

opportunity to attend the charter school; and

(10) Describe the extent of community support for the application.

(B) *Selection Criteria (CFDA No. 84.282B)*. Non-SEA Planning, Program Design, and Initial Implementation Grant applicants must address each selection criterion (1) through (9) individually and title each accordingly.

The maximum possible score for all of the criteria in this section is 145 points.

The maximum possible score for each criterion is indicated in parentheses following the criterion.

In evaluating an application from a non-SEA eligible applicant for Planning, Program Design, and Implementation, the Secretary considers the following criteria:

(1) The quality of the proposed curriculum and instructional practices (25 points).

(2) The degree of flexibility afforded by the SEA and, if applicable, the (LEA) to the charter school (10 points).

(3) The extent of community support for the application (10 points).

(4) The ambitiousness of the objectives for the charter school (15 points).

(5) The quality of the strategy for assessing achievement of those objectives (20 points).

(6) The likelihood that the charter school will meet those objectives and improve educational results for students during and after the period of Federal financial assistance (20 points).

(7) The extent to which the proposed project encourages parental involvement (10 points).

(8) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of the project director; and 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 (10 points).

(9) The contribution the charter school will make in assisting educationally disadvantaged and other students to achieve to State academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards (25 points).

(C) *Selection Criteria (CFDA No. 84.282C)*. Non-SEA applicants for Dissemination Grants must address each selection criterion (1) through (5) individually and title each accordingly.

The maximum possible score for all of the criteria in this section is 125 points.

The maximum possible score for each criterion is indicated in parentheses following the criterion.

In evaluating an application from a non-SEA eligible applicant for a

dissemination grant, the Secretary considers the following criteria:

(1) The quality of the proposed dissemination activities and the likelihood that those activities will improve student achievement (30 points).

(2) The extent to which the school has demonstrated overall success, including—

(a) Substantial progress in improving student achievement (25 points);

(b) High levels of parent satisfaction (10 points); and

(c) The management and leadership necessary to overcome initial start-up problems and establish a thriving, financially viable charter school (10 points).

(3) The extent to which the results of the proposed project will be disseminated in a manner that will enable others to use the information or strategies (20 points).

(4) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of the project director; and 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 (10 points).

(5) 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 (20 points).

#### Priorities

*Invitational Priority.* The Secretary invites applications that propose to increase the capacity of charter schools to offer public school choice in those communities with the greatest need for public school choice by addressing the following factors:

(a) The extent to which the applicant would plan, design, and implement one or more high-quality charter schools in geographic areas, including urban and rural areas, in which a large proportion or number of public schools have been identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring under Title I, Part A of the ESEA; and

(b) The extent to which the applicant will plan, design, and implement one or more high-quality charter schools in geographic areas in which a large proportion of students have difficulty meeting State academic content and student achievement standards.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1), the Department does not give an application that meets this invitational priority a

competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

*Competitive Preference.* In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i) and section 5202(e) of the ESEA, in awarding grants to SEAs under this competition, the Secretary gives priority to States to the extent that the State meets the statutory criterion described in paragraph (a) of this section, and one or more of the statutory criteria described in paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section.

An SEA that meets priority (a) but does not meet one or more of the other priorities will not receive any priority points.

An SEA that does not meet priority (a) but meets one or more of the other priorities will not receive any priority points.

In order to receive preference, an applicant must identify the priorities that it meets and provide documentation supporting its claims.

The maximum number of priority points for all of the priorities in this section is 40 points.

(a) *Periodic Review and Evaluation.* The State provides for periodic review and evaluation by the authorized public chartering agency of each charter school at least once every 5 years to determine whether the charter school is meeting the terms of the school's charter, and is meeting or exceeding the academic performance requirements and goals for charter schools as provided under State law or the school's charter (10 points).

(b) *Number of High-Quality Charter Schools.* The State has demonstrated progress in increasing the number of high-quality charter schools that are held accountable in the terms of the school's charters for meeting clear and measurable objectives for the educational progress of the students attending the schools, in the period prior to the period for which an SEA or eligible applicant applies for a grant under this competition (10 points).

(c) *One Authorized Public Chartering Agency Other than an LEA, or an Appeals Process.* The State—

(1) Provides for one authorized public chartering agency that is not an LEA, such as a State chartering board, for each individual or entity seeking to operate a charter school pursuant to State law; or

(2) In the case of a State in which LEAs are the only authorized public chartering agencies, allows for an appeals process for the denial of an application for a charter school (10 points).

(d) *High Degree of Autonomy.* The State ensures that each charter school has a high degree of autonomy over the