

DEITCHMAN, M. MR.
 DEWITTE, C. MS.
 DUNN, S. MR.
 EASTER, S. MS.
 EASTON, M. MR.
 ERLAND, C. MS.
 EVAN, G. MS.
 FRANTZ, G. MR.
 GALGANO, M. MR.
 GARDNER, E. LTGEN
 GIACCHI, C. A. MR.
 GLAS, R. A. MR.
 GODDARD, C. H. RDML
 GODWIN, A. MS.
 GOODHART, J. MR.
 GRECO, R. THE HONORABLE
 GREENING, M. MS.
 GUARD, H. DR.
 HALVORSEN, T. MR.
 HAMILTON, C. RADM
 HANSON, H. MR.
 HAYNES, R. MR.
 HERR, F. DR.
 HILDEBRANDT, A. MR.
 HOGUE, R. MR.
 HOLCOMB, K. MS.
 HONECKER, M. MR.
 HOWARD, J. MR.
 JAGGARD, M. MR.
 JOHNSTON, K. DR.
 JUNKER, B. DR.
 KASKIN, J. MR.
 KLIEN, J. MR.
 KLEINTOP, M. MS.
 KOWBA, W. RADM
 KRAMLICH, R. LTGEN
 KRASIK, S. MS.
 LA RAIA, J. MR.
 LAUX, T. MR.
 LEACH, R. MR.
 LEIKACH, K. MR.
 LOCKLEAR, S. RADM
 LOFTUS, J. MS.
 LONG, L. A. MS.
 LOWELL, P. MR.
 LUCCHINO, C. MS.
 MASCIARELLI, J. MR.
 MCCORMACK, D. MR.
 MCCOY, K. RDML
 MCLAUGHLIN, P. MR.
 MCNAIR, J. MR.
 MEADOWS, L. MS.
 MOHLER, M. MR.
 MOLZAHN, W. MR.
 MONTGOMERY, J. DR.
 MOORE, S. MR.
 MORA, A. THE HONORABLE
 MUTH, C. MS.
 NAVAS, W. THE HONORABLE
 NEWTON, L. MS.
 O'NEIL, S. MR.
 ORNER, J. G. MR.
 OSMAN, H. LTGEN
 PENN, B. THE HONORABLE
 PLUNKETT, B. MR.
 RAPS, S. MS.
 REEVES, C. MR.
 RHODES, M. MR.
 ROARK, JR. J. MR.

RODRIGUEZ, W. RADM
 RONDEAU, A. VADM
 ROWE, M. MR.
 RYZEWIC, W. MR.
 SAUL, E. MR.
 SCHUBERT, D. CAPT
 SHEPARD, M. MS.
 SLOCUM, W. MR.
 SMITH, R. F. MR.
 SOLHAN, G. MR.
 SOMOROFF, A. DR.
 SORESENSEN, D. CAPT
 TAMBURRINO, JR. P. MR.
 TESCH, T. MR.
 THACKRAH, J. MR.
 THOMSEN, J. MR.
 TIMME, W. RDML
 TOLHURST, R. A. MR.
 WARD, J. MR.
 WENNERGREN, D. MR.
 WHITEHEAD, S. MR.
 WHITTEMORE, A. MS.
 WIERINGA, J. RADM
 WILLIAMS, G. MR.
 WINOKUR, R. MR.
 YOUNG, C. RADM
 YOUNG, D. MR.
 YOUNG, J. THE HONORABLE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sheeler Kowalewski, Office of Civilian Human Resources, telephone 202-685-6693.

Dated: October 28, 2005.

I. C. Le Moyne Jr.,

Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Postsecondary Education; Overview Information; Talent Search Program; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

*Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance
 (CFDA) Number: 84.044A*

Dates: Applications available:
 November 14, 2005.

**Deadline for Transmittal of
 Applications:** January 6, 2006.

**Deadline for Intergovernmental
 Review:** March 7, 2006.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education; public or private agencies or organizations; combinations of institutions, agencies, and organizations; and secondary schools under exceptional circumstances, such as if there is no institution, agency, or organization capable of carrying out a Talent Search (TS) project in the proposed target area.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration's budget request for FY 2006 does not include funds for this program. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress should decide to appropriate funds for this program.

Estimated Range of Awards:

\$220,000–\$3,600,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards:

\$309,000.

Maximum Award: We will not fund any application at an amount exceeding the maximum amounts specified below for a single budget period of 12 months. We may choose not to further consider or review applications with budgets that exceed the maximum amounts specified below, if we conclude, during our initial review of the application, that the proposed goals and objectives cannot be obtained with the specified maximum amount.

- For an applicant who is not currently receiving a TS Program grant, the maximum award amount is \$220,000 for a project that will serve a minimum of 600 eligible participants.

- For an applicant who is currently receiving a TS Program grant the maximum award is—the greater of (a) \$220,000 or (b) an amount equal to 103 percent of the applicant's prior grant award amount for FY 2005.

Estimated Number of Awards: 469.

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

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The purpose of the TS Program is to identify qualified youths with potential for education at the postsecondary level and encourage them to complete secondary school and undertake a program of postsecondary education. TS projects also publicize the availability of student financial assistance for persons who seek to pursue postsecondary education and encourage persons who have not completed programs at the secondary or postsecondary level to reenter these programs.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a–12.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98 and 99. (b) The TS Program regulations in 34 CFR part 643.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR Part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian Tribes.

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

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration's budget request for FY 2006 does not include funds for this program. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Estimated Range of Awards:

\$220,000—\$3,600,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards:

\$309,000.

Maximum Award: We will not fund any application at an amount exceeding the maximum amounts specified below for a single budget period of 12 months. We may choose not to further consider or review applications with budgets that exceed the maximum amounts specified below, if we conclude, during our initial review of the application, that the proposed goals and objectives cannot be obtained with the specified maximum amount.

- For an applicant who is not currently receiving a TS Program grant, the maximum award amount is \$220,000 for a project that will serve a minimum of 600 eligible participants.
- For an applicant who is currently receiving a TS Program grant the maximum award is—the greater of (a) \$220,000 or (b) an amount equal to 103 percent of the applicant's grant award amount for FY 2005.

Estimated Number of Awards: 469.

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

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

III. Eligibility Information

1. *Eligible Applicants:* Institutions of higher education; public or private agencies or organizations; combinations of institutions, agencies, and organizations; and secondary schools in exceptional circumstances, such as if there is no institution, agency, or organization capable of carrying out a TS project in the proposed target area.

2. *Cost Sharing or Matching:* This program does not involve cost sharing or matching.

3. *Other:* An applicant may submit more than one application, if each separate application describes a project that will serve different target schools and service areas. A secondary school applicant must submit a certification that there is no other eligible entity in the proposed target area that is capable of carrying out a TS project.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. *Address to Request Application Package:* Loretta Brown or Craig Pooler, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., Suite 7000, Washington, DC 20006–8510. Telephone: (202) 502–7600 or by e-mail: TRIO@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting either of the program contact persons listed in this section.

2. *Content and Form of Application Submission:* Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for this program.

Page Limit: The application narrative is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit the section of the narrative that addresses the selection criteria to the equivalent of no more than 75 pages, using the following standards:

- A “page” is 8.5” x 11”, on one side only, with 1” margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, except titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, captions and all text in charts, tables, and graphs.
- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New or Arial. Applications submitted in any other font (including Times Roman and Arial Narrow) will not be accepted.
- Use size 12-point font.

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the application for federal assistance face sheet (SF 424); the supplemental information form required by the Department of Education; Part II, the budget information summary form (ED Form 524); and Part IV, the assurances and certifications. The page limit also does not apply to a table of contents. If you include any attachments or appendices, these items will be counted as part of the Program Narrative (Part III) for purposes of the page limit requirement. You must include your complete response to the selection criteria in the program narrative.

We will reject your application if—

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

3. *Submission Dates and Times:* Applications Available: November 14, 2005.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: January 6, 2006.

Applications for grants under this program must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site <http://www.grants.gov>. For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically or by mail or hand delivery if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, please refer to Section IV. 6. *Other Submission Requirements* in this notice.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: March 7, 2006.

4. *Intergovernmental Review:* This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR Part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for this program.

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

6. *Other Submission Requirements:* Applications for grants under this program 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 TS Program—CFDA Number 84.044A must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site at: <http://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 e-mail 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 application for the Talent Search Program at: <http://www.grants.gov>. You

must search for the downloadable application package for this program by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search.

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 time and date stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted, and must be date/time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not consider your application if it is date/time stamped by the Grants.gov system later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. When we retrieve your application from Grants.gov, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because it was date/time stamped by the Grants.gov system after 4:30 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 this program 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 at <http://e-Grants.ed.gov/help/GrantsgovSubmissionProcedures.pdf>

- To submit your application via Grants.gov, you must complete all the steps in the Grants.gov registration process (see <http://www.grants.gov/GetStarted>) and provide on your application the same D-U-N-S Number used with this registration. Please note that the registration process may take five or more business days to complete.

- 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 typically included on the Application for Federal Education Assistance (SF 424), Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications. You must attach any narrative sections of your application as files in a .DOC (document), .RTF (rich text), or .PDF (Portable Document) format. If you upload a file type other than the three file types specified above or submit a password protected file, we will not review that material.

- Your electronic application must comply with any page limit requirements described in this notice.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgment from Grants.gov that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. The Department will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send you a second confirmation by e-mail that will include 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 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 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 as described elsewhere in this notice. If you submit an application after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the deadline date, please contact either of the persons listed elsewhere in this notice under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, and provide an explanation of the technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number (if available). 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 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: Extensions referred to 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 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 prevent 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: Geraldine Smith, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., Room 7000, Washington, DC 20006-8510. FAX: (202) 502-7857.

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 any 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 three copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the applicable following address:

By mail through the U.S. Postal Service: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.044A), 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-4260, or

By mail through a commercial carrier: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center—Stop 4260, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.044A),

7100 Old Landover Road, Landover, MD 20785-1506.

Regardless of which address you use, 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, or

(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, or

(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 electronic submission requirement, you (or a courier service) may deliver your paper application to the Department by hand. You must deliver the original and three 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 84.044A), 550 12th Street, SW., Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-4260.

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8 a.m. and 4:30 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 4 of the Application for Federal Education Assistance (SF 424) the CFDA number—and suffix letter, if any—of the competition under which you are submitting your application.

(2) The Application Control Center will mail a grant application receipt acknowledgment to you. If you do not receive the grant application receipt acknowledgment 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 program competition are in 34 CFR 643.21 and are discussed in greater detail in the application package.

Note: Under the “Objectives” selection criterion, 34 CFR 643.21(b), applicants must address both outcome and process objectives that are related to each of the purposes of the TS program in 34 CFR 643.1. The application package for this program specifies the following five objectives related to the purposes of the TS program: Increasing secondary school promotion, increasing secondary school graduation, increasing applications for student financial aid, increasing applications for postsecondary education admissions, and increasing postsecondary education enrollment. The Talent Search Program Profile page in the application package details more specific information that applicants must submit regarding these five objectives. Applicants may, but are not required to, develop additional objectives for their project.

2. *Review and Selection Process:* The Secretary will select an application for funding in rank-order, based on the application's total score for the selection criteria and prior experience, pursuant to 34 CFR 643.20 through 643.22. If there are insufficient funds for two or more applications with the same total scores, the Secretary will choose among the tied applications so as to serve geographical areas and eligible populations that have been underserved by the TS Program.

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 Notice (GAN). We may also notify you informally.

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. *Reporting:* 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 provide an annual performance report that provides the most current

performance and financial expenditures information as specified by the Secretary in 34 CFR 75.118.

4. *Performance Measures:* The success of the TS Program is measured by the TS Program participants' success in increasing secondary school promotions, secondary school graduations, applications for student financial aid, applications for postsecondary education admissions, and postsecondary education enrollment. All TS Program grantees will be required to submit an annual performance report.

VII. Agency Contacts

For Further Information Contact: Loretta Brown or Craig Pooler, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., suite 7000, Washington, DC 20006-8510. Telephone: (202) 502-7600 or by e-mail: TRIO@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact persons listed in this section.

VIII. Other Information

Electronic Access to This Document: You may 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) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>.

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: 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 on GPO Access at: www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html.

Dated: November 8, 2005.

Sally L. Stroup,

Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

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