

Northern California coast about 35 miles to the north of San Francisco. It consists of two portions: The Upper Channel that begins in Petaluma City and extends 14 miles to the mouth of Petaluma River at San Pablo Bay (near the Highway 37 Bridge); and the Across the Flats (ATF) portion that continues southeast of the Highway 37 Bridge and extends 5 miles into the deeper water of San Pablo Bay. It is a shallow draft navigation project that supports light commercial and sport fishing, and recreational boating.

Both the channel width and depth vary throughout the entire length of the federal project. An 8 foot depth is authorized for the five miles of the ATF portion extending into San Pablo Bay (200 foot wide channel) and as far upstream as Western Avenue in the City of Petaluma (100 foot wide channel). This includes a 300 foot by 400 foot turning basin. The channel then reduces to 50 feet wide with a 4 foot depth until the Washington Street Bridge and from there it reduces to a 40 foot width and a 4 foot depth for an additional 935 linear feet.

Historically, dredged sediment from the Upper Channel was placed at an upland disposal site located downstream of the turning basin. The dredged sediment from the ATF portion has historically been placed at the San Pablo in-bay disposal site SF-10.

Proposed Action(s): The San Francisco District, US Army Corps of Engineers, is evaluating whether there is sufficient placement/disposal capacity and verifying economic justification to support continued federal and non-federal maintenance dredging over the next 20 years.

Issues: Potentially significant issues associated with the project may include: air quality emissions, biological resource impacts, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise, traffic and transportation, and cumulative impacts from past, present and reasonably foreseeable future projects.

Scoping Process: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is seeking participation and input of all interested federal, state, and local agencies, Native American groups, and other concerned private organizations or individuals through this public notice. The purpose of the public meeting is to solicit comments regarding the potential impacts and environmental issues associated with the proposed action to be considered. A meeting will be held on April 30, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. (PDT). The draft PA is expected to be available

for public review and comment in late summer of 2015.

John C. Morrow,

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 2015-08723 Filed 4-14-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3720-58-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; Education Research and Special Education Research Grant Programs

AGENCY: Institute of Education Sciences, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

Overview Information

Education Research and Special Education Research Grant Programs

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2016.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers: 84.305A, 84.305B, 84.305C, 84.305D, 84.305H, 84.305N, 84.324A, and 84.324B.

DATES: The dates when applications are available and the deadlines for transmittal of applications invited under this notice are indicated in the chart at the end of this notice.

SUMMARY: The Acting Director of the Institute of Education Sciences (Institute) announces the Institute's FY 2016 competitions for grants to support education research and special education research. The Acting Director takes this action under the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002. The Institute's purpose in awarding these grants is to provide national leadership in expanding fundamental knowledge and understanding of (1) developmental and school readiness outcomes for infants and toddlers with or at risk for disability, and (2) education outcomes for all students from early childhood education through postsecondary and adult education.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The central purpose of the Institute's research grant programs is to provide interested individuals and the general public with reliable and valid information about education practices that support learning and improve academic achievement and access to education opportunities for all students. These interested individuals include parents, educators, students, researchers, and policymakers. In carrying out its grant programs, the Institute provides support

for programs of research in areas of demonstrated national need.

Competitions in This Notice: The Institute will conduct eight research competitions in FY 2016 through two of its centers:

The Institute's National Center for Education Research (NCER) will hold six competitions: one competition for education research, one competition for education research training, one competition for education research and development centers, one competition for statistical and research methodology in education, one competition for partnerships and collaborations focused on problems of practice or policy, and one competition for research networks.

The Institute's National Center for Special Education Research (NCSER) will hold two competitions: one competition for special education research and one competition for special education research training.

NCER Competitions

The Education Research Competition. Under this competition, NCER will consider only applications that address one of the following ten education research topics:

- Cognition and Student Learning.
- Early Learning Programs and Policies.
- Education Technology.
- Effective Teachers and Effective Teaching.
- English Learners.
- Improving Education Systems: Policies, Organization, Management, and Leadership.
- Mathematics and Science Education.
- Postsecondary and Adult Education.
- Reading and Writing.
- Social and Behavioral Context for Academic Learning.

The Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences. Under this competition, NCER will consider only applications that address the following topic:

- Pathways to the Education Sciences Research Training.

The Education Research and Development Centers Competition.

Under this competition, NCER will consider only applications that address the following topic:

- Virtual Learning.

The Statistical and Research Methodology in Education Competition.

Under this competition, NCER will consider only applications that address the following topic:

- Early Career Statistical and Research Methodology Grants.

Partnerships and Collaborations Focused on Problems of Practice or

Policy Competition. Under this competition, NCER will consider only applications that address the following topic:

- Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships in Education Research.

The Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice Competition. Under this competition, NCER will consider only applications that address one of the following two topics:

- Supporting Early Learning from Preschool through Early Elementary Grades.
- Scalable Strategies to Support College Completion.

NCSEER Competitions

The Special Education Research Competitions. Under this competition, NCSEER will consider only applications that address one of the following eleven topics:

- Autism Spectrum Disorders.
- Cognition and Student Learning in Special Education.
- Early Intervention and Early Learning in Special Education.
- Families of Children with Disabilities.
- Mathematics and Science Education.
- Professional Development for Teachers and Related Services Providers.
- Reading, Writing, and Language Development.
- Social and Behavioral Outcomes to Support Learning.
- Special Education Policy, Finance, and Systems.
- Technology for Special Education.
- Transition Outcomes for Secondary Students with Disabilities.

The Research Training Programs in Special Education Competition. Under this competition, NCSEER will consider only applications that address one of the following three topics:

- Postdoctoral Research Training Program.
- Early Career Development and Mentoring.
- Methods Training Using Single Case Designs.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 9501 *et seq.*

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations in 34 CFR parts 77, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99. In addition, the regulations in 34 CFR part 75 are applicable, except for the provisions in 34 CFR 75.100, 75.101(b), 75.102, 75.103, 75.105, 75.109(a), 75.200, 75.201, 75.209, 75.210, 75.211, 75.217(a) through (c), 75.219, 75.220, 75.221, 75.222, and 75.230. (b) The

Office of Management and Budget Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485. (c) The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended in 2 CFR part 3474.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

II. Award Information

Types of Awards: Discretionary grants and cooperative agreements.

Fiscal Information: Although Congress has not yet enacted an appropriation for fiscal year 2016, the Institute is inviting applications for these competitions now so that we may give applicants adequate time to prepare their applications. The Department may announce additional topics later in 2015. The actual award of grants will depend on the availability of funds. The size of the awards will depend on the scope of the projects proposed. The number of awards made under each competition will depend on the quality of the applications received for that competition, the availability of funds, and the following limits on awards for specific competitions and topics set by the Institute.

The Institute may waive any of the following limits on awards for a specific competition or topic in the special case that the peer review process results in a tie between two or more grant applications, making it impossible to adhere to the limits without funding only some of the equally ranked applications. In that case, the Institute may make a larger number of awards to include all applications of the same rank.

For the NCER's Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences competition, we will award no more than four grants under the Pathways to the Education Sciences Research Training topic.

For the NCER's Education Research and Development Center competition, we will award no more than one grant under the Virtual Learning topic.

For the NCER's Statistical and Research Methodology in Education competition, we will award no more than four grants under the Early Career Statistical and Research Methodology Grants topic.

For the NCER's Partnerships and Collaborations Focused on Problems of

Practice or Policy competition, we will award no more than five grants under the Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships in Education Research topic.

For the NCER's Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice competition, we will award no more than four grants under the Supporting Early Learning from Preschool through Early Elementary Grades topic and no more than four grants under the Scalable Strategies to Support College Completion topic.

For the NCSEER's Research Training Programs in Special Education competition, we will award no more than two grants under the Postdoctoral Research Training topic, no more than five grants under the Early Career Development and Mentoring topic, and no more than one grant under the Methods Training Using Single Case Designs topic.

The Director of the Institute may change the maximum number of awards per competition through a notice in the **Federal Register**. Contingent on the availability of funds and the quality of applications, we may make additional awards in FY 2017 from the list of unfunded applications from the FY 2016 competitions.

III. Eligibility Information

1. *Eligible Applicants:* Applicants that have the ability and capacity to conduct scientifically valid research are eligible to apply. Eligible applicants include, but are not limited to, nonprofit and for-profit organizations and public and private agencies and institutions, such as colleges and universities.

2. *Cost Sharing or Matching:* These programs do not require cost sharing or matching.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. *Request for Applications and Other Information:* Information regarding program and application requirements for the competitions will be contained in the NCER and NCSEER Requests for Applications (RFAs), which will be available on the Institute's Web site at: <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/>. Each competition will have its own application package.

RFAs Available: The RFAs for all eight competitions announced in this notice will be available at the Web site listed above on or before April 30, 2015. The dates on which the application packages for these competitions will be available are indicated in the chart at the end of this notice.

The selection criteria and review procedures for the competitions are

contained in the RFAs. The RFAs also include information on the maximum award available under each grant competition. Applications that include proposed budgets higher than the relevant maximum award will not be considered for an award. The Director of the Institute may change the maximum amount through a notice in the **Federal Register**.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission: Requirements concerning the content of an application are contained in the RFA for the specific competition. The forms that must be submitted are in the application package for the specific competition.

3. Submission Dates and Times: The deadline date for transmittal of applications invited under this notice is indicated in the chart at the end of this notice and in the RFAs for the competitions.

Application packages for grants under these competitions must be obtained from and submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site (www.Grants.gov). For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application package electronically, or in paper format by mail or hand delivery if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, please refer to section IV. **7. Other Submission Requirements** of this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice and the chart at the end of this notice. If the Department provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability in connection with the application process, the individual's application remains subject to all other requirements and limitations in this notice.

4. Intergovernmental Review: This competition is not subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in CFR part 79.

5. Funding Restrictions: We reference regulations outlining funding restrictions in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

6. Data Universal Numbering System Number, Taxpayer Identification Number, and System for Award Management: To do business with the Department of Education, you must—

- Have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN);

- Register both your DUNS number and TIN with the System for Award Management (SAM) (formerly the Central Contractor Registry (CCR)), the Government's primary registrant database;

- Provide your DUNS number and TIN on your application; and

- 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.

You can obtain a DUNS number from Dun and Bradstreet. A DUNS number can be created within one to two business days.

If you are a corporate entity, agency, institution, or organization, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service. If you are an individual, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service or the Social Security Administration. If you need a new TIN, please allow two to five weeks for your TIN to become active.

The SAM registration process can take approximately seven business days, but may take upwards of several weeks, depending on the completeness and accuracy of the data entered into the SAM database by an entity. Thus, if you think you might want to apply for Federal financial assistance under a program administered by the Department, please allow sufficient time to obtain and register your DUNS number and TIN. We strongly recommend that you register early.

Note: Once your SAM registration is active, you will need to allow 24 to 48 hours for the information to be available in Grants.gov and before you can submit an application through Grants.gov.

If you are currently registered with SAM, you may not need to make any changes. However, please make certain that the TIN associated with your DUNS number is correct. Also, note that you will need to update your registration annually. This may take three or more business days.

Information about SAM is available at www.SAM.gov. To further assist you with obtaining and registering your DUNS number and TIN in SAM or updating your existing SAM account, we have prepared a SAM.gov Tip Sheet, which you can find at: www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/sam-faqs.html.

In addition, if you are submitting your application via Grants.gov, you must: (1) Be designated by your organization as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR); and (2) register yourself with Grants.gov as an AOR. Details on these steps are outlined at the

following Grants.gov Web page: www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html.

7. Other Submission Requirements: Applications for grants under these competitions must be submitted electronically unless you qualify for an exception to this requirement in accordance with the instructions in this section.

a. Electronic Submission of Applications

Applications for grants under the Education Research, Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences, Education Research and Development Centers, Statistical and Research Methodology in Education, the Partnerships and Collaborations Focused on Problems of Practice or Policy, Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice, Special Education Research, and Research Training Programs in Special Education competitions, CFDA numbers 84.305A, 84.305B, 84.305C, 84.305D, 84.305H, 84.305N, 84.324A, and 84.324B, must be submitted electronically using the Governmentwide Grants.gov Apply site at www.Grants.gov. Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not email an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

We will reject your application if you submit it in paper format unless, as described elsewhere in this section, you qualify for one of the exceptions to the electronic submission requirement and submit, no later than two weeks before the application deadline date, a written statement to the Department that you qualify for one of these exceptions. Further information regarding calculation of the date that is two weeks before the application deadline date is provided later in this section under *Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement*.

You may access the electronic grant applications for the Education Research, Special Education Research, Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences, Research Training Programs in Special Education, Education Research and Development Centers, Statistical and Research Methodology in Education, Partnerships and Collaborations Focused on Problems of Practice or Policy, and Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice competitions at www.Grants.gov. You must search for the downloadable application package for each

competition by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (*e.g.*, search for 84.305, not 84.305A).

Please note the following:

- When you enter the Grants.gov site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, as well as the hours of operation.

- Applications received by Grants.gov are date and time stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted and must be date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not accept your application if it is received—that is, date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system—after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements. When we retrieve your application from Grants.gov, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because it was date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.

- The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors, including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the submission process through Grants.gov.

- You should review and follow the Education Submission Procedures for submitting an application through Grants.gov that are included in the application package for the competition to ensure that you submit your application in a timely manner to the Grants.gov system. You can also find the Education Submission Procedures pertaining to Grants.gov under News and Events on the Department's G5 system home page at www.G5.gov.

- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, as described elsewhere in this section, and submit your application in paper format.

- You must submit all documents electronically, including all information you typically provide on the following forms: The Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, Budget Information—Non-

Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.

- You must upload any narrative sections and all other attachments to your application as files in a PDF (Portable Document) read-only, non-modifiable format. Do not upload an interactive or fillable PDF file. If you upload a file type other than a read-only, non-modifiable PDF or submit a password-protected file, we will not review that material.

- Your electronic application must comply with any page-limit requirements described in the relevant RFA for your application.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. (This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only, not receipt by the Department.) The Department then will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send a second notification to you by email. This second notification indicates that the Department has received your application and has assigned your application a PR/Award number (an ED-specified identifying number unique to your application).

- We may request that you provide us original signatures on forms at a later date.

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of Technical Issues with the Grants.gov System: If you are experiencing problems submitting your application through Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov Support Desk, toll free, at 1-800-518-4726. You must obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number and must keep a record of it.

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because of technical problems with the Grants.gov system, we will grant you an extension until 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, the following business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically or by hand delivery. You also may mail your application by following the mailing instructions described elsewhere in this notice.

If you submit an application after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice and provide an explanation of the technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number. We will accept your application if we can confirm that a technical problem occurred with the

Grants.gov system and that that problem affected your ability to submit your application by 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. The Department will contact you after a determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

Note: The extensions to which we refer in this section apply only to the unavailability of, or technical problems with, the Grants.gov system. We will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the application deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the Grants.gov system.

Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement: You qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, and may submit your application in paper format, if you are unable to submit an application through the Grants.gov system because—

- You do not have access to the Internet; or

- You do not have the capacity to upload large documents to the Grants.gov system; *and*

- No later than two weeks before the application deadline date (14 calendar days or, if the fourteenth calendar day before the application deadline date falls on a Federal holiday, the next business day following the Federal holiday), you mail or fax a written statement to the Department, explaining which of the two grounds for an exception prevents you from using the Internet to submit your application.

If you mail your written statement to the Department, it must be postmarked no later than two weeks before the application deadline date. If you fax your written statement to the Department, we must receive the faxed statement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.

Address and mail or fax your statement to: Ellie Pelaez, U.S. Department of Education, 555 New Jersey Avenue NW., Room 600e, Washington, DC 20208. FAX: (202) 219-1466.

Your paper application must be submitted in accordance with the mail or hand delivery instructions described in this notice.

b. Submission of Paper Applications by Mail

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you may mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier) your application to the Department. You must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the

Department at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number: [Identify the CFDA number, including suffix letter, for the competition under which you are applying.]), LBJ Basement Level 1, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20202–4260.

You must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier.
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark.
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

c. Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you (or a courier service) may deliver your paper application to the Department by hand. You must deliver the original and two copies of your application by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number: [Identify the CFDA number, including suffix letter, for the competition under which you are applying.]), 550 12th Street SW., Room 7039, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202–4260.

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications: If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department—

- (1) You must indicate on the envelope and—if not provided by the Department—in Item 11 of the SF 424 the CFDA number, including suffix letter, if any, of the competition under which you are submitting your application; and
- (2) The Application Control Center will mail to you a notification of receipt of your

grant application. If you do not receive this notification within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245–6288.

V. Application Review Information

1. *Selection Criteria:* The selection criteria for this competition are provided in the RFAs.

2. *Review and Selection Process:* We remind potential applicants that in reviewing applications in any discretionary grant competition, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.217(d)(3), the past performance of the applicant in carrying out a previous award, such as the applicant's use of funds, achievement of project objectives, and compliance with grant conditions. The Secretary may also consider whether the applicant failed to submit a timely performance report or submitted a report of unacceptable quality.

In addition, in making a competitive grant award, the Secretary also requires various assurances including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department of Education (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

3. *Special Conditions:* Under 2 CFR 3474.10, the Secretary may impose special conditions and, in appropriate circumstances, high-risk conditions on a grant if the applicant or grantee is not financially stable; has a history of unsatisfactory performance; has a financial or other management system that does not meet the standards in 2 CFR part 200, subpart D; has not fulfilled the conditions of a prior grant; or is otherwise not responsible.

VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN); or we may send you an email containing a link to access an electronic version of your GAN. We may notify you informally, also.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section of

this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Grant Administration:* Applicants should budget for an annual two-day meeting for project directors to be held in Washington, DC.

4. *Reporting:* (a) If you apply for a grant under one of the competitions announced in this notice, you must ensure that you have in place the necessary processes and systems to comply with the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 170 should you receive funding under the competition. This does not apply if you have an exception under 2 CFR 170.110(b).

(b) At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as directed by the Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html.

5. *Performance Measures:* To evaluate the overall success of its education research grant program, the Institute annually assesses the percentage of projects that result in peer-reviewed publications, the number of newly developed or modified interventions with evidence of promise for improving student education outcomes, and the number of Institute-supported interventions with evidence of efficacy in improving student outcomes including school readiness outcomes for young children and student academic outcomes and social and behavioral competencies for school-age students. School readiness outcomes include pre-reading, reading, pre-writing, early mathematics, early science, and social-emotional skills that prepare young children for school. Student academic outcomes include learning and achievement in core academic content areas (reading, writing, math, and science) and outcomes that reflect students' successful progression through the education system (e.g., course and grade completion; high school graduation; postsecondary enrollment, progress, and completion). Social and behavioral competencies include social skills, attitudes, and behaviors that may be important to student's academic and post-academic success. Additional

education outcomes for students with or at risk of disability include developmental outcomes for infants and toddlers (birth to age three) with or at risk for a disability pertaining to cognitive, communicative, linguistic, social, emotional, adaptive, functional, or physical development; and developmental and functional outcomes that improve education outcomes, transition to employment, independent living, and postsecondary education for students with disabilities.

6. *Continuation Awards:* In making a continuation award under 34 CFR 75.253, the Secretary considers, among other things: Whether a grantee has made substantial progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the project; whether the grantee has expended funds in a manner that is consistent with its approved application and budget; and, if the Secretary has established performance measurement requirements, whether the grantee has met the performance targets in the grantee's approved application. In making a continuation grant, the Secretary also considers whether the grantee is operating in compliance with the assurances in its approved application, including those applicable

to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

VII. Agency Contact

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The contact person associated with a particular research competition is listed in the chart at the end of this notice, in the relevant RFA, and in the relevant application package. The date on which applications will be available, the deadline for transmittal of applications, the estimated range of awards, and the project period ranges are also listed in the chart and in the RFAs that are posted at the following Web sites: <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/> and www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ies/programs.html.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

VIII. Other Information

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the RFA in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print,

audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the appropriate program contact person listed in the chart at the end of this notice.

Electronic Access to This Document: 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 via the Federal Digital System at: www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Dated: April 10, 2015.

Sue Betka,

Acting Director, Institute of Education Sciences.

| CFDA No. and name | Application package available | Deadline for transmittal of applications | Estimated range of awards* | Project period | For further information contact |
|--|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| National Center for Education Research (NCER) | | | | | |
| 84.305A Education Research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Cognition and Student Learning. ■ Early Learning Programs and Policies. ■ Education Technology. ■ Effective Teachers and Effective Teaching. ■ English Learners. ■ Improving Education Systems: Policies, Organization, Management, and Leadership. ■ Mathematics and Science Education. ■ Postsecondary and Adult Education. ■ Reading and Writing. ■ Social and Behavioral Context for Academic Learning. | May 21, 2015 .. | August 6, 2015 | \$100,000 to \$760,000 | Up to 5 years | Rebecca McGill-Wilkinson, <i>Rebecca.McGill@ed.gov.</i> |
| 84.305B Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pathways to the Education Sciences Research Training. | May 21, 2015 .. | August 20, 2015 | \$50,000 to \$240,000 | Up to 5 years | Katina Stapleton, <i>Katina.Stapleton@ed.gov.</i> |
| 84.305C Education Research and Development Center Program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Virtual Learning. | May 21, 2015 .. | August 20, 2015 | \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 | Up to 5 years | Erin Higgins, <i>Erin.Higgins@ed.gov.</i> |
| 84.305D Statistical and Research Methodology in Education. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Early Career Statistical and Research Methodology Grants. | May 21, 2015 .. | August 6, 2015 | \$40,000 to \$100,000 | Up to 2 years | Phill Gagne, <i>Phill.Gagne@ed.gov.</i> |
| 84.305H Partnerships and Collaborations Focused on Problems of Practice or Policy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships in Education Research. | May 21, 2015 .. | August 6, 2015 | \$50,000 to \$200,000 | Up to 2 years | Allen Ruby, <i>Allen.Ruby@ed.gov.</i> |

| CFDA No. and name | Application package available | Deadline for transmittal of applications | Estimated range of awards * | Project period | For further information contact |
|---|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 84.305N Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting Early Learning from Preschool through Early Elementary Grades Scalable Strategies to Support College Completion | May 21, 2015 .. | August 6, 2015 | \$500,000—\$1,100,000 ... | Up to 5 years | Caroline Ebanks (Supporting Early Learning), <i>Caroline.Ebanks@ed.gov</i> . James.Benson (Scalable Strategies), <i>James.Benson@ed.gov</i> . |
| National Center for Special Education Research (NCSEER) | | | | | |
| 84.324A Special Education Research ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Autism Spectrum Disorders. Cognition and Student Learning in Special Education. Early Intervention and Early Learning in Special Education. Families of Children with Disabilities. Mathematics and Science Education. Professional Development for Teachers and Related Services Providers. Reading, Writing, and Language Development. Social and Behavioral Outcomes to Support Learning. Special Education Policy, Finance, and Systems. Technology for Special Education. Transition Outcomes for Secondary Students with Disabilities. | May 21, 2015. | August 6, 2015 | \$100,000 to \$800,000 | Up to 5 years | Jacquelyn Buckley, <i>Jacquelyn.Buckley@ed.gov</i> . |
| 84.324B Research Training Programs in Special Education. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Postdoctoral Research Training Program Early Career Development and Mentoring Methods Training Using Single Case Designs | May 21, 2015 .. | August 20, 2015 | \$50,000 to \$233,000 | Up to 5 years | Kristen Rhoads (Postdoctoral and Early Career), <i>Kristen.Rhoads@ed.gov</i> . Robert Ochsendorf (Methods Training), <i>Robert.Ochsendorf@ed.gov</i> . |

* These estimates are annual amounts.

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

Note: If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 2015-08627 Filed 4-14-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2015-ICCD-0043]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; National Household Education Survey 2016 (NHES:2016) Full-Scale Data Collection

AGENCY: Institute of Education Sciences (IES)/National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 3501 *et seq.*), ED is proposing a reinstatement of a previously approved information collection

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 15, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting Docket ID number ED-2015-ICCD-0043 or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. If the regulations.gov site is not available to the public for any reason, ED will temporarily accept comments at ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted; ED will ONLY accept comments during the comment period in this mailbox when the regulations.gov site is not available.* Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ, Mailstop L-OM-2-2E319, Room 2E103, Washington, DC 20202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Kashka Kubzdela, (202) 502-7411.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the