▶ Slides are for guidance only and information has been summarized due to logistics of the webinar.

▶ Please read the entire notice inviting applications, instructions, and all other references or related statutes, regulations, instructions, etc.

▶ Please review the recorded webinar titled "Applying for Office of Special Education Programs Discretionary Grants" for additional information related to submitting an application.

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Application Timelines

- Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) published in the Federal Register February 3, 2023.

- Applications due no later than 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 4, 2023.

Application Package Contents

▶ Dear Applicant Letter

▶ Notice Inviting Applications

- Federal Register Notice
- Grants.gov System Submission Procedures and Tips for Applicants

▶ Priority Description and Selection Criteria

▶ General Information

▶ Required Forms

Program Information

Purpose

Eligible Applicants

Funding Levels

Multiple Applications

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Purpose

- 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 TA, supporting model demonstration projects, disseminating useful information, and implementing activities that are supported by scientifically based research.

- The purpose of this priority is to fund a cooperative agreement to establish and operate a Center on Dispute Resolution (Center).

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Eligible Applicants

▶ State Educational Agencies (SEAs); State Lead A(LAs) under Part C of the IDEA; Local Educational Agencies (LEAs), including public charter schools that are considered LEAs under State law; Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs); other public agencies; private nonprofit organizations; freely associated States and outlying areas; Indian Tribes or Tribal organizations; and for-profit organizations

▶ **Note**: You may demonstrate your nonprofit status by the methods described in the NIA

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▶ Total funding is $750,000 each budget period

▶ Funding is for a total of five budget periods (5 years)

► The project will provide universal and targeted technical assistance <u>nationally</u> to SEAs, LAs, and OSEP-funded parent centers to support them in working with LEAs and Early Intervention service providers to improve the implementation of the range of dispute resolution options, including methods of dispute resolution required under the IDEA, and early resolution practices.

Competition Information

Expected Project Outcomes and Activities

Application Narrative and Selection Criteria

Application Requirements and General Requirements

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Expected Project Outcomes

- Increased body of knowledge and dissemination of knowledge on exemplary dispute prevention and dispute resolution practices to meet the needs of parents in resolving disputes, including culturally and linguistically responsive practices, and the interaction of IDEA dispute resolution systems with dispute resolution systems required by other Federal laws protecting the rights of children with disabilities

- Increased capacity of SEAs and LAs to support local implementation of effective and equitable early resolution practices to resolve disputes and thereby decrease requests for State complaints and due process hearings

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More Expected Project Outcomes

▶ Increased capacity of SEAs and LAs to collect, report, and use high-quality dispute resolution data

▶ Improved capacity of LEAs and EIS providers, through their work with SEAs and LAs, to equitably implement a range of dispute resolution options, including methods of dispute resolution required under IDEA and early resolution practices

▶ Improved capacity of OSEP-funded parent centers to provide culturally and linguistically competent TA to parents on the range of effective dispute resolution options

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IDEAs that Work

- ▶ Expand the knowledge base of evidence based effective dispute resolution practices that are culturally and linguistically competent

- ▶ Provide universal and targeted technical assistance (TA) to multiple audiences

- ▶ Develop high-quality, useful, and relevant products to meet the needs of the intended audiences

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Application Narrative

▶ Significance

▶ Quality of Project Services

▶ Quality of the Project Evaluation

▶ Adequacy of Resources and Quality of Project Personnel

▶ Quality of the Management Plan

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Significance

▶ Address gaps or weaknesses in State or local performance under and compliance with dispute resolution requirements

▶ Improve outcomes in dispute resolution systems

▶ Increase understanding of the interaction of IDEA dispute resolution systems with dispute resolution systems required by other Federal laws

▶ Improve communication between parents and education professionals

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▶ Information on how the project will identify the needs of the intended recipients for TA and information and ensure that services and products meet recipients' needs

▶ How the project will

- Be based on IDEA requirements for dispute resolution systems, current research, and make use of evidence-based practices

- Develop products and provide services, including its proposed approach to universal and targeted TA

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▶ Evaluation plan is connected to the project logic model

▶ Evaluation plan contains

- Formative and summative evaluation questions connected to proposed logic model

- Measurement of fidelity of implementation and project outcomes

- Strategies for analyzing data

- Timeline for conducting evaluation

- Sufficient funding and staff allocation to work with a third-party evaluator

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▶ Applicant and partners have adequate resources

▶ Costs are reasonable

▶ Encourage employment of diverse personnel

▶ Qualifications and expertise of key personnel and contractors

▶ Project meets outcomes on time and within budget

▶ Clearly defined responsibilities of key personnel and contractors

▶ Ensure a diversity of perspectives

▶ Ensures quality, relevance, and usefulness of project services

Selection Criteria

▶ Significance (10 points)

▶ Quality of Project Services (35 points)

▶ Quality of the Project Evaluation (20 points)

▶ Adequacy of Budget and Quality of Project Personnel (15 points)

▶ Quality of the Management Plan (20 points)

Application Requirements

▶ Include, in Appendix A, a logic model and conceptual framework 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 one annual meeting sponsored by OSEP and an additional two-day trip to attend an OSEP-sponsored meeting

- An annual 5% set aside to support emerging needs

▶ A high-quality website which includes a public posting of project progress

▶ An assurance to assist OSEP with the transfer of pertinent resources and products and to maintain the continuity of services

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▶ 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).

▶ Applicants for, and recipients of, funding must, with respect to the aspects of their proposed project relating to the absolute priority, 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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Submission Information

Application Submission

Submission Tips and SAM Registration

Ineligible Applications

Application Tips

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Application Submission

▶ Applications must be submitted electronically in Grants.gov.

▶ Applications may not be submitted via email.

▶ Applications must be submitted no later than 11:59:59 p.m., Washington, DC time, on April 4, 2023.

▶ Application narrative sections and all other attachments to the application must be uploaded as a PDF read-only, non-modifiable format (preferred) or Microsoft Word file.

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IDEAs that Work

▶ 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 submission is ok. Verify that Grants.gov received your submission on time and that it was validated successfully.

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IDEAs that Work

▶ Grantees must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) in SAM,gov

▶ Be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov), the Government's primary registrant database

▶ Provide your UEI number and TIN on your application

▶ Maintain an active SAM registration with current information while your application is under review by the Department and, if you are awarded a grant, during the project period.

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Ineligible Applications

▶ Applications received after deadline (March 28, 2023, at 11:59:59 p.m., Washington, DC time).

▶ Applications not addressing the published priority.

▶ Applications submitted by ineligible entities (e.g. individuals).

IDEAs that Work

▶ Maximum funding levels for each grant are noted in the notice.

▶ Recommended organization, page limits, spacing, and font sizes facilitate the application review process.

▶ Read-only, non-modifiable PDF files facilitate the consolidating of application elements and review process.

▶ Read carefully "Grants.gov Submission Procedures and Tips for Applicants" found in section B of the application package.

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