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National TA Center for Inclusive Practices and Policies Webinar:

***Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities—
National Technical Assistance Center for Inclusive Practices and Policies***

Assistance Listing Number (ALN) 84.326Y

Office of Special Education Programs

U.S. Department of Education

January 31, 2022





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Introduction

- Welcome – Presenter – Susan Weigert, Ph.D
- Webinar will be recorded
- Please email any follow-up questions to Susan Weigert at susan.Weigert@ed.gov





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Note Regarding this Webinar

- These slides are for general guidance only and information has been highly summarized due to logistics of the webinar.
- Please read the entire Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) before applying for this grant opportunity.
- Please also take a look at the [Common Instructions for Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs](#)



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Timeline

- Notice inviting applications published:
 - **January 25, 2022**
- Deadline for submitting application is:
 - **March 28, 2022 by 4:30:00 PM Washington DC time**
- Deadline for intergovernmental review:
 - **May 25, 2022**
- Grantees announced and funding distributed by:
 - **October 1, 2022**





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APPLICATION PACKAGE

- Applicant Letter
- Notice Inviting Applications
 - Federal Register Notice
 - Grants.gov System Submission Procedures and Tips for Applicants
- Priority Description and Selection Criteria
- General Information on Completing an Application
- Transmittal Instructions
- Required Forms





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PROGRAM INFORMATION

Purpose

Eligible Applicants

Funding Levels





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Purpose of the TA&D Program

- The purpose of the **Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities Program** is to:
 - promote academic achievement and to improve results for children with disabilities by providing technical assistance (TA), supporting model demonstration projects, disseminating useful information, and implementing activities that are supported by scientifically based research.





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Purpose of this Priority

- The purpose of the --**National Technical Assistance Center for Inclusive Practices and Policies** is:
 - to support the establishment and operation of a National Technical Assistance Center for Inclusive Practices and Policies.
 - to assist SEAs and LEAs to successfully implement and sustain evidence-based inclusive practices and policies for students with significant cognitive disabilities K-12, including those who are also English learners.





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Eligible Applicants

- SEAs; LEAs, including public charter schools that are considered LEAs under State law; IHEs; other public agencies; private nonprofit organizations; outlying areas; Indian Tribes or Tribal organizations; and for-profit organizations.





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Funding Levels

- **Total amount of federal funds available:**
- 1 estimated award
- We will fund a successful application only up to \$2,000,000 for a single budget period of 12 months.
- **Project period:** Up to 60 months





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COMPETITION INFORMATION

Expected Project Outcomes

Selection Criteria

Application Requirements

General Requirements





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Expected Project Outcomes

National Technical Assistance Center for Inclusive Practices and Policies

The project must achieve, at a minimum, the following 5 expected outcomes

(a) Increase the capacity of SEA, LEA, and school personnel to support and implement inclusive practices and policies in grade-level academic and extracurricular settings for students with significant cognitive disabilities.





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Expected Project Outcomes (cont.)

National Technical Assistance Center for Inclusive Practices and Policies

(b) Increase the quantity of time that students with significant cognitive disabilities are served in more inclusive environments, where appropriate, based on their individual needs;





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Expected Project Outcomes (cont.)

National Technical Assistance Center for Inclusive Practices and Policies

(c) Increase educational engagement for students with significant cognitive disabilities across multiple settings and activities (*e.g.*, classroom, academic instruction, extracurricular activities) throughout the school day;





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Expected Project Outcomes (cont.)

National Technical Assistance Center for Inclusive Practices and Policies

(d) Improve the quality of instruction, including the use of interventions and accommodations supported by evidence, for students with significant cognitive disabilities in more inclusive environments based on their individual needs and aligned to the general education curriculum; and



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Expected Project Outcomes

National Technical Assistance Center for Inclusive Practices and Policies

(e) Develop and disseminate an implementation package of products and resources that will assist SEAs, LEAs, and schools to implement inclusive practices and policies and increase the amount of time that students with significant cognitive disabilities are served in the LRE, based on their individual needs.





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Administrative Requirements

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- In addition, to be considered for funding under this priority, applicants must meet a number of application and administrative requirements published in this priority,
- Applicants are advised to carefully review and respond to **all of the application and administrative requirements** in Section A of the application package posted on Grants.gov.





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Selection Criteria

Significance	(10 points)
Quality of Project Services	(35 points)
Quality of the Project Evaluation	(20 points)
Adequacy of Resources and Quality of Project Personnel	(15 points)
Quality of Management Plan	(20 points)
TOTAL	(100 points)





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Significance of the Project (10 pts.)

- (1) The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:





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Significance of the Project (cont.)

- (i) The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project, including the nature and magnitude of those gaps or weaknesses; and
- (ii) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project.





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Quality of Project Services (35 pts.)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project, the Secretary considers the quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.





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Quality of Project Services (cont.)

- (3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:
- (i) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable;
 - (ii) The extent to which there is a conceptual framework underlying the proposed research or demonstration activities and the quality of that framework;





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Quality of Project Services (cont.)

- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project, the Secretary considers the quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.





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Quality of Project Services (cont.)

- (3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:
- (i) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable;
 - (ii) The extent to which there is a conceptual framework underlying the proposed research or demonstration activities and the quality of that framework;





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Quality of Project Services (cont.)

- (iii) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project reflect up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice;
- (iv) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project are appropriate to the needs of the intended recipients or beneficiaries of those services; and
- (v) The extent to which the TA services to be provided by the proposed project involve the use of efficient strategies, including the use of technology, as appropriate, and the leveraging of non-project resources.



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Quality of the Evaluation Plan (20 pts.)

- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - (i) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project;
 - (ii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation provide for examining the effectiveness of project implementation strategies;





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Quality of the Evaluation Plan (cont.)

- (2) In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the following factors (continued):
- (iii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes; and
 - (iv) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.





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Adequacy of Project Resources and Quality of Project Personnel (15 pts.)

- (1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project and the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.





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Adequacy of Project Resources and Quality of Project Personnel (15 pts.)

- (3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:
- (i) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of the project director or principal investigator;
 - (ii) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel;





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Adequacy of Project Resources and Quality of Project Personnel (cont.)

- (iii) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization; and
- (iv) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project.





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Quality of Management Plan (20 pts.)

- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - (i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks;



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Quality of Management Plan (cont.)

- (ii) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project;
- (iii) The adequacy of mechanisms for ensuring high-quality products and services from the proposed project; and





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Quality of Management Plan (cont.)

- (iv) How the applicant will ensure that a diversity of perspectives are brought to bear in the operation of the proposed project, including those of parents, teachers, the business community, a variety of disciplinary and professional fields, recipients or beneficiaries of services, or others, as appropriate.





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Application Requirements

- Include, in Appendix A, a logic model for the project.
- Include, in Appendix A, personnel-loading charts and timelines, as applicable, to illustrate the management plan described in the narrative.
- Include, in the budget, travel funds to support the project director's attendance at meetings sponsored by OSEP as specified in the priority, at a minimum.





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Application Requirements

- Maintain a website that meets government or industry-recognized standards for accessibility.
- Ensure that annual progress toward meeting project goals is posted on the project website.
- Transfer of pertinent resources and products, if appropriate





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General Requirements

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





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General Requirements (Cont.)

- Applicant must describe steps to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs. (See Section 427, GEPA)





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SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Application Submission
Submission Tips





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Application Submission

- Applications must be submitted electronically using Grants.gov.
- Applications may not be submitted via email.
- Applications must be submitted no later than 4:30p.m., Eastern Time, on March 28, 2022.
- Application narrative sections and all other attachments to the application must be uploaded as a PDF read-only, non-modifiable format file.





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Application Tips

- Maximum funding level for this grant is \$2,000,000. for each 12 month project period. Do not exceed this amount in your budget request.
- Read carefully “Grants.gov Submission Procedures and Tips for Applicants” found in section B of the application package.





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Page Limit Recommendations:

We recommend that you limit the application narrative (Part III of the application) to **no more than 70 pages**, and use 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.





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Page Limit Recommendations:

We also recommend that you:

- Use a font that is 12 point or larger.
- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial.





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Appendix A

- Reviewers will be instructed to review the content of Appendix A.
- Charts, tables, figures, graphs, screen shots and logic models that provide information directly relating to the application requirements for the narrative should be the only items included in Appendix A.
- Appendix A should not be used for supplementary information. Please note that charts, tables, figures, graphs, screen shots, and logic models **can be single-spaced when placed in Appendix A or any appendix.**





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Submission Tips

- Register early. Grants.gov may take five or more business days to complete. Be sure that your registration with the System for Award Management (SAM) is current.
- Submit early. Don't wait until the last day to submit your application. Grants.gov will put a date/time stamp on your application and then process it after it is fully uploaded.
- Verify that Grants.gov received your submission on time and that it was validated successfully.





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THANK YOU!

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202-245-6522

Grants.gov Support Desk

1-800-518-4726