

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.286]

Telecommunications Demonstration Project for Mathematics; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year 1995

Note to Applicants: This notice is a complete application package. Together with the statute authorizing the program and applicable regulations governing the program, including the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), the notice contains all of the information, application forms, and instructions needed to apply for a grant under this competition.

Purpose of Program: The purpose of the Telecommunications Demonstration Project for Mathematics is to support a grant to a nonprofit telecommunications entity, or partnership of such entities, to carry out a national telecommunications-based demonstration project to improve the teaching of mathematics.

Eligible Applicants: Nonprofit telecommunications entity or partnership of such entities.

Deadline for Transmittal of

Applications: April 12, 1995

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 12, 1995

Estimated Available Funds: \$2,250,000

Estimated Range of Awards: \$2,250,000

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$2,250,000

Estimated Number of Awards: 1

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

Project Period: Up to 60 months

Budget Period: 12 months

Applicable Regulations

The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) as follows:

(1) 34 CFR part 74 (Administration of Grants to Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Nonprofit Organizations).

(2) 34 CFR part 75 (Direct Grant Programs).

(3) 34 CFR part 77 (Definitions that Apply to Department Regulations).

(4) 34 CFR part 79 (Intergovernmental Review of Department of Education Programs and Activities).

(5) 34 CFR part 80 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments).

(6) 34 CFR part 81 (General Education Provision Act—Enforcement).

(7) 34 CFR part 82 (New Restrictions on Lobbying).

(8) 34 CFR part 85 (Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)).

(9) 34 CFR part 86 (Drug-Free Schools and Campuses).

Description of Program: The Telecommunications Demonstration Project for Mathematics is authorized by Part D of Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. 6951–6952).

The Secretary is authorized to award a grant to a nonprofit telecommunications entity, or a partnership of such entities, to carry out a national telecommunications-based demonstration project to improve the teaching of mathematics. The project must be designed to assist elementary and secondary school teachers in preparing all students for achieving State content standards. The project must be conducted at elementary and secondary school sites in at least 15 States.

Application Requirements: Each nonprofit telecommunications entity, or partnership of such entities, that desires a grant must submit an application that—

(1) Demonstrates that the applicant will use the existing publicly funded telecommunications infrastructure to deliver video, voice and data in an integrated service to train teachers in the use of new standards-based curricula materials and learning technologies;

(2) Assures that the project for which assistance is sought will be conducted in cooperation with appropriate State educational agencies, local educational agencies, State or local nonprofit public telecommunications entities, and a national mathematics education professional association that has developed content standards; and

(3) Assures that at least 25 percent of the benefits available for elementary and secondary schools from the project for which assistance is sought will be available to schools of local educational agencies which have a high percentage of children counted for the purpose of part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended.

Selection Criteria

(a)(1) The Secretary uses the following selection criteria to evaluate applications for new grants under this competition. These are the criteria for evaluating discretionary grants contained in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR).

(2) The maximum score for all of these criteria is 100 points.

(3) The maximum score for each criterion is indicated in parentheses.

(b) *The criteria.* (1) *Meeting the purposes of the authorizing statute.* (30 points) The Secretary reviews each application to determine how well the project will meet the purpose of Part D of Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, including consideration of—

(i) The objectives of the project; and
(ii) How the objectives of the project further the purposes of Part D of Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended.

(2) *Extent of need for the project.* (20 points) The Secretary reviews each application to determine the extent to which the project meets specific needs recognized in Part D of Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, including consideration of—

(i) The needs addressed by the project;
(ii) How the applicant identified those needs;

(iii) How those needs will be met by the project; and

(iv) The benefits to be gained by meeting those needs.

(3) *Plan of operation.* (15 points) The Secretary reviews each application to determine the quality of the plan of operation for the project, including—

(i) The quality of the design of the project;

(ii) The extent to which the plan of management is effective and ensures proper and efficient administration of the project;

(iii) How well the objectives of the project relate to the purpose of the program;

(iv) The quality of the applicant's plan to use its resources and personnel to achieve each objective;

(v) How the applicant will ensure that project participants who are otherwise eligible to participate are selected without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, age, or handicapping condition; and

(vi) For grants under a program that requires the applicant to provide an opportunity for participation of students enrolled in private schools, the quality of the applicant's plan to provide that opportunity.

(4) *Quality of key personnel.* (10 points)

(i) The Secretary reviews each application to determine the quality of key personnel the applicant plans to use on the project, including—

(A) The qualifications of the project director (if one is to be used);