

grade 12. The definition of this term is in section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

Q. May an applicant use FLAP funds to support a foreign language program for Pre-kindergarten children?

A. If your State defines Pre-kindergarten as elementary education, FLAP funds may be used to serve those students.

Q. Where are the State definitions of an "elementary" or "secondary" program?

A. If you do not know what grade levels in your State are considered elementary and secondary, you should consult with your State educational agency.

Q. In light of the Competitive Priorities for Kindergarten through eighth grade and programs that teach Russian, Chinese and Arabic; should districts submit proposals for high schools and teaching other foreign languages?

A. Yes, applications that propose programs at the high school level and foreign languages other than Russian, Chinese and Arabic are encouraged to apply.

Q. How much of the estimated \$10 million in program funds will be used to fund elementary programs?

A. By law, not less than 75 percent of the total funds appropriated must be used for the expansion of foreign language learning in the elementary grades. This requirement does not apply to individual programs.

Q. What is scientifically based research (SBR)?

A. SBR is research that involves the application of rigorous, systematic, and objective procedures to obtain reliable and valid knowledge relevant to education activities and programs. Some of the critical elements of SBR are as follows:

- Scientific Method
 - Hypothesis
 - Controls are used
 - Outcome proves or disproves the hypothesis
- Replicated—repeat studies find the same results
- Generalized—study findings represent truth for the general population
- Meets Rigorous Standards—methods and conclusions must be confirmed by peer review
- Convergent findings—conclusions are in line with findings from other studies

Q. How does an applicant address the "Notice to all Applicants" concerning the Department of Education's General Education Provisions Act (GEPA)?

A. First, read the "Notice to all Applicants" included in the application package. Be sure to note the three examples included in the second column. Second, it is recommended that the applicant respond on a separate sheet of paper entitled "GEPA". The required response should include a description of the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its Federally assisted program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs.

Q. How does an applicant comply with Executive Order 12372, the Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs, item #10 of the Application for Federal Education Assistance (ED 424)?

A. Applicants must first review the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) list available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/spoc.html>. If a State contact is included in the list, the applicant must contact the SPOC to inquire about the State's process under Executive Order 12372. If the State requests the application for review, a copy of the cover letter sent to the State contact must be submitted with the application package and Item #10 checked Yes with the date included. If the program is not covered by the Executive order, or the State has not selected the program for review, Item #10 must be checked No and the reason checked.

Q. What is the LEA's share of costs for the Foreign Language Assistance program for each fiscal year?

A. In order to build program capacity at the State and local level, cost sharing is required. The Federal share of the foreign language program for each fiscal year is restricted to 50 percent. Therefore, if the total cost of the proposed program is \$100,000, the school district may request \$50,000 in Federal funding. While a waiver may be granted for an LEA if the Secretary determines that the LEA does not have adequate resources to pay the non-Federal share of the cost of the activities, it is recommended that the district share the cost to the extent possible. The Education Department General Administrative Regulations, at 34 CFR 80.24, addresses Federal Cost sharing requirements.

Q. How does an LEA apply for a waiver of the non-Federal share of costs?

A. It is suggested that local educational agencies wishing to request a waiver from the requirement attach a letter to the application. The waiver request, signed by the Authorized Representative, should include information that will assist in determining whether the local educational agency seeking a waiver does not have adequate resources to pay the non-Federal share of the costs of the activities assisted under the Foreign Language Assistance program.

Q. Who should sign as the Authorized Representative on the Application for Federal Assistance and other forms?

A. It is recommended that the Superintendent of Schools sign as the Authorized Representative.

Q. Under this program, may an applicant propose to hire foreign language teachers?

A. Yes, program funds may be used to hire foreign language teachers.

Q. May two districts apply together if they are already working together in a foreign language program?

A. Yes, the statute does not prohibit school districts from applying together. However, one district must be designated as the fiscal agent and the Group Application Certification must be included in the application package and signed by an authorized representative from each district. The requirements on group applications are in 34 CFR 75.127–75.129.

Q. How may an applicant access information on the National Foreign Language Standards when designing their program?

A. An applicant may access information on the National Standards, State-Level Foreign Language Standards, the National Foreign Language Resource Centers and other useful Web sites at: <http://www.cal.org/ericcll/faqs/rgos/flstandards.html>.

Q. How does an applicant access the statutory provisions authorizing FLAP (Sections 5492 and 5493 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act)?

A. Applicants may access sections 5492 and 5493 at the following Web site: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OELA/funding.html>.

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