

(F) supporting articulation agreements between two- and four-year public and private institutions of higher education and mechanisms to transform other training, professional development, and experience into academic credit;

(G) developing mentoring and coaching programs to support new educators in and directors of early childhood education programs;

(H) providing career development advising with respect to the field of early childhood education, including informing an individual regarding—

(i) entry into and continuing education requirements for professional roles in the field;

(ii) available financial assistance for postsecondary education; and

(iii) professional development and career advancement in the field;

(I) enhancing the capacity and quality of faculty and coursework in postsecondary programs that lead to an associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degree in early childhood education;

(J) consideration of the availability of on-line graduate level professional development offered by institutions of higher education with experience and demonstrated expertise in establishing programs in child development, in order to improve the skills and expertise of individuals working in early childhood education programs; and

(K) developing or enhancing a system of quality assurance with respect to the early childhood education professional development and career system, including standards or qualifications for individuals and entities who offer training and professional development in early childhood education.

(b) Public hearings

The State Task Force shall hold public hearings and provide an opportunity for public comment on the activities described in the statewide plan described in subsection (a)(3).

(c) Periodic review

The State Task Force shall meet periodically to review implementation of the statewide plan and to recommend any changes to the statewide plan the State Task Force determines necessary.

(Pub. L. 89-329, title VIII, §815, as added Pub. L. 110-315, title VIII, §801, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3398.)

§ 1161i-5. State application and report

(a) In general

Each State desiring a grant under this part shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require. Each such application shall include a description of—

(1) the membership of the State Task Force;

(2) the activities for which the grant assistance will be used;

(3) other Federal, State, local, and private resources that will be available to support the

activities of the State Task Force described in section 1161i-4 of this title;

(4) the availability within the State of training, early childhood educator preparation, professional development, compensation initiatives, and career systems, related to early childhood education; and

(5) the resources available within the State for such training, educator preparation, professional development, compensation initiatives, and career systems.

(b) Report to the Secretary

Not later than two years after receiving a grant under this part, a State shall submit a report to the Secretary that shall describe—

(1) other Federal, State, local, and private resources that will be used in combination with a grant under this section to develop or expand the State's early childhood education professional development and career activities;

(2) the ways in which the State Advisory Council (or similar State entity) will coordinate the various State and local activities that support the early childhood education professional development and career system; and

(3) the ways in which the State Task Force will use funds provided under this part and carry out the activities described in section 1161i-4 of this title.

(Pub. L. 89-329, title VIII, §816, as added Pub. L. 110-315, title VIII, §801, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3401.)

§ 1161i-6. Evaluations

(a) State evaluation

Each State receiving a grant under this part shall—

(1) evaluate the activities that are assisted under this part in order to determine—

(A) the effectiveness of the activities in achieving State goals;

(B) the impact of a career lattice for individuals working in early childhood education programs;

(C) the impact of the activities on licensing or regulating requirements for individuals in the field of early childhood development;

(D) the impact of the activities, and the impact of the statewide plan described in section 1161i-4(a)(3) of this title, on the quality of education, professional development, and training related to early childhood education programs that are offered in the State;

(E) the change in compensation and retention of individuals working in early childhood education programs within the State resulting from the activities; and

(F) the impact of the activities on the demographic characteristics of individuals working in early childhood education programs; and

(2) submit a report at the end of the grant period to the Secretary regarding the evaluation described in paragraph (1).

(b) Secretary's evaluation

Not later than September 30, 2013, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall prepare and submit to the authorizing committees an evaluation of the State reports submitted under subsection (a)(2).

(Pub. L. 89-329, title VIII, §817, as added Pub. L. 110-315, title VIII, §801, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3401.)

§ 1161i-7. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this part such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009 and each of the five succeeding fiscal years.

(Pub. L. 89-329, title VIII, §818, as added Pub. L. 110-315, title VIII, §801, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3402.)

PART J—IMPROVING SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION WITH A FOCUS ON ALASKA NATIVE AND NATIVE HAWAIIAN STUDENTS

§ 1161j. Improving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education with a focus on Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian students**(a) Purpose**

The purposes of this section are—

- (1) to develop or expand programs for the development of professionals in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and
- (2) to focus resources on meeting the educational and cultural needs of Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians.

(b) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Alaska Native

The term “Alaska Native” has the meaning given such term in section 7546 of this title.

(2) Eligible partnership

The term “eligible partnership” means a partnership that includes—

- (A) one or more colleges, schools, or departments of engineering;
- (B) one or more colleges of science or mathematics;
- (C) one or more institutions of higher education that offer two-year degrees; and
- (D) one or more private entities that—
 - (i) conduct career awareness activities showcasing local technology professionals;
 - (ii) encourage students to pursue education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics from elementary school through postsecondary education, and careers in those fields, with the assistance of local technology professionals;
 - (iii) develop internships, apprenticeships, and mentoring programs in partnership with relevant industries; and
 - (iv) assist with placement of interns and apprentices.

(3) Institution of higher education

The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given such term in section 1001(a) of this title.

(4) Native Hawaiian

The term “Native Hawaiian” has the meaning given the term in section 7517 of this title.

(c) Grant authorized

From the amounts appropriated to carry out this section under subsection (i), the Secretary is authorized to award a grant to an eligible partnership to enable the eligible partnership to expand programs for the development of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics professionals, from elementary school through postsecondary education, including existing programs for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian students.

(d) Uses of funds

Grant funds under this section shall be used for one or more of the following:

(1) Development or implementation of cultural, social, or educational transition programs to assist students to transition into college life and academics in order to increase such students' retention rates in the fields of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics, with a focus on Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian students.

(2) Development or implementation of academic support or supplemental educational programs to increase the graduation rates of students in the fields of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics, with a focus on Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian students.

(3) Development or implementation of internship programs, carried out in coordination with educational institutions and private entities, to prepare students for careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics, with a focus on programs that serve Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian students.

(4) Such other activities as are consistent with the purpose of this section.

(e) Application

Each eligible partnership that desires a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(f) Priority

In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to an eligible partnership that, on the day before August 14, 2008, provides one or more programs in which 30 percent or more of the program participants are Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian.

(g) Period of grant

A grant under this section shall be awarded for a period of five years.

(h) Evaluation and report

Each eligible partnership that receives a grant under this section shall conduct an evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the programs funded under the grant and shall provide a re-