

Title V - Part B Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP)

Small, Rural School Achievement (SRSA), Subpart 1 Rural and Low-Income Schools (RLIS), Subpart 2

SEC. 6202 5202. PURPOSE. (20 U.S.C. 7341a)

It is the purpose of this part to address the unique needs of rural school districts that frequently—

- (1) lack the personnel and resources needed to compete effectively for Federal competitive grants; and
- (2) receive formula grant allocations in amounts too small to be effective in meeting their intended purposes.

Small school districts may meet eligibility requirements for one or both SRSA and/or RLIS. If eligible for both (dual), the LEA must select one of the two programs in which to participate. Commitment to the SRSA program typically occurs in the spring, prior to the end of the school year that precedes the grant year. The US ED manages this part of the grant process directly with LEAs. Click here for US ED eligibility spreadsheet.

Small, Rural School Achievement (SRSA)

The purpose of the Small, Rural School Achievement (SRSA) program is to provide rural LEAs with financial assistance to fund initiatives aimed at improving student academic achievement.

Local education agencies (LEAs) are entitled to funds if they meet basic eligibility and application requirements. Awards are issued annually, and award amounts are determined using a formula. School districts that receive an SRSA grant work directly with the US Dept. of Education, not the state Dept. of Education. For more information about SRSA go to the federal site.

Instructions

Rural and Low-Income Schools (RLIS) in NH DOE Grants Management System

The Rural Education Initiative is designed to help states and districts meet the unique needs of rural school districts that frequently lack the personnel and resources needed to compete effectively for federal competitive grants and receive formula funds in amounts too small to be effective in meeting their intended purposes.

Districts should consider the needs of their schools and district overall before completing the application. Full consideration to the needs of schools and identifying the most effective activities to meet the needs should be the process. Consideration for "needs" over "wants" is critical. Category, priority, activity performance measures, and outcomes should align.

Eligible New Hampshire school districts should follow the steps below to apply for RLIS:



- **1. Sign on** to **MYNHDOE**. Select Grants Management System.
- 2. Select 2019-2020 from the "Selected Fiscal Year" drop-down menu on the home page (and subsequent pages). If you do not see RLIS from the list, contact your i4See manager and request access to the grant for this year.
- 3. Confirm that the 2019-2020 multi-grant Program Assurances document and Equitable Services forms A and B are signed and uploaded in the Grants Management System (GMS). Both documents must be signed and uploaded by the LEA before the RLIS application can undergo review.
- **4. Select** *RLIS* from the list of grant programs.
- **5.** Complete the RLIS grant application fields:
 - a. Complete the general identification information section. Note: The *Activity ID* is generated by the system for tracking—no entry necessary.
 - b. From the *Category* drop down list, **select which title authority the activity represents.** *Grant review for RLIS is based on the activity complying with the guidelines of the selection.*
 - **Title I-A** (Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies)
 - **Title II-A** (Supporting Effective Instruction)
 - **Title III** (Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students)
 - Title IV-A (Student Support and Academic Enrichment)
 - **Title IV-B** (21st Century Community Learning Centers) OR
 - Parental involvement activities
 - c. **Complete** the *Priority to be addressed* field. LEAs must identify the local priority or need that the activity intends to address. The need, activity focus, performance measures and outcome should demonstrate alignment.

Complete these Sections:

Activities - In this text box, indicate the activity. Avoid acronyms. The activity MUST align to the program guidelines identified in the Category drop-down list. More than one activity can be included in the year's application. Program categories may vary by activity.

Performance Measurement - In this section, indicate the tool that will be used for collecting evidence of effectiveness of implementation.



Outcome – The outcome is a statement that predicts the level of change or improvement based on the implementation of the activity. What is the impact expected by implementing the activity?

Fill out – *Budget Information* as directed. Use the drop-down lists for the proper function and object codes and key in the amount for each line item. This information will be locked in when the DOE approves the application. Once a line item is created, you cannot delete it; this history is maintained for audit purposes. However, you may edit the line item by zeroing out or reducing the original amount and creating a new line item to reflect actual expenses or modifications.

Resources 2019-2020

- NH DOE Title V web page
- 2019-2020 RLIS Final Allocations
- 2019-2020 RLIS Award Letter
- Financial Accounting Handbook for Local Education Agencies
- Federal Funds Handbook
- Online Grants Management System (2017 publication; advice still applies)

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