



Our Students. Their Moment.

Teaching is the Core Request for Proposals

April 28, 2014

Questions? Email

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Introductions

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Questions and Answers

- All questions should be emailed to: TITCgrants@mail.nysed.gov
- Questions must be received no later than May 2, 2014
- A Questions and answers webinar will take place on May 6th, 2014 at 1pm (see <http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/rfp/sa-17/> for additional details)
- A written summary of questions and answers will be posted on May 12, 2014 at <http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/rfp/sa-17/>



Agenda

- **Funding Opportunity Overview**
- **Purpose of the RFP**
- **Required Elements of the Proposal**
- **Application Review and Scoring**
- **Award Methodology**
- **Required Reports**
- **Support for Districts**
- **Minority & Woman-Owned Business Enterprise Requirements**
- **Closing and Important Dates**



Funding Opportunity Overview

Legislative authority

- Race to the Top (RTTT) through New York State Education Department (NYSED)

Funding

- Source: RTTT
- Estimated funds available: \$16.7 million

Important dates for award grants

- Applications must be received by May 27, 2014
- Anticipated preliminary award notification: July 2014
- Anticipated project period: September 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015



Purpose

- The primary purpose of this RFP is to support districts in their efforts to (1) improve the quality of all educational assessments, while also (2) reducing the number of assessments that do not contribute to teaching and learning.
- In addition, this RFP can help districts/charter schools/consortiums to identify and/or improve high-quality assessments *already in use* for instructional or other curricular purposes that can simultaneously be used for Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) purposes.



Background

- Under the APPR, a portion of teacher and principal evaluations are based on locally-selected assessments
- Districts may select assessments from the state-approved list of assessments or to use locally-developed assessments
- Commercially-available assessments are not customized to local district design requirements, and most are not primarily performance-based.
- These grant funds can be used to identify or develop assessments that are both instructionally meaningful and can be used for APPR or other purposes.



Required Elements of the Proposal

Section A (no points)

- Overview

Section B (35 points)

- Assessment review and action plan

Section C (15 points)

- Professional development plan

Section D (10 points)

- Evidence of organizational capacity

Section E (15 points)

- Workplan/Timeline

Section F (25 points)

- Budget



Required elements: Section A

- ✓ Summarize clearly how the district/consortium will benefit from an assessment review and/or subsequent action plan, and professional development strategy. This description should include a statement outlining the assessment practices of the applicant, the impact that those assessments have on students, teachers, and other affected individuals and the proposed impact on the assessment practices of the district/consortium including its potential benefits and anticipated obstacles.



Required elements: Section B

- ✓ **Assessment inventory form**
 - **See next slide**
- ✓ **Review process**
 - **Describe the process that will be used, or that has been used, to conduct an assessment review, including the activities that are required for completion of the Assessment Review Form (note that the Review Form should not be included in the application)**



Required elements: Section B (continued)

✓ Development of action plan

- Applicant will describe how they will, based on the assessment review, develop an action plan to minimize unnecessary assessment, increase the use of diverse and quality assessment practices, and enhance teaching and learning.

✓ Implementation of action plan

- Applicant will describe the proposed process to implement a successful action plan.



Attachment IV: District/Consortium Assessment Inventory Form⁸

Subject	Grade(s)	Name of assessment	APPR purpose <i>(local or SLO)</i>	Is assessment educator- or vendor-created? Please list vendor or educator(s) as applicable
<i>EXAMPLE:</i>				
<i>ELA</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Example: ABCD Assessment</i>	<i>Locally-selected measure</i>	<i>Vendor produced/ ABCD Testing Inc.</i>

Consortium applicants should submit a separate Inventory Form for each participating district/charter school. Please duplicate, as needed.



Required elements: Section C

- **Applicants will describe a professional development plan for administrators, teachers, and staff on the characteristics of high-quality assessments and the appropriate use of assessment for various purposes, including incorporating it in the review process and resulting action plan**



Required elements: Section C (continued)

- ✓ **Professional development design**
 - **Alignment of the plan to the review and action plan, integration of teachers from various grades, topics and rationale for choosing topics, and measurable outcomes**
- ✓ **Professional development logistics**
 - **Frequency and duration of training, as well as selection of participants**



Required elements: Section D

- ✓ **The applicant must describe their organizational capacity to undertake the work to be funded through this RFP**
 - **This includes the roles of team members and qualifications of each individual, past initiatives, resources, and the ability to respond to NYSED communications in a timely manner**



Required elements: Section E

✓ **Workplan/timeline**

- **A workplan with a timeline that includes the necessary activities, roles, and responsibilities for the grant (if appropriate, activities after the grant period may be noted)**
- **Appendix B may be used as a template for this response.**

✓ **Overall goals and measurable outcomes**

- **Goals and measurable outcomes that the applicant plans to accomplish by the end of the grant period**
- **Appendix C may be used as a template**



Required elements: Section E (continued)

✓ Sustainability plan

- **A sustainability plan, including the costs associated with the implementation of the Review, Action Plan, and PD that demonstrates how the applicant plans to fund these activities after the grant period ends. If applicable, include a detailed description of any other funding streams/contributions related to the proposed assessment review that will assist the applicant in implementing the Action Plan after the grant period ends.**



Required elements: Section F

- ✓ **FS-10 and Program Period Budget Summary**
 - **Complete FS-10**
(<http://www.oms.nysed.gov/cafe/forms/>) and
Attachment VII
 - **Make sure that calculations match the Program
Period Budget Summary and Budget Narrative**



Required elements: Section F (continued)

✓ Budget narrative

- **This section details and justifies the funding request under this RFP, including all proposed expenditures and indicate the basis of calculation for each cost during the program period, and illustrate how the proposed expenditures align with the proposal's initiatives and goals**



Application Review and Scoring

- Attachment II (Mandatory requirements) must be completed for application to be reviewed
- Proposals are scored out of 100 possible points (see slide 8)
 - Proposals must receive a minimum of a final score of 65 points in order to be eligible for an award
- Proposals are scored by 2 reviewers and scores are averaged; a third reviewer will be used if there is a discrepancy greater than 15 points, and then the 2 closest scores will be averaged
- Scores used in Section B will be used as a tie breaker if necessary
- Please see Appendix D (Scoring rubric)



Award methodology

- In order to promote a fair distribution across the state, up to five grants will be awarded per geographic region
- See Table 1 on page 14 of the RFP for regional distribution and other relevant information regarding award methodology



Additional funding

- If additional funding becomes available, and NYSED chooses to distribute this funding to applicants of this current RFP, NYSED will allocate the funds by:
 1. Making whole any funded programs that have received a partial award;
 2. Approving awards in rank order by final average score, in a statewide ranking, for eligible applicants who received passing scores, but who did not rank high enough to receive the initial funding



Required Reports

- A mid-year and end-of-year report to NYSED is required for successful awardees
- Quarterly reports are required for the Monitoring & Vendor Performance System and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
- FS-10 report to the Grants Finance Unit
- M/WBE if applicable
- Please note that awardees are also required to post on their website: the plan for review (October 1, 2014), review results (April 1, 2015), and intended action plan (June 1, 2015).



Support to awardees

- NYSED is aware that grantees may require additional support during the grant period and therefore plans to provide a series of webinars that offer supplementary information to aid with the review process, action plan, professional development strategy, and relevant measurement issues
- These webinars are planned to take place in fall 2014. For additional information, check <http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/rfp/sa-17/>



Minority & Woman-Owned Business Enterprise Requirements

- All applicants are required to comply with NYSED's Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE) policy. Compliance can be achieved by one of the three methods described below.
 1. **Full Participation** - This is the preferred method of compliance. Full participation is achieved when an applicant meets or exceeds the participation goals for this grant.
 2. **Partial Participation, Partial Request for Waiver** - This is acceptable only if good faith efforts to achieve full participation are made and documented, but full participation is not possible.
 3. **No Participation, Request for Complete Waiver** - This is acceptable only if good faith efforts to achieve full or partial participation are made and documented, but do not result in any participation by M/WBE firm(s).
- Please carefully review the M/WBE information provided on pages 16-18 of the RFP, as well as the forms found in the M/WBE Documents section at the end of the RFP.
- For additional information and a listing of currently certified M/WBEs, see <https://ny.newnycontracts.com/FrontEnd/VendorSearchPublic.asp?TN=ny&XID=4687>



Closing

- Use the **Submission Checklist and Mandatory Requirements Certification Form** to help you ensure that your application is complete
- Use the appendices for additional support and guidance
- Email your questions about this RFP to **TITCgrants@mail.nysed.gov** no later than **May 2, 2014**.



Closing

Important Dates

May 2, 2014	Questions due
May 6, 2014	Questions and answers webinar
May 12, 2014	Written summary of questions and answers posted
May 27, 2014	Proposals due
July 2014	Anticipated preliminary award notification
September 1, 2014-June 30, 2015	Anticipated project period

