

§ 3914. Materials development and methods research for mathematics, science, and engineering

(a) Authorization to award competitive grants; covered institutions, businesses, etc.; purposes

The Foundation is authorized, in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter, to award competitive grants to institutions of higher education, businesses, nonprofit private organizations, local education agencies, professional engineering and scientific associations, museums, libraries, public broadcasting entities (as defined in section 397(11) of title 47), and appropriate State agencies—

- (1) for instructional curriculum improvement and faculty development in mathematics, science, and engineering;
- (2) for programs designed to enhance public understanding of mathematics, science, and engineering, including the use of public broadcasting entities; and
- (3) for research on methods of instruction and educational programs in mathematics, science, engineering, and critical foreign languages.

(b) Scope of studies

Studies conducted under subsection (a)(3) of this section may include—

- (1) teaching and learning research and its application to local and private sector instructional materials development and to improved teacher training programs;
- (2) research on the use of local and informal science education activities;
- (3) research on recruitment, retention, and improvement of mathematics, science, engineering, and critical languages faculties; and
- (4) analysis of materials and methods for mathematics, science, and engineering education used in other countries and their potential application in the United States.

(c) Matching grant requirements

Funds awarded for such competitive grants shall be expended through a system requiring matching of the grant. The minimum amount required as a match shall be equal to a percentage of the grant that is determined by the Foundation. Funds made available for matching purposes may include in-kind services or other resources.

(d) Materials or methods research application requirements

In making grant applications for materials or methods research for the purposes described in subsections (a)(1) and (a)(3) of this section, the Foundation shall assure the involvement of appropriate State or local education agencies in the case of applications submitted by other entities described in subsection (a) of this section, or that one or more of such other entities will be consulted in the case of applications submitted by State or local education agencies.

(Pub. L. 98-377, title I, §104, as added Pub. L. 99-159, title II, §201, Nov. 22, 1985, 99 Stat. 895.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3914, Pub. L. 98-377, title I, §114, Aug. 11, 1984, 98 Stat. 1269, related to cooperation with busi-

ness concerns, prior to the general revision of this subchapter by section 201 of Pub. L. 99-159. See section 3913(c) of this title.

§ 3915. Graduate fellowships

The Foundation is authorized, in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter, to establish and carry out a program of graduate fellowships for the purpose of encouraging and assisting promising students to continue their education and research in mathematics, science, and engineering.

(Pub. L. 98-377, title I, §105, as added Pub. L. 99-159, title II, §201, Nov. 22, 1985, 99 Stat. 896.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3915, Pub. L. 98-377, title I, §115, Aug. 11, 1984, 98 Stat. 1269, related to special consideration for applications meeting the needs of underrepresented and underserved populations, prior to the general revision of this subchapter by section 201 of Pub. L. 99-159. See section 3919 of this title.

§ 3916. Other functional activities

(a) The Foundation is authorized to expend up to 15 per centum of the funds available for science and engineering education for applications which the Foundation determines will meet one or more of the functional objectives described in section 3912(b) of this title.

(b) Such programs may include a program for the exchange of mathematics, science, or engineering faculty between institutions of higher education (particularly institutions having nationally recognized research facilities) and eligible institutions. For the purposes of this section, the term “eligible institution” means an institution of higher education which—

- (1) has an enrollment which includes a substantial percentage of students who are members of a minority group, or who are economically or educationally disadvantaged; or
- (2) is located in a community that is not within commuting distance of a major institution of higher education; and

(3) demonstrates a commitment to meet the special educational needs of students who are members of a minority group or are economically or educationally disadvantaged.

(Pub. L. 98-377, title I, §106, as added Pub. L. 99-159, title II, §201, Nov. 22, 1985, 99 Stat. 896.)

§ 3917. Repealed. Pub. L. 104-66, title II, §2141(a), Dec. 21, 1995, 109 Stat. 731

Section, Pub. L. 98-377, title I, §107, as added Pub. L. 99-159, title II, §201, Nov. 22, 1985, 99 Stat. 896; amended Pub. L. 103-437, §7(c), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4588, related to developing and annual update of a strategic plan for science and engineering education.

§ 3918. Approval of proposals

The Foundation shall adopt approval procedures designed to assure that awards are made on the basis of the scientific and educational merit as determined by the peer review process. To the maximum extent possible, the Foundation shall assure that there is an equitable distribution of resources with respect to institutions and geographical areas.

(Pub. L. 98-377, title I, §108, as added Pub. L. 99-159, title II, §201, Nov. 22, 1985, 99 Stat. 896.)