

# State Application for ESEA, Title I, Part A, §1003(g) School Improvement Grant

Presentation to the  
DESS Advisory Committee

November, 2010

# Guiding Principles of Grant Program

- Students who attend a State's persistently lowest-achieving schools deserve better options and can't afford to wait
- Quality, not quantity, of LEA applications and implementation
- Need to build capacity and supports at all levels
- Not a one-year activity – up to 3 years

# Last Year's Awardees

- Two out of six applications were awarded last summer:
  - Brandywine School District, Mount Pleasant High School
  - Seaford School District, Seaford High School
- See <http://www.doe.k12.de.us/infosuites/staff/fedstprog/TitleIPartA/1003g.shtml>

# Program Requirements

- Implement one of 4 interventions (same as Race to the Top) in “persistently low-achieving” Title I schools and Title I-*eligible secondary* schools
- Funds may be used across 3 years, but the majority of funds must be expended to fully implement interventions in Year 1 of the award
- An LEA must apply for at least \$50,000, but no more than \$2,000,000 per year for each eligible school it commits to serve

# Tiers I, II, & III

- Tier I = 5 lowest performing Title I schools in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring
- Tier II = 5 lowest performing Title I eligible secondary schools (but not participating in Title I) regardless of improvement status
- Tier III = all other Title I schools in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring

# 5 Tier I schools FY 11

- Dover High School
- Glasgow High School
- Howard High School
- Positive Outcomes Charter
- Stubbs Elementary School

# 5 Tier II Schools FY 11

- Brandywine High School
- Delmar High School
- Lake Forest High School
- Stanton Middle School
- Dickinson High School

# Total funds available

- State FY 11
  - \$1,626,978 regular SIG – 5% for state administration
  - = \$1,545,629 + \$6,870,000 carryover from FY 10
- \$8,415,629 for LEAs to turn around schools

# Delaware application priorities

1. State Partnership Zone schools that are in SIG Tiers I and II
2. Other SIG Tier I and II schools as follows:
  1. Rank of both Tier I and Tier II schools lowest to highest
  2. Determine LEA demonstrated capacity within the allocation
  3. Fund LEA applications in rank order, lowest to highest, of performance in LEA applications that demonstrated capacity

# Delaware application priorities

3. Tier III schools - only where Tier I and/or Tier II schools are already being funded and where Tier III schools choose to implement one of the four SIG models
4. Tier III schools - only where Tier I and/or Tier II schools are already being funded or in LEAs where there are not Tier I or II schools that choose *not* to implement one of the four SIG model

# This year's application

- There are no major changes to the state's application to US Ed.
- There are a few changes to the federal non-regulatory guidance
  - New guidance allows for "pre-implementation" activities
  - Modifications and new questions are noted in the non-regulatory guidance.
  - <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/sif/sigguidance11012010.pdf>
- There are changes to the LEA application
  - Updated budget section (like Consolidated Application)
  - New questions about "pre-implementation" activities
  - Rubric developed for LEA self-assessment prior to submission

# “Pre-implementation” Period

- Examples of how LEAs may use funds before the 2011-2012 school year include, but are not limited to:
  - holding parent and community meetings to review school performance, discuss the new model to be implemented, and develop school improvement plans in line with the model selected;
  - recruiting and hiring the incoming principal, leadership team, and instructional staff;
  - conducting a rigorous review process to select, and then contracting with, a charter management organization, an education management organization, or an external provider;
  - providing professional development that will enable staff to effectively implement new or revised instructional programs that are aligned with the school’s comprehensive instructional plan and intervention model.

# LEA Self-assessment Rubric

- DDOE will hold a pre-application training session for all eligible applicants including
  - Review of LEA application
  - Review of key requirements
  - Review of program guidance
  - Review of LEA self-assessment rubric

# State Waiver Requests

- To extend the period of availability of school improvement funds for the SEA and all of its LEAs to September 30, 2014.
- To permit LEAs to allow their Tier I and Tier II Title I participating schools that will implement a turnaround or restart model to “start over” in the school improvement timeline.
- Waive the 40 percent poverty eligibility threshold to permit LEAs to implement a schoolwide program in a Tier I or Tier II Title I participating school that does not meet the poverty threshold.
- To extend the period of availability of FY 2009 carry over school improvement funds to September 30, 2014.

# Application Timeline

- State application to US Ed by December 3, 2010
- Open LEA application first business day in January
- 20 business days for LEAs to submit
- Goal: all awards granted by March 2011

## Written Comments due by November 19, 2010

Please submit comments through email to:

- Theresa Kough

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# Questions

