



General Application Questions

Q: Where can I find a copy of the 2018 Broad Agency Announcement (BAA)?

A: The 2018 BAA is available on www.grants.gov/. Search by keyword CFDA Number 12.556.

Q: What is the link for the Evaluation and Technical Assistance Center (ETAC) and where can I find the webinar recording and additional templates and forms?

A: The link for ETAC is www.dodk12grants.org. The webinar recording and editable versions of the application cover sheet, detailed budget table, and planning and implementation templates can be found on the ETAC site under Resources > Grant Applicant Materials> DoDEA FY18 Grant (<http://www.dodk12grants.org/GrantApplicantMaterials.aspx>).

Q: Are we required to use Workspace?

A: Applicants are required to apply using Grants.gov. Grants.gov applicants can apply online using Workspace. Workspace is a shared, online environment where members of a grant team may simultaneously access and edit different web forms within an application. Please refer to page 7 of the Broad Agency Announcement for specific instructions on how to use workspace.

Q: Will this webinar be given again?

A: No, but it is recorded and archived on the ETAC website under Resources > Grant Applicant Materials> DoDEA FY18 Grant (<http://www.dodk12grants.org/GrantApplicantMaterials.aspx>).

Q: Can a district apply on behalf of all of their schools?

A: As long as each individual school within the district meets the 15 percent military-connected student enrollment requirement, a district may apply on behalf of all of their schools. However, please keep in mind the district may only have two goals for the 2018 competition; therefore, it may not be feasible to target all schools within the district.

Q: Can we apply for more than one BAA grant in 2018?

A: No, the district applies for the grant on behalf of schools; therefore, only one application per school district is permissible.

Q: From what we've read, we can apply in 2018 when we already have a 2017 grant. We want to be sure we can be competitive.

A: Yes, a district can have an active 2017 DoDEA grant and apply for a 2018 DoDEA grant.

Q: How many applicants are anticipated?

A: DoDEA cannot provide an estimate as an Intent-to-Apply notification was not required.



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Q: How many applicants were there for the 2017 competition?

A: There were 75 applicants and 45 were funded.

Q: Are the templates and detailed budget tables included as part of the 30 pages or should they be attachments as an appendix.

A: The templates and budget tables are not part of the 30 pages but must be attached as appendices.

Budget and Funding

Q: Will there be an opportunity to get funding for social-emotional learning, or only STEM?

A: The 2018 BAA will have only one focus area, CCR-STEM. Grants cannot be singularly focused on social-emotional learning or any other areas outside of CCR-STEM for this funding cycle.

Q: Are we eligible for competitive funding if we have a 2018 grant? We are assuming that we would have different goals and strategies in 2019.

A: No school district currently has a 2018 DoDEA Grant. The current BAA which closes May 2, 2018 is for the 2018 competition cycle.

Q: When completing SF 424, number 18(a), do I enter the total amount requested or just the amount requested for the first year?

A: On the Standard Form (SF) 424, the district will enter the total amount of grant funding requested under 18(a).

Q: STEM programming could require a significant allocation of funds for equipment and materials? What is the history of support from DoDEA for these types of purchases through the grant program?

A: DoDEA expects districts to review the necessary allocations of funds needed to successfully support STEM programming. Grant funds and program initiatives should primarily focus on direct services to students. DoDEA funds grant allocations that are reasonable, allocable, and allowable (See Code of Federal Regulations – 2 CFR Part 200 §200.403–200.405). Please refer to pages 20-21 of the Broad Agency Announcement regarding DoDEA grant funded allocations.

Q: Does the salary cap of 25% include fringe benefits?

A: The 25% salary cap does not include fringe benefits. Fringe benefits is a separate category in the budget.



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Q: Can new grantees only budget 3% for external evaluators or are we required to use 4%?

A: Yes, as a new grantee, can use any amount they deem appropriate for external evaluation but no more than 4% of their awarded grant amount.

Q: The budget line for the evaluator in Appendix B Sample Budget Table (page 27) is \$6,000. Wouldn't that be too high? I thought the cap was 3% or 4% for a new grantee.

A: In this case, the total funding for was \$500,000. \$6,000 is only 1% for year 1. As long as the total percentage over 5 years does not exceed 3% for previous and 4% for new grantees, it is acceptable. There are some districts who 'front load' the evaluator to get things set up and then allocate the remaining percentage over the remaining 4 years. Keep in mind, this example is only Year 1 of the budget.

Q: Is there a difference between in-kind and non-federal funds? If so, please explain.

A: DoDEA uses these terms interchangeably. Most funding comes from the district, however, the district would also include funding from any organization that is not a federal organization providing funding for this project as "in-kind".

Counting Military-Connected Students

Q: Does impact aid also include students who live on public housing? US ED and DOD appear to have different definitions of Impact Aid. From US ED: The Impact Aid law (now Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)) provides assistance to local school districts with concentrations of children residing on Indian lands, military bases, low-rent housing properties, or other Federal properties and, to a lesser extent, concentrations of children who have parents in the uniformed services or employed on eligible Federal properties who do not live on Federal property.

A: Impact Aid is one of the measures the Grant Program uses to verify your military-dependent students numbers. We encourage you to read Title 20 of the United States Code, Section 7703 to learn more about the Impact Aid Program. For the DoDEA Grant Program, all participating schools must have 15% or higher military-connected student enrollment as defined on page 24 of the FY2018 Broad Agency Announcement.

Q: Can the DUNS number used for Impact Aid be the same number used for grant or do we need another one?

A: The DUNS number currently assigned to the school district would be the same number the district would use for all federal funding.



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2018 DODEA Broad Agency Announcement Question & Answer Log – March 2018

Q: If we are a PK-12 school all on one campus can we submit the percentage of military-connected students by district or do we need to break down into two schools?

A: All applications must provide the breakdown of military-connected students by levels (elementary, middle, and high school), even if they are in one building/campus.

Q: Is the percent of military-connected students based on Fall 2017 or on the 2016-17 school year?

A: Applicants should use the most recent data they have available but no older than SY16-17.

Q: Our district is over 29% impacted. Would we qualify?

A: There is no district requirement – it is a school-level requirement. As long as the school(s) that you would like to include in the application have the eligibility percentage for military-connected students, you would qualify.

Q: Page 5 of the BAA says enrollment numbers should be verifiable through Impact Aid and/or the State Military Student Identifier. Can we add students included in the State Military Student Identifiers even if they are not included in our Impact Aid numbers because their parents did not return the required Impact Aid form?

A: Yes, as long as the district can provide their state report verifying their military student identifier numbers, then using numbers from the State Military Student Identifier is permissible. Districts should be prepared to include this report as an appendix in their project narrative.

Q: If one school meets the 15% military-connected student threshold, and the other doesn't, can only one school participate?

A: Yes, a school district can apply for funding on behalf of only one schools.

Q: If two schools meet the 15% military-connected criteria but the number of military connected students district wide is below 300, is the maximum funding that you can apply for 250,000 or 500,000?

A: The total number threshold is for the target schools, not the district. If the total number at both schools combined is less than 300 military connected students, then the maximum amount of funding a district is eligible for is \$250,000.00.

Evaluation

Q: Can the external evaluator help write the grant?

A: Yes.



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Q: If an external evaluator and the company they represent is currently evaluating two active DoDEA projects for the SAME school district, can that evaluator/company serve as an evaluator with a DIFFERENT school district?

A: Yes.

Q: Is the external evaluator precluded from this role "more than 2" or "two or more" grants? For example, District X only has 1 active grant. Can the evaluator from the grant be included on this grant?

A: Yes. If the external evaluator is only on one active grant, they may be used again for this grant competition.

Q: We have two active grants but one grant ends this year. Could we work with the same evaluator for the new application?

A: Yes as long as it is in accordance with your local school districts procurement policies.

Q: It can be challenging to recruit Evaluators in a small community given their small numbers. And given the budget restrictions, we are concerned about being able to recruit an evaluator from out of town. Are the new restrictions on Evaluators mandatory or are we allowed to use the same evaluator if we can justify this choice?

A: The criteria for grant evaluation is a mandatory term and condition of the grant if funded. If securing a local evaluator is an issue, in accordance with local school district procurement procedures, the district may want to network with other DoDEA grantees to discuss evaluator selection and/or get recommendations for available evaluators.

Q: What are the minimum requirements for an external evaluator? Would someone with past experience as a DODEA grantee program manager meet the criteria?

A: The Project Leadership section, on Page 18 of the BAA, lists the criteria for the external evaluator.

Goals and Strategies

Q: Can the goal be programmatic, or is it required to be standards based?

A: Goals must be student-centered to improve military-connected students' academic achievement to prepare them to be college and career-ready.

Q: For goals, does secondary include both middle and high school students.



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A: You cannot use “secondary” as a level because this would include grades 6-12 and the academic achievement outcomes are measured using different tools (e.g. state math assessment).

Q: Are there any resources available for goals and strategies if we want to work on those before April 11?

A: There is an example on page 12 of the BAA. You can also look up SMART goals to know what the 5 parts include and how to write them.

Q: Can the proposed intervention have multiple components (ie: classroom aspects, STEM lab aspect, Socio-emo support, etc.) or do the DoDEA strategies require a single targeted strategy?

A: You can choose up to three DoDEA-approved strategies among five possibilities for each goal.

Q: What are the times of the Goals and Strategies and Templates webinars on April 11 and 17 or will they just be on the ETAC website for us to access starting on those dates?

A: They will be pre-recorded, so you can access the recording and the PPT presentation on the ETAC website (<http://www.dodk12grants.org/default.aspx>) on those dates.

Q: We currently have Project lead the Way K-12 in one of our DoDEA projects. We would like to add the BioMedical pathway at our high School.

A: If the district has a current DoDEA grant project, the district may use the 2018 BAA to augment the existing project.

Q: With only two goals permissible, how can we provide programs at the elementary, MS and HS levels? Can we do an elementary goal and a secondary goal?

A: We understand many districts want to implement in all levels, however, our data show that these programs are not as successful as smaller programs focusing on one or two school levels. Therefore, the district will have to limit their goals to one or two levels.

Q: To be clear, the project implementation year template only should include year 2.

A: The implementation year template is intended to address implementation for the remaining years of the grant program. The district will include the strategies, activities, professional learning, and the schedule for years 2-5.



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