

***Improving Achievement in English Language Arts and
Mathematics for Students with Disabilities***

Notice of Grant Opportunity Technical Assistance

April 4, 2013

NJDOE Support for this NGO

On this Call:

Chris Snyder, Office of School Improvement

- Program Manager for this NGO (and primary point of contact)
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Fran Leibner, Office of Special Education Programs

Chris Bleiholder, Office of Grants Management

The NGO Document: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/grants/gropps.shtml>

click on “All Currently Available Grant Opportunities”

click on “Improving Achievement in ELA and Math for Students with Disabilities”

Agenda

- I Purpose and funding
- II Eligibility and school awards
- III Application Overview
- IV Individual Application Elements
- V Evaluation process
- VI Timelines
- VII Q & A

Our goals:

- 1) Provide a summary of key technical assistance points with respect to this grant application and program.

Note: these points are addressed comprehensively in the NGO document.

- 2) Answer select questions as they come up, or at the end of the session...

Regarding your questions....

We will look at all questions.

Not all questions can be answered in this session.

All questions will be reviewed by DOE staff, and any responses will be made available as part of a published Q&A document to be posted on our website.

A strong recommendation: You should avail yourself of all district resources and expertise in constructing your application.

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NGO Purpose & Funding

Funding: IDEA Part B (Federal), \$1,000,000

NGO page 5

Goals:

1) Increased Achievement for Students with Disabilities (SWD)

Focus on ELA and/or Math

Emphasis on **sustainable increases**

NGO pages 4, 8, 9, 12

2) Increased Inclusion for SWD

How will you get there?

Remember: Supplement, not Supplant

NGO pages 9-10
include project
design
considerations.

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Eligibility and Number of Awards

Eligibility to apply:

- 1) LEAs apply on behalf of 1-3 eligible schools
- 2) Eligible schools include Priority and Focus Schools (appendix A) only

NGO page 4

Budget Caps:

Number of Students with Disabilities (SWD)	Maximum school award
Up to 100	\$50,000
101 or more	\$75,000

NGO page 5

Notes regarding # of SWD:

- Include those with speech-language disabilities.
- Do not include SWD placed out of district.

Rule of thumb: the number of students with IEPs in the building.

Please refer to
Documentation of
Eligibility Form
(NGO page 28)

Eligibility and Number of Awards

Expected Number of Awards:

(Based on per-school budget maximums of \$50,000 and \$75,000)

NGO page 6

	minimum	maximum*	likely range
# of schools awarded	13	20	15-18
# of LEAs awarded	5	20	8-12

* assumes \$50K / school

Regional Distribution:

NGO page 6

Northern Region	Central Region	Southern Region
Bergen County Essex County Hudson County Morris County Passaic County Sussex County Warren County	Hunterdon County Mercer County Middlesex County Monmouth County Somerset County Union County	Atlantic County Burlington County Camden County Cape May County Cumberland County Gloucester County Ocean County Salem County

At least 1 award will be granted for each of the 3 regions.

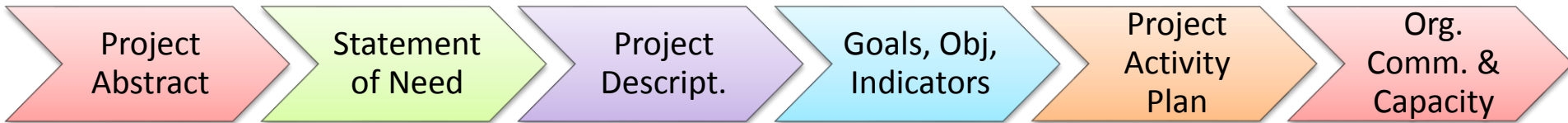
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Application Overview, up to the budget forms

Overview:

For an LEA applying on behalf of 1 Priority or Focus School (a simple case)



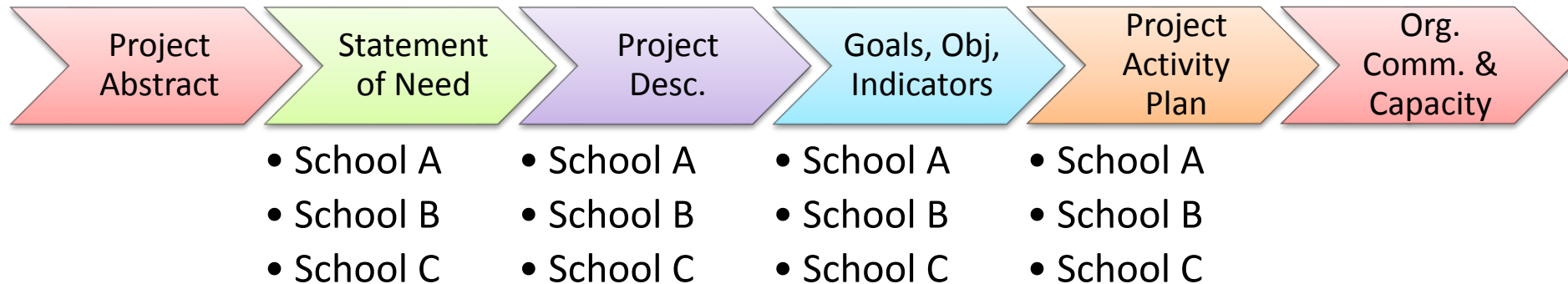
Note: all application forms are in Appendix C of the NGO.

There are separate forms for each of the above elements.

Application Overview, up to the budget forms

Overview:

For an LEA applying on behalf of **3** Priority or Focus Schools (A, B and C)



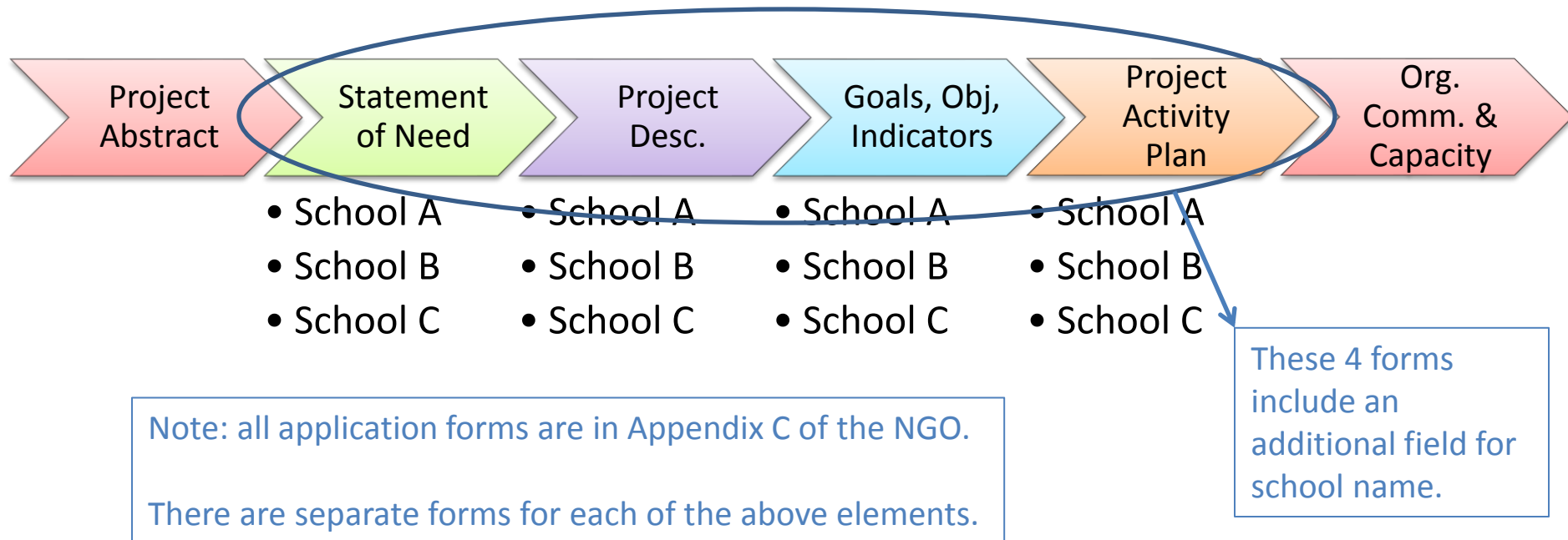
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There are separate forms for each of the above elements.

Application Overview, up to the budget forms

Overview:

For an LEA applying on behalf of **3** Priority or Focus Schools (A, B and C)



Application Overview – Budget Forms

For comprehensive Technical Assistance on “Constructing the Budget”, visit:

http://www.state.nj.us/education/grants/discretionary/apps/ta_budget/

This webpage includes:

- 1) Sample Budget Forms
- 2) 46-slide comprehensive technical assistance for grant presentation

Application Overview – Budget Forms

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**Make note of
this link now!**

Application Overview – Budget Forms

INSTRUCTIONS ON COMPLETING THE BUDGET FORMS

NGO Appendix C

Step 1:

Complete a separate set of budget detail forms (Forms A, B, C, D, E and F as applicable) for:

- The 5% LEA set-aside;
- The 1st Applicant School (total not to exceed the maximum school allocation);
- The 2nd Participating School (*if applicable*; total not to exceed the maximum school allocation);
- The 3rd Participating School (*if applicable*; total not to exceed the maximum school allocation).

Application Overview – Budget Forms

INSTRUCTIONS ON COMPLETING THE BUDGET FORMS

NGO Appendix C

Step 1 (from previous slide):

Complete a separate set of budget detail forms (Forms A, B, C, D, E and F as applicable) for the 5% LEA set-aside, and for each school separately.

Step 2:

Enter separately, the line item totals on the separate budget detail information, on the School and LEA Admin Budget Summary form.

Step 3:

Enter the totals, by line item from the School and LEA Budget Summary form (Total column), on the Application for Funds Budget Summary form in Column 2 (Federal).

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Individual Application Elements



Individual Elements, in order:

NGO Pages 10-13
DGA Pages 8-13

- **Project Abstract** – one per application
- **Statement of Need** – one per school
- **Project Description** - one per school
- **Goals/Objectives, Indicators** – one per school
- **Activity Plan** – one per school
- **Organizational Commitment and Capacity** – one per application
- **Budget**
 - Forms A-F for each school and LEA 5% as needed
 - One School and LEA Admin Budget Summary Form per application
 - One Application for Funds Budget Summary Form per application

Additional Reference: Discretionary Grant Application, pages 8-13

Individual Application Elements

Discretionary Grant Application (DGA)

Visit here:

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/grants/discretionary/apps/>

From the above page, click on this:

“Discretionary Grant Application (DGA all guidelines and forms)”

Notes:

- 1) Forms submitted for this Grant Application are found in the Appendix C of the NGO itself.
- 2) The DGA provides helpful supplemental guidance with respect to constructing the application.

Individual Application Elements



Project Abstract (for the application as a whole)

A one-page summary.

Do

1. Write the Project Abstract last as a summary of your entire proposed project.
2. Make it succinct, brief and interesting.

Don't

1. Write more than a one-page abstract.
2. Include information in the abstract that is not supported elsewhere in your application.

NGO Page 10
DGA Page 9

Note: use form
found in NGO
Appendix C.

Individual Application Elements



Statement of Need (for each school in the application)

- 1) Assemble and provide data regarding the current status, per the instructions starting at the bottom of NGO page 10.
- 2) Conduct your own analysis, per the instructions on NGO page 11.
- 3) Discuss (in your application) barriers and gaps identified with respect to inclusion and achievement for SWD, per the instructions on NGO page 11.
- 4) Identify your priority areas of opportunity for improvement, including whether you will focus on ELA, Math, or both.

NGO Page 10-11
DGA Page 9-10

Note: use form
found in NGO
Appendix C.

Note: “Need” is considered within the context of this grant program – the need to improve achievement and inclusion for SWD, and the opportunity identified to address that need through this program.

Individual Application Elements



Project Description (for each school in the application)

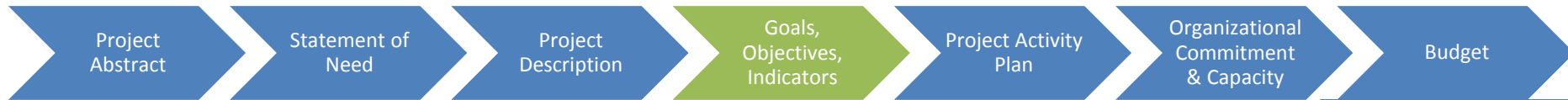
A narrative describing each school's project design and proposed plan for implementation.

Your narrative must address the 6 bulleted points (PD, Alignment with SIPs, SBR, Sustainability, Collaboration, and Data Analysis) on pages 11-12 of the NGO.

NGO Page 11-12
DGA Page 10

Note: use form
found in NGO
Appendix C.

Individual Application Elements



Goals, Objectives, Indicators (for each school in the application)

Identify:

- 1) **Goals** – what the school wants to achieve
- 2) **Objectives** – how the school will achieve it
- 3) **Indicators** – how the school will measure success

NGO Page 12
DGA Page 10-11

Note: use form found in NGO Appendix C.

The distinctions among these are outlined well in the DGA page 11, left-hand column.

Individual Application Elements



Activity Plan (for each individual school)

Outline the steps to be taken for each identified objective.

The form includes fields for:

- Implementation Activity
- Person(s) responsible
 - Note titles, not names.
 - Do not note the project director as the person responsible for all activities.
- Documentation
- Report period: use the 3 report periods shown on page 8 of the NGO.

NGO Page 12
DGA Page 11-12

Note: use form
found in NGO
Appendix C.

Individual Application Elements



Organizational Commitment & Capacity (for the application as a whole)

Construct a narrative in which you answer the 7 questions beginning at the bottom of NGO page 12.

You **may** include introductory and concluding paragraphs, but you **must** address all 7 questions in your application, numerically.

NGO Page 12-13
DGA Page 12-13

Note: use form
found in NGO
Appendix C.

Individual Application Elements



Budget

Reminder: specific budget technical assistance is available here:

http://www.state.nj.us/education/grants/discretionary/apps/ta_budget/

NGO Pages 13-15
DGA Pages 14-23

Note: use form
found in NGO
Appendix C.

2 clarifying points about allowables vs. non-allowables:

- 1) With respect to cost restrictions on p.14 of the NGO, these are **per school**
- 2) For LEA Admin 5% set-aside, the test is as follows: all costs must be reasonable, necessary, and directly allocable to the program.

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Evaluation Process

NGO Pages 16-17

All 3 members of a reader panel evaluate each application, according to the following point system:

	Point Value
* STATEMENT OF NEED	15
* PROJECT DESCRIPTION	25
* GOALS, OBJECTIVES, INDICATORS	20
* PROJECT ACTIVITY PLAN	20
ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITMENT AND CAPACITY	15
* BUDGET	5
TOTAL	100

For those elements(*) that are entirely separate for each school, the scores are averaged by each reader for all schools in an LEA application.

The budget average score will incorporate a score for the LEA budget into the average.

Evaluation Process

NGO Pages 16-17

	Point Value
* STATEMENT OF NEED	15
* PROJECT DESCRIPTION	25
* GOALS, OBJECTIVES, INDICATORS	20
* PROJECT ACTIVITY PLAN	20
ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITMENT AND CAPACITY	15
* BUDGET	5
TOTAL	100

Scores of 65 or greater are eligible.

The top scores will be awarded, after ensuring at least one award in each of the 3 geographic regions.

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Timelines

Milestone	Date(s)
Application Due Date	5/2/13, Thursday, 4:00 PM
Applications Reviewed and Scored	5/13/13 – 5/31/13
Awards Announced	6/3/13 – 6/7/13
Preaward Revisions	6/3/13 – 6/28/13
Grant Agreement Mailed	6/24/13 – 6/28/13
Program Start Date	7/1/13

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