



## **Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities**

Preservice Improvement Enhancement Grants to Support Related Service Providers to Effectively Serve Children with Disabilities and Their Families  
(**84.325S**)

## **FY2024 Grant Competition Applicant Resource**



This document is a brief summary of the 84.325S program priorities, requirements, and definitions. Do not rely solely on the information in this document for guidance. Please refer to the Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) and the final priorities, requirements, and definitions published in the Federal Register for additional information, as these are the official documents governing the competition.

# Personnel Development 325S Grant Program



Program provides grants to help address State-identified needs for **personnel preparation** in special education, early intervention, related services, and regular education **to work with children with disabilities**; and ensure that those personnel have the necessary skills and knowledge to be successful in serving those children

**Eligible:** IHEs and private nonprofit organizations that have legal authority to enter into grants and cooperative agreements with the Federal government on behalf of an IHE.

**Funding:** The Department estimates making 13 awards in FY 2024. The maximum award is \$450,000 for a total of 36 months.



# Absolute Priority

The Personnel Development program (84.325S) has one absolute priority. Applications must meet this priority to be considered for funding.



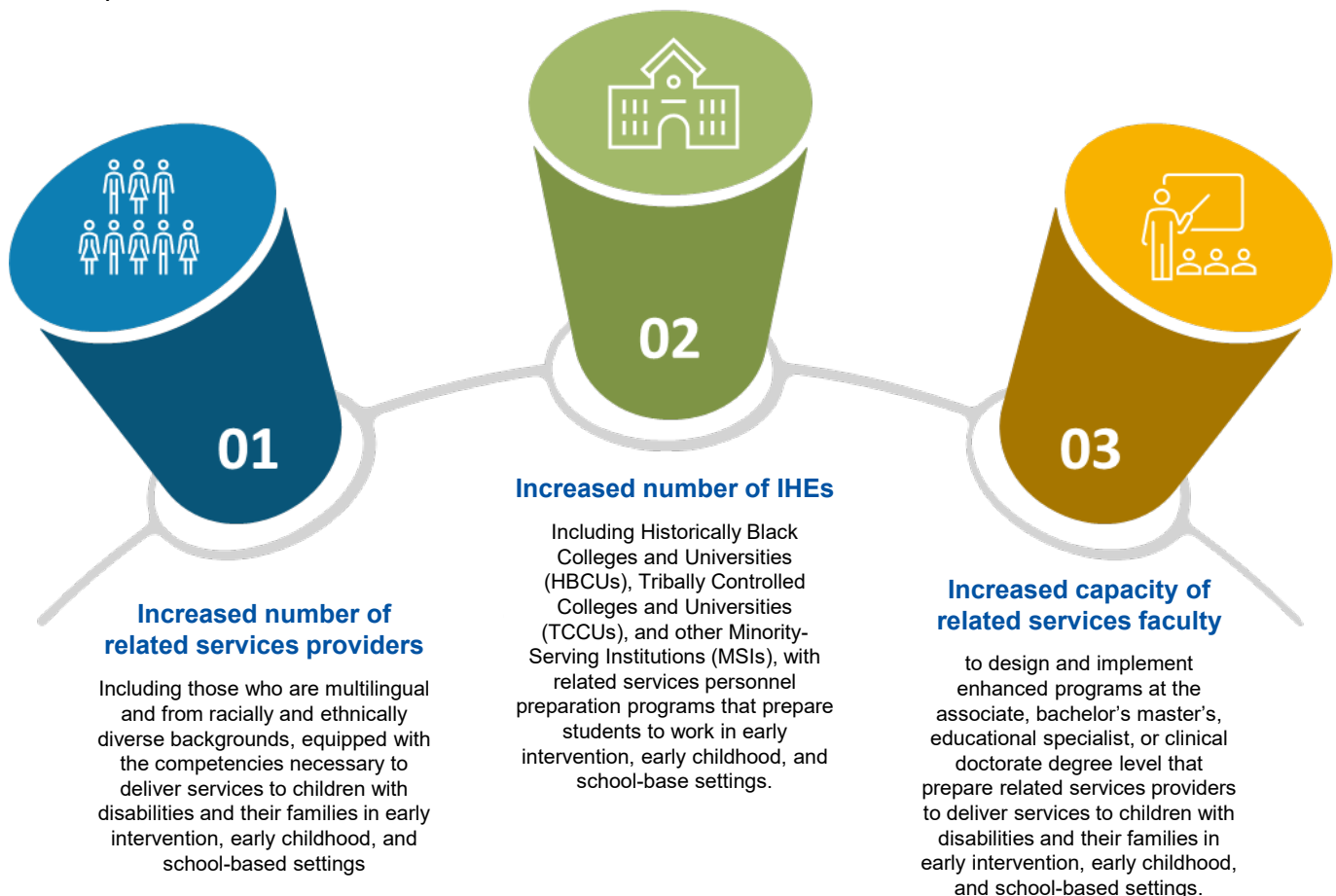
**Absolute Priority:** Preservice Improvement Enhancement Grants to Support Related Service Providers to Effectively Serve Children with Disabilities and Their Families

## Purpose

The purpose of this priority is to award grants to institutions of higher education with related services degree programs to expand or enhance curriculums, courses of study, and clinical experiences to increase the competencies of related services personnel to serve children with disabilities and their families in **early intervention, early childhood, and educational settings**.

## Expected Outcomes

Within this absolute priority, projects are expected to achieve, at a minimum, the following expected outcomes:



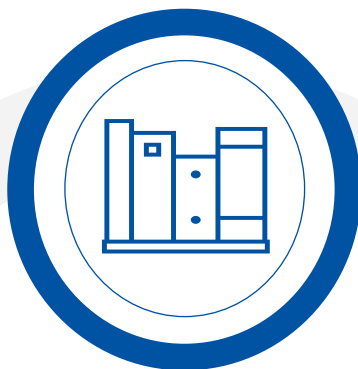
# Major Project Activities

Applicants must also describe the approaches that will be used in their project services. Major activities that should be included are described below.



## Develop or Modify a Curriculum

including courses, assignments, and clinical experiences, for an existing related services degree program to build the competencies of related services personnel to provide services in early intervention, early childhood, and school-based settings.



## Develop Partnerships

with early intervention, early childhood, and school-based sites to prepare related services personnel to provide services to children with disabilities and their families.



## Provide Professional Development

to faculty and staff to develop their capacity to develop and deliver the enhanced courses and the curriculum that prepares students to provide services in early intervention, early childhood, and school-based settings



# Other Application Elements

The application will be awarded based on responding to the absolute priority, an *optional* competitive preference priority, and five selection criteria, described below.



## Competitive Preference Priority

Applications from HBCUs, TCCUs, and other MSIs, and private nonprofit organizations that have legal authority to enter into grants and cooperative agreements with the Federal government on behalf of an HBCU, TCCU, and other MSI

0 or 3 points

## Selection Criteria



**Significance:** The extent to which the proposed project will prepare personnel for fields in which shortages have been demonstrated; and the importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project, especially improvements in teaching and student achievement.

10 points



**Project Services:** 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 and the extent to which (i) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable; (ii) the services to be provided by the proposed project reflect up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice; and (iii) the training or professional development services to be provided by the proposed project are of sufficient quality, intensity, and duration to lead to improvements in practice among the recipients of those services.

45 points



**Project Personnel and Management Plan:** extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented, as well as the qualifications of key project personnel, the adequacy of the management plan to achieve objectives on time and within budget, extent to which the time commitments of key personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project, and adequacy of mechanism for ensuring high quality products and services from the proposed project.

20 points



**Adequacy of Resources & Project Personnel:** the adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization and the extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project.

10 points



**Project Evaluation:** extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project and the extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.

15 points



# FAQs & Resources

Common questions can be seen below but if you have additional questions, please visit the program website or reach out directly via the contact information below.

## When is the application due?

The application is due May 1, 2024.

Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted in the Grants.gov system no later than 11:59:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on the application date.

## Where can I find the application package?

You may access the electronic grant applications at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). You may search for the downloadable application package for this competition using 84.325S.

## Where can I find more information about applying?

You may visit the program website, linked below, as well as the [new funding opportunities page](#) that includes access to webinars to assist with the application process.

## Helpful Links



[Program Website](#)



[Notice Inviting Applications \(NIA\)](#)

## Point of Contact

Yolanda Lusane, Competition Manager

[Yolanda.Lusane@ed.gov](mailto:Yolanda.Lusane@ed.gov)

202-987-0146

