participants

TQI is a partnership grant program. Eligible partnerships **MUST** include the following at a minimum:

- Private or State Institution of Higher Education (IHE) and the division of the institution that prepares teachers and principals; **and**
- College or School of Arts and Sciences; **and**
- High-need LEA.

The partnership may include another LEA, non-profit organization, higher education institution, education agency, business, etc.

High-Need LEA

A high-need LEA is defined as an LEA:

- that serves not fewer than 10,000 children from families with incomes below the poverty line or for which not less than 20% of the children served by the agency are from families with incomes below the poverty line; and
- for which there is a high percentage of teachers not teaching in the academic subject or grade levels they were trained to teach or for which there is a high percentage of teachers with emergency, provisional or temporary licenses.

TQI Grant Partnerships

- Key partners must play key role in the program's implementation.
- Roles of all key partners must be clearly delineated in the application as well as written expression of commitment.
- No partner may use more than 50% of grant award funds for its own benefit.

TQI Grant Programs

TQI Grant funds are awarded for programs which include the following types of activities:

1. Professional Development in core academic subjects to ensure:

- Teachers know the subject matter they are teaching (including knowledge of how to use computers and other technology to enhance student learning).
- Principals have the instructional leadership skills to help them work effectively with teachers to help students master core subjects (Mathematics, Science, Reading, English Language Arts, Foreign Language, Civics and Govt., History, Economics, Geography, Arts).

TQI Grant Programs

2. Develop and assist LEAs, teachers, paraprofessionals, or school principals, in providing sustained, high-quality professional development activities that:
 - ensure individuals can use state academic standards and state assessments to improve instructional practices and student academic achievement;
 - include partnerships between one or more LEAs' schools and one or more IHEs to improve teaching and learning at low-performing schools.

Funds and Award Period

- The OSSE has \$626,907.00 in federal grant funds available to fund programs that include an OSSE priority and are designed to positively impact student learning and instructional quality.
- Historically grants have ranged between the amounts of \$50,000 to \$100,000.
- The grant period will be from the date of award through September 30th, 2011.

OSSE Priorities

- Programs that address one or more of the top five subject areas statewide with the highest number of non-highly qualified teachers: Arts, English/Reading/Language Arts, Sec. Math, Sec. Science, Elementary Education;
- Programs that target non-highly qualified teachers and includes Praxis II preparation as an objective;
- Programs that include intensive activities which transpire over a long-term and provide sustained training;
- Programs whose target audience is a majority of schools in ESEA corrective action status.

Application Review Process

Review Panel

- Comprised of neutral, professional individuals.
- Selected based on experience in educator professional development, higher education, curriculum development, and education program planning and evaluation.
- Members will rank applications based on objective scoring criteria.

Application Requirements

Application Scoring Criteria

Improvement or Expansion of Instruction - How will the program contribute to the improvement or expansion of instruction which results in increased student learning

Plan of Operation - What is the quality of the program's design? Is the plan of management effective and does it ensure proper and efficient administration of the program

Staffing Requirements - How will the qualifications of key personnel be used. Describe roles of key personnel?

Application Requirements

Adequacy of Resources - Are adequate resources devoted to the program. Are proposed facilities and proposed supplies and equipment adequate for delivery of the program?

Evaluation Plan – Is the evaluation plan clearly articulated. Does it describe methods which are appropriate for the program's objectives and produce quantifiable data

Sound Fiscal Management and Reasonable Budget - Is the budget reasonable and consistent with the level of effort for the program?

Applications Requirements

Applicant's Commitment and Capacity - Extent of the commitment to the program, capacity to continue the project and likelihood applicant will build upon the program after assistance ends.

Bonus

Previous success as an OSSE TQI grantee and demonstrated by providing relevant impact data regarding teacher and student learning.

Decision on Awards

- Recommendations of review panel are advisory.
- OSSE will decide which applicants are granted awards as well as the amounts to be funded.
- Grant award notifications will be made within one month of the application deadline.

How to Apply for TQI Funds

- Competition start date is coming soon!
- FY 2010 RFA will be posted on the OSSE website.
- Be sure to follow the submission format exactly as outlined.

Application Submission

- Applications are due no later than 5:00pm on the established application deadline.
- Applications received after 5:00pm on the deadline will not be considered.
 - Allow the appropriate amount of transit time for applications delivered via USPS mail.

How to Apply for TQI Funds

Deliver Applications to:

Office of the State Superintendent of Education

51 N Street, NE – 3rd Floor

Washington, DC 20002

Attn: Orman Feres

Questions?

Contact Information

Orman Feres

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