

Dated: November 28, 1995.

David A. Longanecker,

Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

The Secretary proposes to amend Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations by revising Part 646 to read as follows:

PART 646—STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAM

Subpart A—General

Sec.

646.1 What is the Student Support Services Program?

646.2 Who is eligible to receive a grant?

646.3 Who is eligible to participate in a Student Support Services project?

646.4 What activities and services may a project provide?

646.5 How long is a project period?

646.6 What regulations apply?

646.7 What definitions apply?

Subpart B—How Does One Apply for an Award?

646.10 How many applications for a Student Support Services award may an eligible applicant submit?

646.11 What assurances must an applicant include in an application?

Subpart C—How Does the Secretary Make a Grant?

646.20 How does the Secretary decide which new grants to make?

646.21 What selection criteria does the Secretary use?

646.22 How does the Secretary evaluate prior experience?

646.23 How does the Secretary set the amount of a grant?

Subpart D—What Conditions Must Be Met by a Grantee?

646.30 What are allowable costs?

646.31 What are unallowable costs?

646.32 What other requirements must a grantee meet?

Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a–11 and 1070a–14, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General

§ 646.1 What is the Student Support Services Program?

The Student Support Services Program provides grants for projects designed to—

(a) Provide support services to eligible students to enhance their academic skills, increase their retention and graduation rates, and, as appropriate, facilitate their entrance into four-year colleges or graduate and professional programs; and

(b) Foster an institutional climate supportive of the success of low-income and first generation college students and individuals with disabilities through services such as those described in § 646.4.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a–11 and 1070a–14)

§ 646.2 Who is eligible to receive a grant?

An institution of higher education or a combination of institutions of higher education are eligible to receive a grant to carry out a Student Support Services project.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a–14)

§ 646.3 Who is eligible to participate in a Student Support Services project?

A student is eligible to participate in a Student Support Services project if the student meets all of the following requirements:

(a) Is a citizen or national of the United States or meets the residency requirements for Federal student financial assistance.

(b) Is enrolled at the grantee institution or accepted for enrollment in the next academic term at that institution.

(c) Has a need for academic support, as determined by the grantee, in order to pursue successfully a postsecondary educational program.

(d) Is—

(1) A low-income individual;

(2) A first generation college student;

or

(3) An individual with disabilities.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a–14)

§ 646.4 What activities and services may a project provide?

A Student Support Services project may provide the following services:

(a) Instruction in reading, writing, study skills, mathematics, and other subjects necessary for success beyond secondary school.

(b) Personal counseling.

(c) Academic advice and assistance in course selection.

(d) Tutorial services and counseling and peer counseling.

(e) Exposure to cultural events and academic programs not usually available to disadvantaged students.

(f) Activities designed to acquaint students participating in the project with the range of career options available.

(g) Activities designed to secure admission and financial assistance for enrollment in graduate and professional programs.

(h) Activities designed to assist students currently enrolled in two-year institutions in securing admission and financial assistance for enrollment in a four-year program of postsecondary education.

(i) Mentoring programs involving faculty or upper class students, or any combination of faculty members and upper class students.

(j) Programs and activities as described in paragraphs (a) through (i) of this section that are specifically designed for students of limited English proficiency.

(k) Other activities designed to meet the purposes of the Student Support Services Program stated in § 646.1.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a–14)

§ 646.5 How long is a project period?

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, a project period under the Student Support Services program is four years.

(b) The Secretary approves a project period of five years for applicants that score in the highest ten percent of all applicants approved for new grants under the criteria in § 646.21.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a–11)

§ 646.6 What regulations apply?

The following regulations apply to the Student Support Services Program:

(a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 82, 85 and 86; and

(b) The regulations in this part 646.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a–11 and 1070a–14)

§ 646.7 What definitions apply?

(a) *Definitions in the Act.* The following terms used in this part are defined in sections 402(A)(g), 481, or 1201(a) of the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, as amended.

First generation college student.

Institution of higher education.

Low-income individual.

(b) *Definitions in EDGAR.* The following terms used in this part are defined in 34 CFR 77.1:

Applicant
Application
Award
Budget
Budget Period
Department
EDGAR
Equipment
Facilities
Fiscal year
Grant
Grantee
Grant Period
Project
Project period
Public
Secretary
Supplies

(c) *Other definitions.* The following definitions also apply to this part:

Academic need with reference to a student means a student whom the grantee determines needs one or more of