

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**[CFDA No. 84.342]****Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers To Use Technology**

AGENCY: Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE), Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of requirements and invitation for applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2000.

Purpose of Program

The Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology program provides grants to consortia that are helping future teachers become proficient in the use of modern learning technologies. This program addresses looming teacher shortages by developing well-qualified, technology-proficient teachers, who are prepared to teach in 21st century schools, particularly schools in low-income communities or rural areas. This program provides support for two types of grants: implementation grants, and catalyst grants.

Eligible Applicants

Only consortia may receive grants under this program. A consortium must include at least two members. Consortium members may include institutions of higher education (IHEs), Schools of Education, State educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), private schools, professional associations, foundations, museums, libraries, for profit agencies and organizations, nonprofit organizations, community-based organizations, and others.

Note: In each consortium a participating nonprofit member must be designated as the "applicant" for purposes of 34 CFR 75.128 and must act as the fiscal agent.

Applications Available: January 7, 2000.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 7, 2000.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 8, 2000.

Estimated Available Funds: \$75,000,000.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$200,000–\$400,000 for implementation grants, and \$500,000–\$700,000 for catalyst grants.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$380,000 for implementation grants, and \$600,000 for catalyst grants.

Estimated Number of Awards: 80 implementation grants, and 15 catalyst grants.

Project Period: 36 months for implementation grants, and 36 months for catalyst grants.

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

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 81, 82, 85, and 86; (b) The regulations for this program in competition. The selection criteria and factors to be used for this competition will be provided in the application package.

Application Review Procedures

The Secretary announces the use of a multi-tier review process to evaluate all applications submitted for new awards under the FY 2000 Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology program. The Secretary takes this action to ensure a thorough review and assessment of the large number of applications that are expected to be received under the FY 2000 competition. This multi-tier review process does not affect the contents of applications in this competition.

For Applications Contact

Beginning January 7, 2000, telephone (202) 502-7788 or fax requests to (202)502-7775. The application package also will be available from the Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology program web site at <http://www.ed.gov/teachtech> in January, 2000. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Erika Kirby, Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology, U.S.

Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW, Suite 6160, Washington DC 20202-5131. Telephone: (202) 502-7788. E-mail: erika_kirby@ed.gov Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternate format by contacting that person. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternate format the standard forms included in the application package.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at either of the following sites:

<http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm>
<http://www.ed.gov/news.html>

To use the PDF you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program with Search, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have questions about using the PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6832.

Dated: December 21, 1999.

Claudio R. Prieto,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

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