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

Priorities: Under 34 CFR 642.34(a) the Secretary gives preference to applications that meet one or more of the following priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.201(a) and 642.31(f)(2)(iii) the Secretary awards up to 8 1/3 points to an application that provides effective training in one or more of the following subjects:

(1) Student financial aid.

(2) General project management for new directors.

(3) Legislative and regulatory requirements for the operation of the Federal TRIO programs.

(4) The design and operation of model programs for projects funded under the Federal TRIO programs.

(5) Retention and graduation strategies.

(6) Counseling.

(7) Reporting student and project

performance.

Project Period: Up to 24 months. For Applications or Information Contact: Blanca Rosa Rodriguez, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW., suite 600D, Portals Building, Washington, DC 20202–5249. Telephone: (202) 708– 4804.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070d–1d.

84.120A Minority Science Improvement Program—Institutional, Design, Special, and Cooperative Projects

Purpose of Program: To effect longrange improvement in science education at predominantly minority institutions and to increase the flow of underrepresented ethnic minorities, particularly minority women, into scientific careers.

Eligible Applicants:

(a) For institutional, design, and special projects described in 34 CFR 637.14(a), (b) and (c): Public and nonprofit private minority institutions.

Note: A minority institution is defined in 34 CFR 637.4(b) as an accredited college or university whose enrollment of a single minority group or combination of minority groups, as defined in 34 CFR 637.4(b), exceeds 50 percent of the total enrollment.

(b) For institutional, design, and special projects described in 34 CFR 637.14(b) and (c): Non-profit scienceoriented organizations; professional scientific societies; and nonprofit accredited colleges and universities that render a needed service to a group of eligible minority institutions, as defined in 34 CFR 637.4(b), or that provide inservice training of project directors, scientists, and engineers from eligible minority institutions. (c) For cooperative projects: Groups of nonprofit accredited colleges and universities whose primary fiscal agent is an eligible minority institution, as defined in 34 CFR 637.4(b).

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 637.

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

Project Period: Up to 36 months. For Applications or Information Contact: Dr. Argelia Velez-Rodriguez, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW., Courtyard Suite C–80, Portals Building, Washington, DC 20202–5329. Telephone: (202) 260–3261. The Department encourages applicants to FAX requests for applications to: (202) 260–7615.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1135b– 1135b–3, 1135d–1135d–6.

84.153A Business and International Education Program

Purpose of Program: To provide grants both to enhance international business education programs and expand the capacity of the business community to engage in international economic activities.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education that have entered into agreements with business enterprises, trade organizations, or associations engaged in international economic activity.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR parts 655 and 661.

Supplementary Information: A grantee shall pay a minimum of 50 percent of the cost of the project for each fiscal year.

Project Period: 24 months. For Applications or Information Contact: Sarah T. Beaton, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20202–5332.

Telephone: (202) 401–9778.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1130–1130b.

84.204A School, College, and University Partnerships (SCUP) Program

Purpose of Program: To provide grants to higher education and secondary school partnerships to conduct activities that will improve high school retention and graduation rates of low-income and disadvantaged students, improve their academic skills, and prepare them for programs of postsecondary education or gainful employment following graduation from high school.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education; State higher education agencies; consortia of one or more institutions of higher education or State higher education agencies or both.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 610.

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

Priorities:

Absolute Priorities: Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) and 34 CFR 610.4(a) the Secretary gives absolute preference to applications that meet two or more of the following priorities. The Secretary funds under this program only applications that meet two or more of these absolute statutory priorities:

(1) Projects that will serve predominantly low-income communities.

(2) Projects that will conduct programs during both the regular school year and the summer.

(3) Projects designed to serve one or more of the following historically underrepresented and underserved populations of students: educationally disadvantaged students; students with disabilities; potential dropouts; pregnant adolescents and teenage parents; children of migratory agricultural workers or of migratory fishermen; and students whose native language is other than English.

(4) Projects designed to encourage women and minorities who are underrepresented in the fields of science and mathematics to pursue these fields of study.

Competitive Priority: Within the absolute priorities specified in this notice, the Secretary, under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(ii) and 34 CFR 610.4(b), gives preference to applications that meet the following competitive priority. An application that meets this competitive priority is selected by the Secretary over applications of comparable merit that do not meet the priority:

Projects in which the primary focus is to stimulate school-wide reform and systemic improvements in schools serving a high concentration of disadvantaged students (in contrast to projects in which the aim is to provide