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**Request for Application (RFA) for**

**Comprehensive Support & Improvement Schools (CSI)**

**Title I Sec.1003[a]**

**Every Student Succeeds Act**

**CFDA Number: 84.010A**

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| **Deadline to Submit RFA:**  **February 26, 2018** |

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| *This is only a Request for Application (RFA) and does* ***NOT*** *constitute an award. Should this RFA result in an award, the LEA Superintendent/Charter Director will be notified by an official award letter. Only upon receipt of an award letter, signed by Secretary Designate Ruszkowski, may the LEA/charter school submit a Budget Adjustment Request (BAR).* |

**New Mexico Public Education Department**

**300 Don Gaspar Ave,**

**Santa Fe, NM**

**87501**

**New Mexico Public Education Department: School Improvement 1003[a]**

1. **Background**

Under the New Mexico Public Education Department’s (NMPED) approved Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the state’ lowest-achieving schools are identified as Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) schools. As a result, CSI schools, with the support of the larger Local Education Agency (LEA) and school community, have an opportunity to develop and implement targeted interventions with the goal of achieving dramatic school-level achievement gains such that the school is in good academic standing within three years.

1. **Purpose**

LEAs with identified CSI schools are able to identify pathways for intensive improvement under New Mexico's ESSA plan:

1. NM DASH-Plus,
2. Applying and participating in State-Sponsored School-Based Interventions (such as Principals Pursuing Excellence),
3. High school transformation in partnership with PED (only 10 high schools will be selected for this opportunity each cycle) and
4. Application for Competitive Grants for School Improvement

The primary purpose of the CSI Request for Application process is to provide LEAs with schools identified as CSI the opportunity to apply for additional funding through a competitive grant process to support participation in an evidence-based school improvement program or innovative school interventions. This may be in addition to or in support of state-sponsored programs funded via targeted investments.

1. **Eligibility**

This competitive grant is open to LEAs with CSI Schools. There are three ways a school can be identified as being in need of Comprehensive Support and Improvement:

* 1. Being among the lowest-performing 5% of **Title I** schools in the state, based on the total number of points earned on the School Grade Report Card;
  2. Having a 4-year graduation rate below 67% for two out of the past three years (**Title I and non-Title I** high schools).

LEAs may submit multiple applications in response to this RFA, however; **only separate and complete applications for each CSI school will be accepted.**

A full list of CSI schools is available on the NM PED ESSA in New Mexico page:

<http://www.ped.state.nm.us/ped/ESSA.html>

1. **Evidence-based Interventions[[1]](#footnote-1)**

LEAs are charged with implementing ESSA, and ensure that LEAs are utilizing evidence-based strategies, activities, and interventions in schools in need of significant improvement.

While some ESSA programs allow the use of all four levels of evidence, Section 1003[a] of New Mexico’s ESSA Plan requires that CSI schools use these funds only for interventions reflecting one of the highest three levels of evidence (Strong, Moderate, and/or Promising).

* Strong: at least one well-designed and well-implemented experimental study (i.e., a randomized controlled trial).
* Moderate: at least one well-designed and well-implemented quasi-experimental study.
* Promising: at least one well-designed and well-implemented correlation study with statistical controls for selection bias.

The PED will not provide a list of potential evidence-based interventions for school turnaround

programs for use by LEAs in schools identified as CSI that choose to apply for the Competitive Grants for School Improvement. It is incumbent upon the LEA to demonstrate that the selected intervention falls into one of the three ESSA tiers of evidence in Category 1 (see table1).

**Table 1: Tiers of Evidence in ESSA**

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| **Category 1:** “demonstrates a statistically significant effect on improving student outcomes or other relevant outcomes based on.” | **Tier 1**  “strong evidence from at least 1 well-designed and well-implemented experimental study” | **Tier 2**  “moderate evidence from at least 1 well-designed and well-implemented quasi-experimental study” | **Tier 3**  “promising evidence from at least 1 well-designed and well-implemented correlational study with statistical controls for selection bias” |

1. **LEA Organizational Conditions**

LEAs must demonstrate that they have the organizational conditions necessary for turnaround success (as identified below) when applying to participate in the following evidence-based school turnaround programs:

* University of Virginia School Turnaround Program
* National Institute for School Leadership Executive Development Program
* New Mexico Leadership Innovation Program[[2]](#footnote-2)

**Leadership Conditions:** LEAs must commit to lead for success by identifying priorities, aligning resources, investing in change that is sustainable, and clearly and consistently communicating that change is not optional.

**Differentiated Support and Accountability Conditions:** To achieve ambitious results, LEAs committed to turnaround must prioritize low performing schools and provide both additional, core support beyond what non-turnaround schools receive and individualized supports aligned with unique school needs, including the identification of resource inequities.

**Talent Management Conditions:** Public education is human capital intensive and efforts to turnaround low-Performing schools must prioritize how talent policies and approaches will be bolstered to support turnaround. LEAs must establish and continuously improve human capital management systems, including educator evaluation and support systems. Title II, Part A funds may be used by SEAs and LEAs to develop, implement, and improve rigorous, transparent, and fair evaluation and support systems if these systems are based in part on evidence of student achievement, which may include student growth, and must: (1) include multiple measures of educator performance, such as high-quality classroom observations and (2) provide clear, timely and useful feedback to educators. (ESEA sections 2101(c)(4)(B)(ii) and 2103(b)(3)(A)).

**Instructional Infrastructure Conditions:** LEAs often have invested heavy resources in producing curriculum and data that teachers either do not have the capacity, understanding, or willingness to use. LEAs must own this challenge and create an instructional infrastructure where data is well organized and the pathway on how to use data to adapt instruction are clear.

1. **Funding**

For the 2017-2018 SY, ESSA requires states to set aside seven percent of Title I, Part A funds for school improvement activities. Ninety-five percent of these funds must pass through to LEAs to support CSI schools, consistent with the state’s new accountability system[[3]](#footnote-3).

PED is making multi-year awards (2017-2021), through the period of availability of funds[[4]](#footnote-4), to successful applicants.

Estimated funds available: **$6,121,460.00** (for the 2017-2018 SY[[5]](#footnote-5))

1. **Maximum Funding Amounts**

* The planning period total funding requested may be no greater than $30,000.00.
* The year-one implementation period total funding request may be no greater than $150,000[[6]](#footnote-6).
* The year-two implementation period total funding request may be no greater than $150,000.
* The year-three implementation period total funding request may be no greater than $150,000.
* Ninety-percent (90%) of the maximum funding requests for each period must be directed toward school-level activities supporting the implementation of the evidence-based intervention.
* Applicants must describe and justify in the budget narrative any specific LEA-level expenses (indirect cost) to be supported by funds at no more than 10% of total request for each period.
* Normal indirect cost may also be claimed at the PED approved rate for the district.
* Supplies and materials are allowable for CSI schools, if necessary to meet the project goals and objectives, but must not exceed 10% of the total budget for each project period.

1. **Project Period**

For applications, the full project period for this grant is three years. Continuation funding after each period of the project is contingent upon progress toward meeting achievement goals, leading indicators, fidelity of implementation of required model actions, and maintenance of all grant requirements.

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| **Project Period Timeline** | |
| Applications Released by PED | December 5, 2017 |
| Letter of Intent to Apply due to PED (Appendix A) | January 26, 2018 |
| Applications Due to PED | February 26, 2018 |
| Announcement of Awards | March 2018 |
| Planning Period for LEA/Schools | March 2018 to June 30, 2018 |
| Year-One Implementation Period | July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 |
| Year-Two Implementation Period | July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 |
| Year-Three Implementation Period | July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 |

1. **Application Deadline and Submission Requirements**

**Letter of Intent**

LEAs should submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) designating the specific identified schools for which applications will be submitted.

The LOI should be submitted electronically through the Priority Schools Bureau email portal available at the following link: [ped.psb@state.nm.us](mailto:ped.psb@state.nm.us). The LOI should be received by 3:00 p.m. on January 26, 2018.

1. **Full Application Submission**

Complete applications **must** be submitted electronically through the Priority Schools Bureau portal available at the following link: [ped.psb@state.nm.us](mailto:ped.psb@state.nm.us).

In addition, one original application plus one hardcopy **must** be mailed by postal service to:

New Mexico Public Education Department

Attn: Debbie M. Rael

Deputy Cabinet Secretary, School Transformation

Room 123

300 Don Gaspar Avenue

Santa Fe, New Mexico 85701

Complete hardcopy applications **must** be postmarked by February 12, 2018, and complete electronic copies must be submitted through the Priority Schools email portal ([ped.psb@state.nm.us](mailto:ped.psb@state.nm.us).) no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 26, 2018.

1. **Budget Requirements**

The budget documents requested in response to this RFA must identify and explain funded costs for activities that are necessary to carry out all aspects of the whole-school change. In addition, through the budget narrative, the LEA will be asked to identify other sources and amounts of funding that will support and sustain the activities that are crucial to rigorous implementation of the chosen evidence-based intervention.

* **Budget Narrative**

The budget narrative, described in the Proposal Narrative sections of this RFA, should identify and explain all funded costs for the entire project period (planning period, three years of implementation).

* **Budget Summary Chart (Appendix C)**

This chart summarizes the budget for the entire project period, three years of implementation.

1. **Additional Budget Guidance**

**Appropriate Costs**

Funds are intended to *supplement* and *support* comprehensive school reform by funding ***specific*** initiatives designed to promote targeted and sustainable school improvement. The actions and practices identified through each category of the project narrative drive the appropriate costs.

Appropriate costs are those costs that are directly connected to the actions and to sustaining the practices prompted in the categories of the project narrative (e.g., the implementation of a curriculum aligned the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), continuous use of data to drive decision making, extended/expanded learning time, etc.).

Generally, there is a very high burden of proof to show that paying for food and beverages with Federal funds is necessary to meet the goals and objectives of a Federal grant. When a grantee is hosting a meeting, the grantee should structure the agenda for the meeting so that there is time for participants to purchase their own food, beverages, and snacks. In addition, when planning a meeting, grantees may want to consider a location in which participants have easy access to food and beverages.

While these determinations will be made on a case-by-case basis, and there may be some circumstances where the cost would be permissible, it is likely that those circumstances will be rare. Grantees, therefore, will have to make a compelling case that the unique circumstances they have identified would justify these costs as reasonable and necessary. This does not preclude an LEA from paying the travel expense of those attending a conference or meeting that is necessary to carry out its federal grant program, which could include per diem for food.

It is incumbent upon the applicant to demonstrate the close connections between the costs proposed and the organizational or pedagogical purposes those costs will support from the project narrative.

1. **Budgeting and Planning for Sustainability**

In budgeting and planning for sustainability, LEAs should be certain to support critical, ongoing activities through reliable and stable funding sources. In budgeting and planning for sustainability, funds should support but not serve as the sole source of funding for this work.

1. **Reporting Requirements**

The lead points of contact at the LEA responsible for oversight, monitoring, and support of the CSI School are required to participate in progress site visits and monitoring telephone calls with PED[[7]](#footnote-7).

In addition, LEAs will be responsible for submitting monthly, quarterly and/or annual reports on school progress[[8]](#footnote-8) that may include, but are not limited to:

**NM DASH**

* NM DASH Feedback Tool for each school (2x a year)

**Leading Indicators**

* Student attendance and school average daily attendance
* Attendance by instructional staff and staff average daily attendance
* Interim assessment data
* Student course completion data
* Instructional staff turnover rate
* NM TEACH information
* In-school and out-of-school suspension rates and average in-school and out-of-school suspension rates by total school and broken down by sub-group
* Chronic absenteeism rates
* Dropout rates
* Number of students completing advanced coursework by subgroup (e.g., advanced Placement/ International Baccalaureate, college pathways or dual enrollment classes [high schools only])
* Other program evaluation and indicator data as needed

**Lagging indicators**

* Student achievement rates
* State assessment data disaggregated by sub-group
* Student achievement rates compared to the State
* Student achievement rates compared to the LEA
* Student growth data
* College readiness data
* Graduation and transition data

**Behavioral and Academic Data**

* Evidence that the LEA has a multi-tiered framework with proven evidence-based practices that improve behavioral and academic outcomes for students.
* Evidence that the school implements the practices that support student in a Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) model to ensure that struggling students receive the targeted and intensive supports they need.
* PED-approved K-3 reading assessment used to measure student growth, inform instructional practice, and identify professional development needs.
* School-developed and/or LEA-directed formative/interim assessments used by the school to determine the likelihood of meeting academic achievement targets.
* School-developed and/or LEA-directed formative/interim assessments used to determine the impact of instructional practice.

1. **Scoring Guide**

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| **CSI RFA Title I Sec. 1003[a] Scoring Guide** | **Points** | **Percent** |
| **I. LEA Organizational Culture** | **25** | **25%** |
| A. LEA Overview | 5 |  |
| B: Instructional Infrastructure | 10 |  |
| C. LEA Support and Accountability | 10 |  |
| **II School Level Context** | **15** | **15%** |
| A. School Overview | 5 |  |
| B. NM DASH Plans | 5 |  |
| D. Collaboration Structures | 5 |  |
| **III Evidence-Based Interventions** | **50** | **50%** |
| A. Root Cause and Focus Areas | 10 |  |
| B. Choice of Evidence-Based Interventions | 20 |  |
| C. Sources of Evidence | 10 |  |
| D. Theory of Action | 10 |  |
| **IV. Budget** | **10** | **10%** |
| A. Budget Narrative | 5 |  |
| B. Budget (Excel Files) | 5 |  |
| **Total** | **100** | **100%** |

1. **Review and Ranking of Applications**

Only complete applications from eligible LEAs received at PED by the due date will be accepted. LEAs must clearly identify in the application cover page the specific CSI schools for which they are applying or the application will be rejected as incomplete.

All complete applications will be reviewed and rated by at least two external reviewers.

1. The scores of the first two reviewers will be totaled and then averaged to arrive at the final score for each application using the percentage.
2. If there is a difference of 7 points or more between the two reviewers’ scores, a third reviewer will review the application.
3. The two scores mathematically closest to each other will be averaged for the final score unless the difference between the third review score and the first two are equidistant; in which case the third reviewer’s score will solely be used.
4. Total scores will be rank ordered using the final score on the application.
5. LEAs will be selected in order of rank; however, not all applying schools in a LEA may be selected dependent on funding availability.
6. **Continuation or Redistribution of Funding**

Continuation funding after each period of the project is contingent upon progress toward meeting achievement goals, leading indicators, fidelity of implementation of required model actions, and maintenance of all grant requirements.

If a subgrantee fails to comply with Federal statutes, regulations or the terms and conditions of this award, the State Education Agency (SEA) may impose additional conditions, as described in §200.207 Special Conditions (below).

If the SEA determines that noncompliance cannot be remedied by imposing additional conditions, the SEA may take one or more of the following actions, as appropriate in the circumstances:

1. Temporarily withhold cash payments pending correction of the deficiency by the subgrantee

or more severe enforcement action by the SEA.

1. Disallow all or part of the cost of the activity or action not in compliance.
2. Wholly or partly suspend or terminate the award.
3. Recommend the USED initiate suspension or department proceedings as authorized under 2

CFR part 200.

1. Withhold further Federal awards to the project or program[[9]](#footnote-9).

The SEA may impose additional award conditions[[10]](#footnote-10) as needed, which may include the following:

1. Requiring payments as reimbursements rather than advance payments;
2. Withholding authority to proceed to the next phase until receipt of evidence of acceptable performance within a given period of performance;
3. Requiring additional, more detailed financial reports;
4. Requiring additional project monitoring;
5. Requiring the subgrantee to obtain technical or management assistance; or
6. Establishing additional prior approvals.

If any funded LEAs withdraw or become ineligible within the first year of funding due to not progressing toward meeting achievement goals, leading indicators, fidelity of implementation of required model actions, and maintenance of all grant requirements, the leftover funds may be used to fund the next highest ranking applications.

**LEA Comprehensive Support and Improvement Competitive Grants Application Cover Sheet**

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| **LEA Information** | | | |
| **LEA/State Charter Name:** | | **LEA NCES ID #:** | |
| **Mailing Address:** | | | |
| **Phone:** | | **Fax:** | |
| **Superintendent/Charter Director:** | | **Email:** | |
| **Title I Director:** | | **Email:** | |
| **Federal Programs Director:** | | **Email:** | |
| **Business Manager:** | | **Email:** | |
| **Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools LEA Lead:** | | **Email:** | |
| **LEA will Apply for the Following Eligible School(s)** | | | |
| **Name of School** | **School NCES ID #** | | **Proposed Intervention Model** |
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**CSI RFA Application**

**Proposal Requirements**

1. The proposal narrative should **not exceed 50 pages** (not including required charts, forms, and requested artifacts submitted as appendices).
2. It should betyped, single-spaced, with LEAs addressing each of the subsections by entering text where indicated.
3. Font may NOT be less than 12 pt. Times New Roman.
4. Charts and forms do not require 12 pt. Times New Roman font.
5. The complete LEA application including budgets, charts, and forms will be posted on the PED ESSA webpage.

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| **LEA Comprehensive Support and Improvement Competitive Grants Application** | |
| **LEA Name:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Submitting on Behalf of (name of school):** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Number of Students Served:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Number of Certified Licensed Staff:** | Click here to enter text. |

**I. LEA Organizational Culture**

**A. LEA Overview**

Describe the comprehensive needs assessment process that was used to identify needs and performance challenges in the district, to determine root causes, and set priorities for future action.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Describe the results of a systematic review of existing LEA capacity, strengths, and needs related to curriculum, instruction, and assessment.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**B. Instructional Infrastructure**

**Instructional Materials:** Describe the process used to ensure that grade level scopes and sequences align with the Common Core State Standards for ELA/Reading and math.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Instruction:** Describe the system of support and accountability for teachers and leaders in implementing rigorous standards-aligned instruction.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Assessment:** Describe the LEA’s cycle of data-driven instruction. Identify the interim assessments being used.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Describe the process used to ensure that interim assessments align with the Common Core State Standards and each grade level’s scope and sequence.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Provide the schedule for administering common interim assessments in ELA and Math (as an attachment).

Describe the process for test-in-hand analysis and adaptation of instructional plans based on interim assessment data (e.g. common planning time, teacher-administrator one-on-one meetings, and group professional development).

Click or tap here to enter text.

**C. LEA Support and Accountability**

Identify specific senior leadership that will direct and coordinate LEA participation in supporting the CSI school.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Submit an organizational chart (or charts) identifying the structures at the LEA level that are responsible for providing support and accountability to CSI schools (as attachment(s)).

Describe and discuss the specific cycle of planning, action, evaluation, feedback, and adaptation between the LEA and the school leadership. This response should be very specific about the type, nature, and frequency of interaction between the LEA personnel with school leadership.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Communication and Stakeholder Involvement/Engagement**

The LEA/school must fully and transparently consult and collaborate with key education stakeholders about the CSI school and on the implementation status of the evidence-based intervention. The plan for consultation and collaboration provided by the LEA/school must:

* Describe in detail, the methods, times, and places that will be used for regularly and systematically updating parents, families, the community and other stakeholders on the implementation status of the evidence-based intervention.
* This should include, but is not limited to, analyses of evidence and leading indicator data to determine the impact of key strategies, as well as planned/approved course-corrections as applicable.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**II. School-Level Context**

**A. School Overview**

Describe the results of in-depth student achievement data analysis, including the percent of students scoring at each level on PARCC and Istation (if applicable).

Click or tap here to enter text.

Describe the results of in-depth NM TEACH data analysis, including the total number of instructional staff in the schools building and the number of staff identified as exemplary, highly effective, effective, minimally effective, and ineffective as identified by the most recently released NM TEACH data.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**B. NM DASH Plans**

For the school the LEA is applying on behalf of, they must submit the following components:

Completed NM DASH Offline Planning Process Workbook or 90-day Complete Detail

Printout (as an attachment).

Completed NM DASH Feedback Tool (as an attachment).

**C. Collaboration Structures**

For the school the LEA is applying on behalf of, describe the collaboration structures in place to include the:

* Schedule of grade-level, grade-band, or content area collaboration meetings, including frequency and length and a process and procedures utilized during collaboration meetings (e.g. agendas, protocols)
* Systems in place for principal and/or other instructional leaders to support and hold teachers accountable for meeting effectiveness.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**III. Evidence-based Interventions**

1. **Root Cause**

Describe the process used by the LEA in collaboration with the school to identify needs and performance challenges, complete root cause, and identify focus area(s).

Click or tap here to enter text.

**B. Choice of Evidence-Based Interventions**

Identify the interventions meeting the top three tiers of evidence that schools in need of comprehensive support and improvement may choose to address the root cause.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Determine the interventions meeting the top three tiers of evidence that are relevant and appropriate to the needs of the school.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Identify the school’s chosen intervention(s).

Click or tap here to enter text.

**C. Sources of Evidence**

Identify the sources of evidence used to determine the interventions meeting the top three tiers of evidence that are relevant and appropriate to the needs of the school.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**D. Theory of Action**

Detail a Theory of Action that will support implementation of the evidence-based intervention.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**IV. Budget**

**A. Budget Narrative**

The LEA/school must provide an appropriate and complete budget narrative that identifies and explains all proposed costs for LEA and school-level activities for the entire project period (planning period, three years of implementation).

Click or tap here to enter text.

In addition, applicants should identify all other sources of income that will support and sustain the whole-school change described in this application.

Click or tap here to enter text.

For each major activity, describe the LEA’s strategies for why and how the LEA/school will sustain these actions past the whole project period of the grant.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Clearly describe and justify any specific LEA-level administration and support expenses to be funded by CSI grant at no more than 10% of the total funding request for each period.

Normal indirect cost may also be claimed at the PED-approved rate for the district.

Click or tap here to enter text.

The LEA and schools must demonstrate how they will align other available federal, state, and local resources to support the chosen evidence-based intervention.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**B. Budget Forms**

A complete Budget Summary Chart for the entire project period (planning period and three years of implementation) (as an attachment).

The budget items must be clear and obvious as to how the proposed activities are directly impacting the school-level implementation of the evidence-based intervention(s) proposed in this application. The proposed expenditures must be reasonable and necessary to support the proposal’s initiatives and goals/objectives. Grant funding must supplement, not supplant, existing funding sources.

**Appendix A: Letter of Intent Example**

*Insert Date*

Secretary-Designate Christopher N. Ruszkowski

Public Education Department

300 Don Gaspar Avenue

Santa Fe, NM, 87501

Dear Secretary Ruszkowski:

The *(insert district)* intends to apply for a CSI competitive grant for the 2018-2021 school years on behalf of the following school(s):

(*insert name of school or schools*)

Sincerely,

Insert name of Superintendent

Superintendent, (insert district name)

cc: *insert names of school board president, school principal, and any other locally identified district, community or school board members.*

**Appendix B: Comprehensive Support and Intervention Assurances**

The following assurances indicate support of the Board of Education (BOE), Local Education Agency (LEA), and School Leadership for the 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, and 2020-2021 school years in the areas specified. By signing these assurances, the parties agree to three years full participation in the **Comprehensive Support and Improvement Evidence-Based Intervention Implementation.**

If at any time a signed party does not adhere to the agreed assurances, the Request for Application will be deemed incomplete.

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| **LEA:** |

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| **The Board of Education commits to the following:**   1. Provide the prioritized support, autonomy, and accountability for urgent and sustainable success, including:    1. The BOE assures that it was involved in the discussion and application process with the LEA applying on behalf of eligible schools and supports the application/s.    2. The BOE commits to supporting the superintendent in modifying practice and policy, if necessary, to enable schools and teachers to fully participate and implement evidence-based interventions.    3. The BOE commits to flexibility in scheduling as it relates to evidence-based intervention activities, to include but not limited to allocating time for professional development and collaboration.    4. The BOE supports the use of summative and formative assessments to assess student proficiency and reviews LEA and school growth regularly to inform superintendent’s progress toward LEA proficiency targets.    5. The BOE commits to successful completion of the evidence-based intervention in the event of LEA or school leadership changes.   **The LEA commits to the following:**   1. Assuring that each school the LEA proposes to serve will receive all of the State and local funds it would have received in the absence of funds received under Title 1, Part A, Sec. 1003a 2. Provide the prioritized support, autonomy, and accountability for urgent and sustainable success, including:    1. Partner with principal to establish a comprehensive school 90-day plan that is aligned with the LEA’s strategic plan    2. Partner with principal on critical decisions like staffing, scheduling, budgeting, targeted professional development, and other operational issues    3. Put into place rigorous and aligned interim assessments 3-4 times per year along with efficient data collection and distribution for use at the school level    4. Proactively engage all stakeholders to acknowledge current reality and present a bold vision for the future of the school    5. Hold turnaround schools and principals accountable through a robust monitoring system as defined by the LEA 3. Ensure that conditions are in place at the school level to support turnaround, including:    1. Rigorous aligned interim assessments 3-4 times per year    2. Deep item analysis of interim assessments 3-4 times per year with one-on-one teacher-leader (principal, assistant principal, instructional coach) analysis meetings    3. Teacher action plans addressing root cause analysis of interim assessment data will be developed by all teachers and leaders prior to one-on-one teacher-leader analysis meetings    4. Structured weekly collaboration time for ongoing data analysis by PLCs    5. Student and staff culture of learning    6. Short-cycle observation walkthroughs and one-on-one teacher-leader feedback meetings 4. Message the evidence-based intervention to all stakeholders to include school board members and collective bargaining units as necessary 5. Develop a sustainability plan prior to the end of Year 3   **School Leadership Commits to the Following:**   1. Partner with LEA leadership to create and/or align systems at the school level to support a 90-day plan aligned with the LEA’s strategic plan, including:    1. Rigorous aligned interim assessments 3-4 times per year    2. Timely dissemination of interim assessment data to teachers    3. Deep item analysis of interim assessments 3-4 times per year with one-on-one teacher-leader(principal, assistant principal, instructional coach) analysis meetings    4. Teacher action plans addressing root cause analysis of interim assessment data developed by all teachers prior to one-on-one teacher-leader analysis meetings    5. Structured weekly collaboration time for ongoing data analysis by PLCs/grade level meeting/collaboration time    6. Student and staff culture of learning    7. Short-cycle observation walkthroughs and one-on-one teacher-leader feedback meetings 2. Align school policies and structures to provide ongoing school-site support for all teachers to support implementation of the evidence-based intervention | |
|  |  |
| President, Board of Education Signature | Date |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Superintendent Signature | Date |

|  |  |
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|  |  |
| School Leadership Signature | Date |

**Appendix B: Certification and Approval**

I hereby certify that I am the applicant’s Superintendent/Charter Director, and that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, complete and accurate. I further certify, to the best of my knowledge, that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance with all applicable application guidelines and instructions, and that the requested budget amounts are necessary for the implementation of this project.

I understand that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by the PED or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement. I also agree that immediate written notice will be provided to PED if at any time I learn that this certification was erroneous when submitted, or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

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| Superintendent/Charter Director Printed Name | Date |

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| Superintendent/Charter Director Signature (blue ink) | Date |

**Certification and Approval**

I hereby certify that I am the applicant’s School Board President, and that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, complete and accurate. I further certify, to the best of my knowledge, that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance with all applicable application guidelines and instructions, and that the requested budget amounts are necessary for the implementation of this project.

I understand that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by the PED or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement. I also agree that immediate written notice will be provided to PED if at any time I learn that this certification was erroneous when submitted, or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

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| Board President Signature (blue ink) | Date |

**Appendix C: Scoring Guide**

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| **CSI RFA Title I Sec. 1003[a] Scoring Guide** | **Points** | **Percent** |
| **I. LEA Organizational Culture** | **25** | **25%** |
| A. LEA Overview | 5 |  |
| B: Instructional Infrastructure | 10 |  |
| C. LEA Support and Accountability | 10 |  |
| **II School Level Context** | **15** | **15%** |
| A. School Overview | 5 |  |
| B. NM DASH Plans | 5 |  |
| D. Collaboration Structures | 5 |  |
| **III Evidence-Based Interventions** | **50** | **50%** |
| A. Root Cause and Focus Areas | 10 |  |
| B. Choice of Evidence-Based Interventions | 20 |  |
| C. Sources of Evidence | 10 |  |
| D. Theory of Action | 10 |  |
| **IV. Budget** | **10** | **10%** |
| A. Budget Narrative | 5 |  |
| B. Budget (Excel Files) | 5 |  |
| **Total** | **100** | **100%** |

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| **I. LEA Organizational Culture:**  **A: LEA Overview** | | **Points: 5 max** |
| **Insufficient (0 points)** | **Approaching (3 points)** | **Meets Expectations (5 points)** |
| * Does not describe the comprehensive needs assessment process that was used to identify needs and performance challenges in the district, to determine root causes, and set priorities for future action. * Does **not** describe a systematic review of existing LEA capacity, strengths, and needs related to curriculum, instruction, **or** assessment. | * Provides a **partial or somewhat convincing** description of the comprehensive needs assessment process that was used to identify needs and performance challenges in the district, to determine root causes, and set priorities for future action. * Provides a **partial or somewhat convincing** description of a systematic review of existing LEA capacity, strengths, and needs related to curriculum, instruction, **and/or** assessment. | * Provides a **clear and convincing** description of the comprehensive needs assessment process that was used to identify needs and performance challenges in the district, to determine root causes, and set priorities for future action. * Provides a **clear and convincing** description of a systematic review of existing LEA capacity, strengths, and needs related to curriculum, instruction, **and** assessment. |
| **I. LEA Organizational Culture:**  **B: Instructional Infrastructure** | | **Points: 10 max** |
| **Insufficient (0 points)** | **Approaching (5 points)** | **Meets Expectations (10 points)** |
| * Does **not** describe the process used to ensure alignment between grade level scope and sequence and the CCSS for ELA/Reading **or** math. * Does **not** describe the system of support and accountability for teachers and leaders in implementing rigorous standards-aligned instruction. * Does **not** describe the LEA’s cycle of data-driven instruction **or** identify interim assessments being used. * Does **not** describe the process used to ensure interim assessment alignment with CCSS at each grade level’s scope and sequence. * Does **not** describe the process for test-in-hand analysis and adaptation of instructional plans based on interim assessment data. * Does **not** provide a schedule for administering common interim assessments in ELA and Math | * Provides a **partial/somewhat convincing** description of the process used to ensure alignment between grade level scope and sequence and the CCSS ELA/Reading **and/or** math. * Provides a **partial/somewhat convincing** description of the system of support and accountability for teachers and leaders in implementing rigorous standards-aligned instruction. * Provides a **partial/somewhat convincing** description of the LEA’s cycle of data-driven instruction **and/or** identification of interim assessments being used. * Provides a **partial/somewhat convincing** description of the process used to ensure interim assessment alignment with CCSS at each grade level’s scope and sequence. * Provides a **partial/somewhat convincing** description of the process for test-in-hand analysis and adaptation of instructional plans based on interim assessment data. * Provides a **partial/incomplete** schedule for administering common interim assessments in ELA and Math | * Provides a **clear and convincing** description of the process used to ensure alignment between grade level scope and sequence and the CCSS ELA/Reading **and** math. * Provides a **clear and convincing** description of the system of support and accountability for teachers and leaders in implementing rigorous standards-aligned instruction. * Provides a **clear and convincing** description of the LEA’s cycle of data-driven instruction **including** identification of interim assessments being used. * Provides a **clear and convincing** description of the process used to ensure interim assessments alignment with CCSS at each grade level’s scope and sequence. * Provides a **clear and convincing** description of the process for test-in-hand analysis and adaptation of instructional plans based on interim assessment data. * Provides a **comprehensive** schedule for administering common interim assessments in ELA and Math |
| **I. LEA Organizational Culture:**  **C: LEA Support and Accountability** | | **Points: 10 max** |
| **Insufficient (0 points)** | **Approaching (5 points)** | **Meets Expectations (10 points)** |
| * Does **not** identify specific senior leadership that will direct and coordinate LEA participation in supporting the CSI school. * Does **not** provide an organizational chart (or charts) identifying the structures at the LEA level that are responsible for providing support and accountability to CSI schools. * Does **not** describe/discuss the specific cycle of planning, action, evaluation, feedback, and adaptation between the LEA and the school leadership. * Does **not** describe the methods, times, and places that will be used for regularly and systematically updating parents, families, the community and other stakeholders on the implementation status of the evidence-based intervention. (**No** analyses of evidence and leading indicator data to determine the impact of key strategies **or** planned/approved course-corrections as applicable) | * Identifies **only one or two** specific senior leadership that will direct and coordinate LEA participation in supporting the CSI school. * Provides a **partial/incomplete** organizational chart (or charts) identifying the structures at the LEA level that are responsible for providing support and accountability to CSI schools. * Provides a **partial/somewhat convincing** description/discussion of the specific cycle of planning, action, evaluation, feedback, and adaptation between the LEA and the school leadership. * Provides a **partial/somewhat convincing** description of the methods, times, and places that will be used for regularly and systematically updating parents, families, the community and other stakeholders on the implementation status of the evidence-based intervention. (**May** include analyses of evidence and leading indicator data to determine the impact of key strategies **and/or** planned/approved course-corrections as applicable) | * Clearly identifies **all** specific senior leadership that will direct and coordinate LEA participation in supporting the CSI school. * Provides a **comprehensive** organizational chart (or charts) identifying the structures at the LEA level that are responsible for providing support and accountability to CSI schools. * Provides a **clear and convincing** description/discussion of the specific cycle of planning, action, evaluation, feedback, and adaptation between the LEA and the school leadership. * Provides a **clear and convincing** description of the methods, times, and places that will be used for regularly and systematically updating parents, families, the community and other stakeholders on the implementation status of the evidence-based intervention. (**Includes** analyses of evidence and leading indicator data to determine the impact of key strategies **and** planned/approved course-corrections as applicable) |

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| **II. School Level Context:**  **A. School Overview** | | **Points: 5 max** |
| **Insufficient (0 points)** | **Approaching (3 points)** | **Meets Expectations (5 points)** |
| * Does **not** describe the results of in-depth student achievement data analysis, including the percent of students scoring at each level on PARCC **or** Istation (if applicable). * Does **not** describe the results of in-depth NM TEACH data analysis, including the total number of instructional staff in the schools building and the number of staff identified as exemplary, highly effective, effective, minimally effective, **or** ineffective as identified by the most recently released NM TEACH data. | * Provides **partial/somewhat convincing** description of the results of in-depth student achievement data analysis, including the percent of students scoring at each level on PARCC **and/or** Istation (if applicable). * Provides **partial/somewhat convincing** description of the results of in-depth NM TEACH data analysis, including the total number of instructional staff in the schools building and the number of staff identified as exemplary, highly effective, effective, minimally effective, **and/or** ineffective as identified by the most recently released NM TEACH data. | * Provides **clear and convincing** description of the results of in-depth student achievement data analysis, including the percent of students scoring at each level on PARCC and Istation (if applicable). * Provides **clear and convincing** description of the results of in-depth NM TEACH data analysis, including the total number of instructional staff in the schools building and the number of staff identified as exemplary, highly effective, effective, minimally effective, and ineffective as identified by the most recently released NM TEACH data. |
| **II. School Level Context:**  **B. NM DASH Plans** | | **Points: 5 max** |
| **Insufficient (0 points)** | **Approaching (3 points)** | **Meets Expectations (5 points)** |
| * Did **not** submit a NM DASH Offline Planning Workbook or 90-Day Complete Detail Printout. * Did **not** submit a NM DASH Feedback Tool. | * Submitted a **partial/incomplete** NM DASH Offline Planning Workbook or 90-Day Complete Detail Printout. * Submitted a **partial/incomplete** NM DASH Feedback Tool. | * Submitted a **completed** NM DASH Offline Planning Workbook or 90-Day Complete Detail Printout. * Submitted a **completed** NM DASH Feedback Tool. |
| **II. School Level Context:**  **C. Collaboration Structures** | | **Points: 5 max** |
| **Insufficient (0 points)** | **Approaching (3 points)** | **Meets Expectations (5 points)** |
| * Does **not** describe the schedule of grade-level, grade-band, or content area collaboration meetings, including frequency and length **or** a process and procedures utilized during collaboration meetings~~.~~ * Does **not** describe the systems in place for principal and/or other instructional leaders to support **or** hold teachers accountable for meeting effectiveness. | * Provides **partial/somewhat convincing** description of the schedule of grade-level, grade-band, or content area collaboration meetings, including frequency and length **and/or** a process and procedures utilized during collaboration meetings. * Provides **partial/somewhat convincing** description of the systems in place for principal and/or other instructional leaders to support **and/or** hold teachers accountable for meeting effectiveness. | * Provides **clear and convincing** description of the schedule of grade-level, grade-band, or content area collaboration meetings, including frequency and length **and** a process and procedures utilized during collaboration meetings~~.~~ * Provides **clear and convincing** description of the systems in place for principal and/or other instructional leaders to support **and** hold teachers accountable for meeting effectiveness. |

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| **III. Evidence-Based Interventions**  **A. Root Cause and Focus Areas** | | **Points: 10 max** |
| **Insufficient (0 points)** | **Approaching (5 points)** | **Meets Expectations (10 points)** |
| * Does **not** describe the process used by the LEA in collaboration with the school to identify needs and performance challenges, complete root cause, **or** identify focus area(s). | * Provides **partial/somewhat convincing** description of the process used by the LEA in collaboration with the school to identify needs and performance challenges, complete root cause, **and/or** identify focus area(s). | * Provides **clear and convincing** description of the process used by the LEA in collaboration with the school to identify needs and performance challenges, complete root cause, **and** identify focus area(s). |
| **III. Evidence-Based Interventions**  **B. Choice of Evidence-Based Interventions** | | **Points: 20 max** |
| **Insufficient (0 points)** | **Approaching 10 points)** | **Meets Expectations (20 points)** |
| * Does **not** identify interventions meeting the top three tiers of evidence that schools in need of comprehensive support and improvement may choose to address the root cause. * Does **not** determine the interventions meeting the top three tiers of evidence that are relevant and appropriate to the needs of the school. * Does **not** identify the school’s chosen intervention(s). | * Identifies **only one or two** interventions that **may or may not** meet the top three tiers of evidence that schools in need of comprehensive support and improvement may choose to address the root cause. * Provides **partial/somewhat convincing** determination of the interventions meeting the top three tiers of evidence that **may be** relevant and appropriate to the needs of the school. * Provides **partial/incomplete** identification of the school’s chosen intervention(s). | * **Clearly and convincingly** identifies interventions meeting the top three tiers of evidence that schools in need of comprehensive support and improvement may choose to address the root cause. * Provides **clear and convincing** determination of the interventions meeting the top three tiers of evidence that **are** relevant and appropriate to the needs of the school. * Provides **clear and complete** identification of the school’s chosen intervention(s). |
| **III. Evidence-Based Interventions**  **C. Sources of Evidence** | | **Points: 10 max** |
| **Insufficient (0 points)** | **Approaching (5 points)** | **Meets Expectations (10 points)** |
| * Does **not** identify **any** sources of evidence used to determine the interventions meeting the top three tiers of evidence that are relevant and appropriate to the needs of the school. | * Identifies **unvetted or obsure** sources of evidence used to determine the interventions meeting the top three tiers of evidence that are relevant and appropriate to the needs of the school. | * Identifies **well vetted and reputable** sources of evidence used to determine the interventions meeting the top three tiers of evidence that are relevant and appropriate to the needs of the school. |

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| **III. Evidence-Based Interventions**  **D. Theory of Action** | | **Points: 10 max** |
| **Insufficient (0 points)** | **Approaching (5 points)** | **Meets Expectations (10 points)** |
| * Does **not** detail a Theory of Action that will support implementation of the evidence-based intervention. | * **Somewhat/partially** details a Theory of Action that **may** support implementation of the evidence-based intervention. | * **Clearly and convincingly** details a Theory of Action that will support implementation of the evidence-based intervention. |

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| **IV. Budget:**  **A. Budget Narrative** | | **Points: 5 max** |
| **Insufficient (0 points)** | **Approaching (3 points)** | **Meets Expectations (5 points)** |
| * Does **not** provide a budget narrative **and/or** does **not** identify and explain proposed costs for LEA and school-level activities for the entire project period (six months of planning, three years of implementation). * Does **not** identify **any** other sources of income that will support and sustain the whole-school change described in this application. * Does **not** describe the strategies for why **or** how the LEA/school will sustain these actions past the whole project period of the grant. * Does **not** provide description or justification of **any** specific LEA-level administration and support expenses to be funded by CSI grant at no more than 10% of the total funding request for each period. Normal indirect cost may also be claimed at the PED-approved rate for the district. * Does **not** provide a demonstration of how the LEA and schools will align other available federal, state, and local resources to support the chosen evidence-based intervention. | * Provides a **partial/incomplete** budget narrative that identifies and explains **some** proposed costs for LEA and school-level activities for the entire project period (six months of planning, three years of implementation). * Identifies **only one or two** other sources of income that will support and sustain the whole-school change described in this application. * For each major activity, provides **partial/incomplete** description of the strategies for why **and/or** how the LEA/school will sustain these actions past the whole project period of the grant. * Provides **partial/somewhat convincing** description **and/or** justification of any specific LEA-level administration and support expenses to be funded by CSI grant at no more than 10% of the total funding request for each period. May also include normal indirect costs to be claimed at the PED-approved rate for the district. * Provides **partial/somewhat convincing** demonstration of how the LEA and schools will align other available federal, state, and local resources to support the chosen evidence-based intervention. | * Provides an **appropriate and complete** budget narrative that identifies and explains **all** proposed costs for LEA and school-level activities for the entire project period (six months of planning, three years of implementation). * **Cleary and convincingly** identifies **all** other sources of income that will support and sustain the whole-school change described in this application. * For each major activity, provides **clear and convincing** description of the strategies for why **and** how the LEA/school will sustain these actions past the whole project period of the grant. * Provides **clear and convincing** description and justification of any specific LEA-level administration and support expenses to be funded by CSI grant at no more than 10% of the total funding request for each period. May also include normal indirect costs to be claimed at the PED-approved rate for the district. * Provides **clear and convincing** demonstration of how the LEA and schools will align other available federal, state, and local resources to support the chosen evidence-based intervention. |
| **IV. Budget:**  **B. Budget Forms (Excel File)** | | **Points: 5 max** |
| **Insufficient (0 points)** | **Approaching (3 points)** | **Meets Expectations (5 points)** |
| * Did **not** submit a Budget Summary Chart for the project period (six months of planning and two-years of implementation). | * Submitted a **partial/incomplete** Budget Summary Chart for **less than** the entire project period (six months of planning and two-years of implementation). | * Submitted a **complete and detailed** Budget Summary Chart for the **entire** project period (six months of planning and two-years of implementation). |

1. Non-Regulatory Guidance: Using Evidence to Strengthen Education Investments <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/guidanceuseseinvestment.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The NM Leadership Innovation Program is akin to the Principals Pursuing Excellence Program. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. ESSA §1003(b) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Continuing awards are dependent upon continued appropriation from congress. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Continuing awards are dependent upon continued appropriation from congress. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Funding will be determined based on school size on a sliding scale. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Please note - if awarded, the subgrantee will be required to revise Step 2 - Analyze Data and Set Student Achievement Goals of the school NM DASH, identifying new goals that will be targeted with the RFA funds. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Templates will be provided by PED. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. 2 CFR Part 200 §200.338 Remedies for Noncompliance [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. §200.207 Special Conditions [↑](#footnote-ref-10)