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## Basic Overview of Funding Opportunities at the Institute of Education Sciences

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Connecting Research,  
Policy and Practice

# Basic Overview of Funding Opportunities at the Institute of Education Sciences

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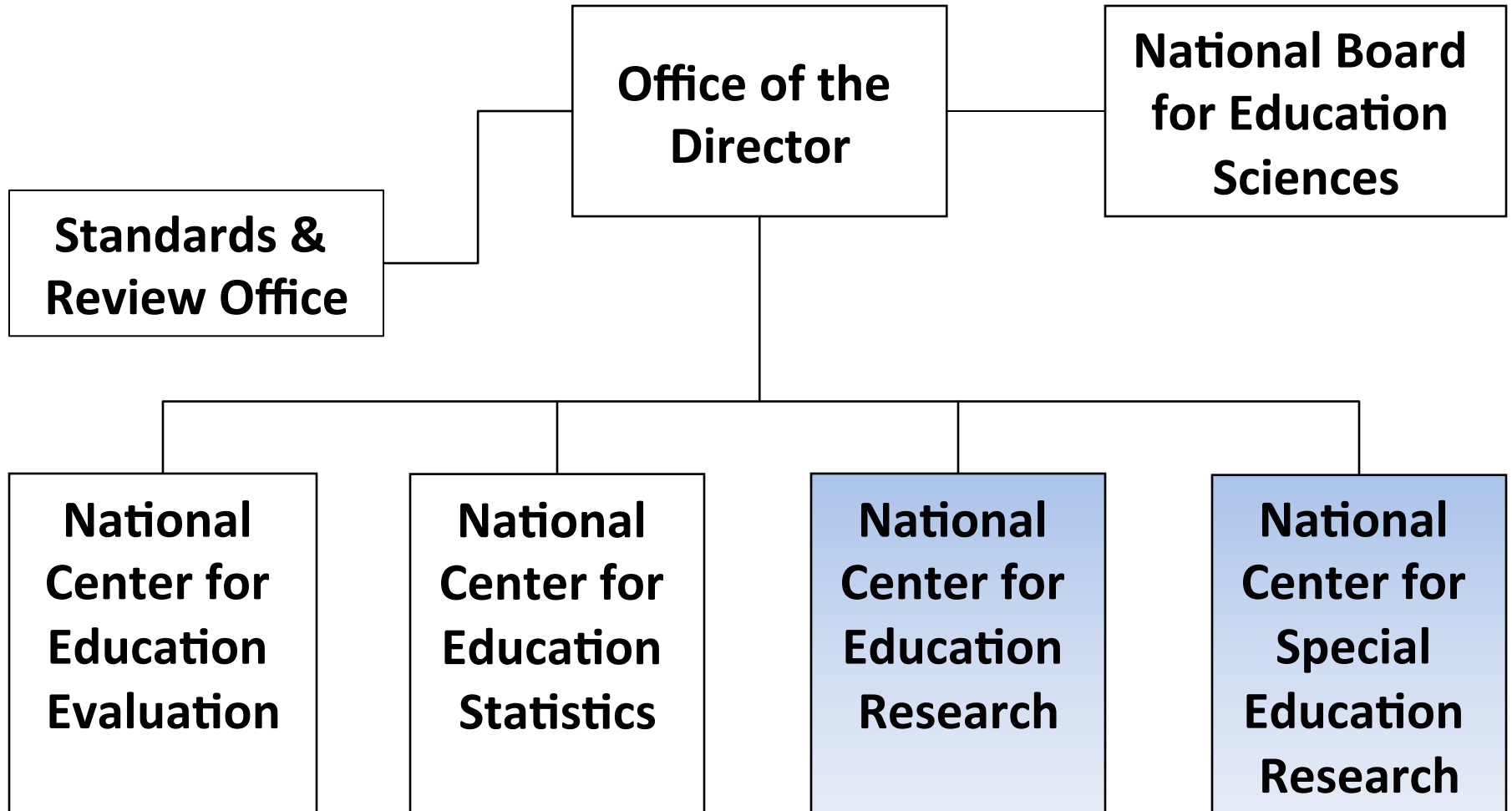
**Program Officers**

**National Center for Education Research**

# Legislative Mission of IES

- Describe the condition and progress of education in the United States
- Identify education practices that improve academic achievement and access to education opportunities
- Evaluate the effectiveness of Federal and other education programs

# Organizational Structure of IES



# Missions of the Research Centers

- NCER
  - Supports rigorous research that addresses the nation's most pressing education needs, from early childhood to adult education
- NCSER
  - Sponsors a rigorous and comprehensive program of special education research designed to expand the knowledge and understanding of infants, toddlers, and students with or at risk for disabilities from birth through high school

# Objectives of the Research Grant Programs

- Develop or identify education interventions (practices, programs, policies, and approaches)
  - that enhance academic achievement
  - that can be widely deployed
- Identify what does not work and thereby encourage innovation and further research
- Understand the processes that underlie the effectiveness of education interventions and the variation in their effectiveness

# Focus on Student Outcomes

- IES funds research to improve the quality of education for all students through advancing the understanding of and practices for teaching, learning, and organizing education systems
- Research must address student education outcomes
  - Academic outcomes
  - Social and behavioral competencies that support student success in school

# How to Identify Funding Opportunities

- Begin at the IES website (<http://ies.ed.gov/funding>)
- Sign up for the IES Newsflash
- Funding opportunities are announced in *The Federal Register*
- Review current Requests for Applications (RFAs)
- Contact relevant Program Officer(s) for the topic(s) of interest in the relevant Center



## What's New

### Rural Oregon students less likely to enroll and persist in college than nonrural peers *(May 26)*

A REL Northwest study of rural and nonrural Oregon high school students found that at all achievement levels, rural students were less likely to enroll and stay in college. [» more info](#)

### Public School Safety and Discipline: 2013–14 *(May 21)*

This First Look provides nationally representative data on public school safety and discipline for the 2013–14 school year. [» more info](#)

### WWC Quick Review of a Recent Study of a Multi-Faceted Support Program for Developmental Community College Students *(May 14)*

The study reported the impact of the offer of the City University of New York's Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP) program on enrollment in college, credit accumulation, completion of developmental requirements, degree attainment, and transfer from a 2-year to a 4-year institution. [» more info](#)

[Archive](#) | [Calendar of Events](#)



## News

- What's New for this Month
- NewsFlash
- Press Releases
- IES Newsletter
- RSS Feeds

## Events

- IES Research Conference
- Conferences, Training and Presentations
- Bridge Events
- Technical Working Group Meeting Summaries

## Research and Development

A new report from the Department of Education and the National Science Foundation explains how the two agencies hope to realize the full potential of their education research and development investments. [Learn more here](#)



the condition of education  
Find Trends in Education

source: NCES/CCD

Navigation icons: back, stop, forward



News Flash

An e-mail-based alert service designed to inform you about all new content posted to the IES website including news from its four Centers and programs within Centers such as the Regional Educational Laboratory Program.

Simply enter your e-mail address to receive alerts in the areas of interest you select.

Note: IES, its Centers, and its programs, will use the information you provide to send out e-mail alerts. Your information will not be given to any third-party vendors or any other agency of the U.S. Department of Education or the federal government.

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National Center for Education Research (NCER) [Check All](#) | [Uncheck All](#) (for NCER)

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) [Check All](#) | [Uncheck All](#) (for NCES)

National Center for Special Ed Research (NCSE) [Check All](#) | [Uncheck All](#) (for NCSE)

## What's New

### Study of School Vouchers and College Enrollment is Well Implemented *(May 14)*

This 2012 randomized controlled trial examined the effects of the New York School Choice Scholarships Foundation Program on the college enrollment outcomes of 2,600 first- to fifth-grade New York City public school students. [» more info](#)

### IES Releases FY2014 Funding Announcements for Grant Competitions in Education Research and Training *(May 3)*

IES has released FY2014 funding announcements for five grant competitions in education research and research training. [» more info](#)

### IES Releases FY2014 Funding Announcements for Grant Competitions in Education Research and Training *(May 2)*

IES has released FY2014 funding announcements for five grant competitions in education research and research training. [» more info](#)

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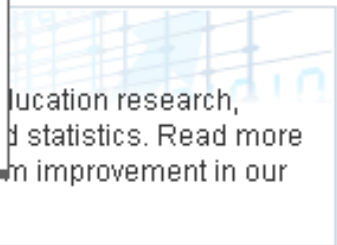
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about

- Funding Opportunities
- Research Funding Webinars

### Search Funded Research Grants and Contracts

nation's school system at [About Us](#).



## Announcement to IES Grantees

Although the sequester will affect the level of funding available for new grants in FY 2013, grants awarded in prior years will not be affected. Continuation grants will be awarded at the previously approved levels.



**FIND THE RIGHT COLLEGE** *for you...*

source: NCES/IPEDS

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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### Steps to Applying for IES Grants

1. **Identify** a [current funding opportunity](#) that matches your research interests and identify the relevant [Letter of Intent](#) and [application deadlines](#).
2. **Register** for a [funding opportunities webinar](#) to learn more about the application process and choosing an appropriate funding opportunity.
3. **Download** the appropriate [Request for Applications](#), [application submission guide](#), and [application package](#).
4. **Submit** your (optional but strongly encouraged) [Letter of Intent](#).
5. **Submit** your application to [Grants.gov](#) before the [application deadline](#).

**Note:** See "[Other IES Funding Opportunities](#)" for IES grants that follow different application procedures.



# How to Identify Appropriate Grant Programs

- Read the **Request for Applications**
- Review announced topics and methodological requirements
- Look at abstracts of projects funded under a research topic or program
  - <http://ies.ed.gov/ncer/projects>
  - <http://ies.ed.gov/ncser/projects>

# 84.305A Education Research Grants

## 84.324A Special Education Research Grants

- Primary Grant Programs
- Need to apply to a topic and a goal:
  - Research Topic: Focus on a specific content area, population, student outcome, or mechanism of intervention
  - Research Goal: Type/Purpose of work you'll be doing

# 305A Education Research Topics

- Cognition and Student Learning
- Early Learning Programs and Policies
- Education Technology
- Effective Teachers and Effective Teaching
- English Learners
- Improving Education Systems
- Mathematics and Science Education
- Postsecondary and Adult Education
- Reading and Writing
- Social and Behavioral Context for Academic Learning

# 324A Special Education Research Topics

- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Cognition and Student Learning in Special Education
- Early Intervention and Early Learning in Special Education
- Families of Children with Disabilities
- Mathematics and Science Education
- Professional Development for Teachers and Related Service Providers
- Reading, Writing, and Language Development
- Social and Behavioral Outcomes to Support Learning
- Special Education Policy, Finance, and Systems
- Technology for Special Education
- Transition Outcomes for Secondary Students with Disabilities

# Goal 1: Exploration

- Explore associations between education outcomes and malleable factors
- Identify factors and conditions that may mediate or moderate relations between malleable factors and student outcomes

# Goal 2: Development & Innovation

- Develop an innovative intervention (e.g., curriculum, instructional approach, program, or policy)
- **OR** improve existing education interventions
- **AND** collect data on its feasibility, usability, and fidelity of implementation in actual education settings
- **AND** collect pilot data on student outcomes.

Development process must be iterative!

# Goal 3: Efficacy & Replication

- Evaluate whether or not a fully developed intervention is efficacious under limited or ideal conditions

OR

- Replicate an efficacious intervention varying the original conditions

OR

- Gather follow-up data examining the longer term effects of an intervention with demonstrated efficacy

OR

- Analyze retrospective (historical) secondary data to test an intervention implemented in the past

# Goal 4: Effectiveness

- Evaluate whether a fully developed intervention that has evidence of efficacy is effective when implemented under typical conditions through an independent evaluation
- Prior to submitting an effectiveness proposal, at least one efficacy study of the intervention with beneficial and practical impacts on student outcomes must have been completed

# Goal 5: Measurement

- Development of new assessments or refinement of existing assessments, and the validation of these assessments

OR

- Validation of existing assessments for specific purposes, contexts and populations

# 84.305H: Partnerships & Collaborations Focused on Problems of Practice & Policy

- Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships in Education Research
  - Partnerships composed of research institutions and state or local education agencies
  - Carry out initial research on an education issue/problem of high priority for the education agency that has important implications for student outcomes
  - Develop joint research plan for further research on issue.

# Peer Review Process

- Applications are reviewed for compliance and responsiveness to the RFA
- Applications that are compliant and responsive are assigned to a review panel
- Two or three panel members conduct a primary review of each application
- At panel meeting, the most competitive applications are reviewed by full panel
- Funding decisions are based on peer review scores (outstanding/excellent) and availability of funds



## RESOURCES FOR RESEARCHERS

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### Webinars

To view presentations for current and past research funding opportunities webinars, [click here](#).



### Methodological Resources

For methodological resources to assist in preparing an IES research grant application, [click here](#).



### Video Presentations

To view selected presentations, handouts, and videos from previous IES Research Conferences and Summer Research Training Institutes, [click here](#).



### Available Datasets and Tools

To learn more about datasets available to researchers, [click here](#).



### Peer Review Process

For additional information about the IES peer review process for research grants and reports, [click here](#).



### Data Sharing

For information about data sharing policy in IES Research Centers, [click here](#).  
For the guide to data sharing implementation in IES Research Centers, [click here](#).



### Public Access to Research

For information on IES' policy regarding public access to research, [click here](#).  
For instructions on submitting final manuscripts to ERIC, [click here](#).



### How Can I Learn About IES Funded Research?

A listing of education conferences where IES-funded researchers typically present their findings, and when available, information about IES-funded presentations at those conferences throughout the year.

Click [here](#) for printable flyers about IES resources for researchers and grant applicants.

# When Writing a Grant Application

- Read the **Request for Applications**
  - <http://ies.ed.gov/funding>
- Look at abstracts of funded projects
  - <http://ies.ed.gov/ncer/projects>
  - <http://ies.ed.gov/ncser/projects>
- Take part in IES webinars
  - <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/webinars/index.asp>
- Discuss your research idea with a program officer
  - Email a synopsis and schedule a time for a call
  - Email short questions

# Help Us Help You

- Read the Request for Applications carefully
- Call or e-mail IES Program Officers early in the process
- As time permits, IES program staff can review draft proposals and provide feedback

***Don't be afraid to contact us!***

# For More Information

<http://ies.ed.gov/funding>

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