

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.351C]

**Office of Innovation and Improvement—Professional Development for Arts Educators; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2003**

*Purpose of Program:* This program is authorized under Subpart 15 of Part D of Title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by Public Law 107-110, the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Through this competition, the Secretary will make grants to eligible entities for the implementation of high-quality professional development programs in elementary and secondary education. This program will fund model professional development programs for music, dance, drama, and visual arts educators that use innovative instructional methods, especially those linked to scientifically-based research.

The Professional Development for Arts Educators Program provides resources that LEAs can use in pursuit of the objectives of the No Child Left Behind Act which aims for all elementary and secondary students to achieve high standards. In particular, this program provides an opportunity for eligible entities to create new programs in schools identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring under Title I, Part A of the ESEA.

*Eligible Applicants:* A local educational agency (LEA), including charter schools that are considered LEAs under State law and regulations, acting on behalf of an individual school or schools where 75 percent or more of the children are from low-income families, based on the poverty criteria described in Title I, Section 1113(a)(5) of the ESEA, in collaboration with at least one of the following: (1) An institution of higher education; (2) a State educational agency; or (3) a public or private non-profit agency with a history of providing high-quality professional development services to public schools. Only schools where 75 percent or more of the children served are from low-income families may receive services under this program. Each school served through this program must submit evidence that it meets the poverty criteria. Applicants may submit records kept for the purpose of Title I of the ESEA that demonstrate proof of eligibility for each school to be served.

**Note:** The LEA must serve as the fiscal agent for the program.

*Applications Available:* 5-16-03.

*Notification of Intent to Apply for Funding:* The Department will be able to develop a more efficient process for reviewing grant applications if it has a better understanding of the number of entities that intend to apply for funding under this competition. Therefore, the Secretary strongly encourages each potential applicant to notify the Department by e-mail that it intends to submit an application for funding. The Secretary requests that this e-mail notification be sent no later than June 16, 2003 to the following Internet address: [lynnetta.johnson@ed.gov](mailto:lynnetta.johnson@ed.gov).

Applicants that fail to provide this e-mail notification may still apply for funding.

*Deadline for Transmittal of Applications:* 7-10-03.

*Deadline for Intergovernmental Review:* 9-8-03.

*Available Funds:* Approximately \$4.4 million.

*Estimated Range of Awards:* \$250,000—\$325,000.

*Estimated Average Size of Awards:* \$290,000.

*Estimated Number of Awards:* 14-17.

*Project Period:* Up to 36 months.

**Note:** The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice. Funding for the second and third years is subject to the availability of funds and the approval of continuation awards (34 CFR 75.253).

*Page Limit:* The program narrative is limited to no more than 40 pages. The page limit applies to the narrative section only. All of the application narrative must be included in the narrative section. If the narrative section of an application exceeds the page limitation, the application will not be reviewed. In addition, the following standards are required: (1) Each "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with one inch margins (top, bottom, and sides); (2) double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, and captions as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs; and (3) use a font that is either 12-point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

*Project Directors Meeting:* Applicants are encouraged to budget for a two-day project directors meeting in Washington, DC.

*Applicable Regulations and Statute:*

(a) *Regulations.* The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99. (b) *Statute.* Title V, Part D, Subpart 15, of the Elementary and

Secondary Education Act as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

*Absolute Priority:* Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), the Secretary considers only applications that meet the following absolute priority:

Professional development programs designed for K-12 arts teachers that focus on—

(1) The development, enhancement, or expansion of standards-based arts education programs; or

(2) The integration of arts instruction into other subject area content.

Funded projects must address all aspects of high-quality professional development programs as described under the PROGRAM GOALS section of this notice.

*Invitational Priority.* The Secretary is particularly interested in applications that meet the following priority.

*Invitational Priority.* A project that provides for alternative routes to teacher certification or licensure through comprehensive, high-quality training programs in order to place music, drama, dance, and visual arts teachers in the classroom as soon as possible.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1), the Secretary does not give an application that meets this invitational priority a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

*Selection Criteria:* The Secretary will use the following selection criteria to evaluate applications under this competition. The maximum score for all selection criteria is 100 points. The maximum score for each criterion is indicated in parenthesis with the criterion. The criteria are as follows:

(a) *Significance* (15 points). The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project. In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies.

(ii) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project, especially improvements in teaching and student achievement.

(b) *Quality of the Project Design* (15 points). The Secretary considers the quality of the project design of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the project design, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the proposed project represents an exceptional approach for meeting the priority established for the competition.