

Funding Opportunity: Solicitation from the Department of Labor (DOL) for the Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) Program

Lewis-Burke Associates LLC – April 21, 2026

On April 16, 2026, the Employment and Training Administration ([ETA](#)) within the Department of Labor ([DOL](#)), on behalf of the Department of Education ([ED](#)), released a notice soliciting applications in support of the Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) program. The SEED program was formerly run by ED's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE). This program is designed to increase the number of effective educators by supporting the implementation of evidence-based practices that prepare, develop, or enhance the skills of educators. Proposals should develop, expand, and evaluate practices that may serve as sustainable models for dissemination.

This solicitation includes four absolute priorities, including:

- 1) Supporting Effective Teachers: Providing teachers from nontraditional certification pathways to serve in LEAs; Providing professional development activities that address needs of LEA's; Providing teachers with professional enhancement activities.
- 2) Supporting Effective Principals or Other School Leaders: Providing principals or school leaders from nontraditional certification pathways to serve in LEA's; Providing professional development activities that address needs of LEA's; Providing principals with professional enhancement activities.
- 3) Promoting Evidence Based Literacy.
- 4) Meaningful Learning Opportunities for Students: Assisting states to develop statewide plans in improving mathematics achievements; Implementing high quality materials; or offering high quality professional development.

“An applicant must identify at least one, but no more than two, citations for the purposes of meeting the evidence requirements under Absolute Priority 1 or Absolute Priority 2. In addition, an applicant must provide at least one, but no more than two, citations meeting the evidence requirements under Absolute Priority 3 or Absolute Priority 4.” There are also three competitive preferences, including:

- 1) Returning Education to the States: Projects endorsed by a Governor or chief State education official.
- 2) Advancing Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education: Projects proposed to expand AI through professional development for educators.

- 3) Career Pathways and Workforce Readiness: Projects expanding registered apprenticeships in education.

This program is aligned with the Trump administration’s push to [Returning Education to the States](#), and encourages the elevation of “innovative solutions that directly shapes student academic outcomes.”

Award Information

- **Estimated Number of Awards:** 25 – 30
- **Estimated Total Program Funding:** \$90,000,000
 - **Award Range:** \$1 million - \$6 million per project year

Due Dates: Applications for this competition are due **June 1, 2026**.

Project Period/Cost Sharing/Subgrant: Up to 36 months. This program must provide at least 25% of the total cost for each year of the project activities. This program uses a restricted indirect cost rate.

Eligibility: Institutions of higher education, a national non-profit entity, the Bureau of Indian Education, or a combination of the aforementioned types of institutions, agencies, and organizations, including the ability for for-profit entities to partner with IHEs or nonprofit entities.

Sources and Additional Information

- The Grants.Gov Opportunity (84.423A) is available at <https://simpler.grants.gov/opportunity/8e99c105-0013-46ee-8fff-18b2eba03f91>
- The Department of Education’s Press Release for Returning Education to the States is available at <https://www.ed.gov/about/initiatives/returning-education-states>