Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. When are the applications due?
 - a. As soon as possible. The original due date has been waived to accommodate all districts
- 2. What is the Project Period?
 - a. September 30, 2018
 - b. In general, USDOE expects grantees to strive to achieve performance targets as stated in their approved grant applications; however, the Department understands that grantees may experience delays in achieving performance targets as the result of a disaster. If necessary, grantees may request approval from the Department to adjust project timelines so that approved performance targets can be met, but at a later date than originally planned.
- 3. Districts receiving an al students

Access to, and opportunities for, a well-rounded educat

- ii. School conditions for student learning to create a healthy and safe school environment; and
- iii. Access to personalized learning experiences supported by technology and professional development for the effective use of data and technology.
 - b. At least 20 percent of funds must be used to support one or more of the activities pertaining to well-rounded educational opportunities;
 - c. At least 20 percent of funds must be used to support one or more activities pertaining to safe and healthy students; and
 - d. A portion of funds must be used to support one or more activities pertaining to the effective use of technology,
 - i. Districts are not required to use the remaining 60% on technology.
- 4. If a district receiving \$30,000 or more is part of a consortium, do all the districts in the consortium have to conduct a needs assessment?
 - a. If an LEA is part of a consortium, and the consortium receives \$30,000 or more, the consortium must do a needs assessment of all the LEAs proposed to be served. ESEA section 4106(d)(1).
- 5. Districts receiving an allocation less than \$30,000
 - a. Is NOT required to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment
 - b. Is only required to focus on one of the three SSAE content areas: well-rounded, safe and healthy, and technology.

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- 6. What are the LEA Assurances listed on page three of the RFA?
 - a. Assurances: In order to receive funding, applicants must have on file with the Florida Department of Education, Office of the Comptroller, a signed statement by the agency head certifying applicant adherence to these General Assurances for Participation in State and Federal Programs. The complete text may be found in <u>Section D of the Green Book</u>.
- 7. Will we receive guidance on the DOE grants forms?
 - a. Guidance links:
 - * Budget- https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/5262620377637839874
 - * RFA- https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/7175827784541769479
- 8. Must an LEA distribute SSAE program funds to each of its schools?
 - a. No. An LEA is not required to distribute SSAE program funds to each of its schools. Consistent with ESEA section 4106(e)(2)(A), an LEA must prioritize the distribution of funds to schools as described in the LEA or Consortium Assurances section of this document and must implement the SSAE program consistent with all relevant statutory requirements. In prioritizing the distribution of funds, an LEA that provides district-wide services with the SSAE program funds must focus those services on schools with the greatest need identified in ESEA section 4106(e)(2)(A).
- 9. Prioritize the distribution of funds to schools served by the LEA based on one or more of the following criteria:
 - a. Are among the schools with the greatest needs;
 - b. Have the highest percentages or numbers of children counted under section 1124(c) (i.e., children counted for purposes of basic grants to LEAs under Title I, Part A of the ESEA);
 - c. Are identified for comprehensive support and improvement under section 1111(c)(4)(D)(i) (i.e., are among the lowest-achieving schools);
 - d. Are implemeom e^2 ar)(i) im \mathbf{d} . i A h s

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15. Supplement <u>not</u> Supplant Requirement

a. In considering how to use SSAE program funds, SEAs and LEAs should be mindful that SSAE program funds may be used only to supplement, and not supplant, non-Federal funds that would otherwise be available for activities authorized under the SSAE program. (ESEA section 4110). This means that, in general, SEAs and LEAs may not use SSAE program funds for the cost of activities in the three SSAE program content areas – well-rounded education, safe and healthy students, and technology – if the cost of those activities would have otherwise been paid with State or local funds in the absence of the SSAE program funds.

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use other factors relating to need and not base equal expenditures only on relative enrollments.

- c. As with other decisions affecting services to private school students, LEAs should consult with private school officials on the method for determining equal expenditures, and the resulting methodology should reasonably reflect the relative numbers and educational needs of the public and private school students.
- d. The non-regulatory guidance does not provide a formula, but there is guidance about how to calculate it. Please consult the Non-Regulatory Guidance: Fiscal Changes and Equitable Services Requirements Under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act is available here
- e. The non-regulatory guidance document "Title IX, Part E Uniform Provisions, Subpart 1—Private Schools" is available here and remains applicable except as otherwise provided in the ESSA Fiscal Non-Regulatory Guidance.

21. USDOE Equitable Services resources

- a. https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/essaguidance160477.pdf
- b. http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/equitableserguidance.doc

22. Can the funds be used to food?

a. No. Food is not an allowable expense.

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Program Staff- Coming Soon