

and faith-based organizations) and funding from additional Federal, State, and/or local resources will be effectively leveraged and utilized in continuing HS/HT activities after the expiration of the grant.

Accordingly, in the Sustainability section, the applicant should enumerate resources, describe any specific existing contractual commitments, and provide concrete evidence of sustainability beyond the duration of this grant.

Grantees are expected to use this grant as seed money to develop other public and private resources to ensure sustainability of grant activities following completion of the funding period. Grant monies may be used to fund the creation of new HS/HT sites as well as to support existing sites as part of the development of an overall statewide HS/HT system.

ODEP considers detailed commitments for specific new activities to be more important than promises of in-kind supports in demonstrating sustained support for the project. Grants recently received from another agency can be discussed in the proposal, but the applicant should be precise in delineating which activities precede this grant and which will occur because of this grant. In addition, the applicant should detail how public sector commitments can contribute to the sustainability of this project following completion of the grant. Examples of the types of public and private sector commitments envisioned include the following:

- The school system commits to offering credit for HS/HT training activities;
- The school system commits to incorporating HS/HT into their Individual Education Plans;
- The vocational rehabilitation office commits to funding assistive technology and transportation services for students enrolled in the program;
- A community college commits to providing technology training for HS/HT students;
- State-level elected officials commit to work towards state codification of HS/HT;
- An employer commits to providing technology-based summer internships;
- State and Local Workforce Investment Boards commit to paying internship costs;
- A university commits to providing scholarships for HS/HT students.
- A Developmental Disability Council commits to funding a new HS/HT site; and
- An independent living center commits a staff person to work full time on HS/HT.

Letters of Commitment. Applicants may include letters of support if they provide specific commitments regarding the application to this solicitation. Such letters can increase an applicant's score by showing that the commitments in the text of the proposal are grounded with actual commitments. Form letters will be considered non-responsive.

Applicants are encouraged to have letters of support from all existing HS/HT programs in their states.

Letter from the Governor. A letter from the Governor or functionally equivalent entity reflecting support of state-level implementation of the HS/HT program will be viewed favorably. If a letter from the Governor is not feasible, the application must include a letter from the head of an appropriate state agency.

4. Management and Outcomes (25 points)

The purpose of the Management and Outcomes criteria is to determine whether the applicant has developed an adequate management plan to effectively carry out the objectives and scope of the proposed project on time and within budget, to describe the predicted outcomes resulting from activities funded under this SGA, and to identify the methods of evaluation that will be used by the grantee to determine success.

Applicants must provide a detailed management plan that identifies the critical activities; time frames and responsibilities for effectively implementing the project, including the evaluation process, for assuring successful implementation of grant objectives. A description of the plan to report the demographic characteristics of students, types of programming activities and program outcomes (post-secondary education and employment) of youth with disabilities served through the HS/HT program in the applicant's state; and to compare their performances with students with and without disabilities not enrolled in the program should also be provided.

In addition, applicants should outline the strategy for documenting and reporting the activities undertaken during the life of the grant for ODEP's future use in working with other grantees and constituencies.

In evaluating the management and outcomes criteria, ODEP also considers the following factors to be of particular importance:

- (a) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved are clearly specified and measurable;
- (b) The extent to which the design of the proposed project features innovative

methods for developing new sites and/or strengthening existing sites;

(c) The extent to which the proposal incorporates the strategic plan in Part VII, Statement of Work;

(d) The extent to which the proposed budget and narrative justification are adequate to support the proposed project;

(e) The extent to which performance feedback and continuous improvement are integral to the design of the proposed project;

(f) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, context, and outcomes of the proposed project;

(g) The extent to which the methods of evaluation provide for examining the effectiveness of project implementation strategies;

(h) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data;

(i) The extent to which the evaluation will provide information to other programs about effective strategies suitable for replication or testing in other settings;

(j) The extent to which the methods of evaluation measure in both quantitative and qualitative terms, program results and satisfaction of people with disabilities;

(k) The extent to which the management plan for project implementation is likely to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget;

(l) The adequacy of mechanisms for ensuring high-quality products and services from the proposed project; and

(m) The extent to which the time commitments of the state director and/or principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.

Part VIII. Monitoring and Reporting

Monitoring: ODEP is responsible for ensuring the effective implementation of each competitive grant project in accordance with the provisions of this announcement and the terms of the grant award document. Applicants should assume that ODEP staff, or their designees will conduct on-site project reviews periodically. Reviews will focus on timely project implementation, performance in meeting the grant's programmatic goals and objectives, expenditure of grant funds on allowable activities, integration and coordination with other resources and service