

WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE
KEN HECHLER
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

Form #2

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1989 APR 13 AM 10:05

OFFICE OF WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

NOTICE OF A COMMENT PERIOD ON A PROPOSED RULE

AGENCY: West Virginia Board of Education TITLE NUMBER: 126

RULE TYPE: Procedural; CITE AUTHORITY W. Va. Code 18-2-29

AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING RULE: YES ___ NO X

IF YES, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING AMENDED: _____

TITLE OF RULE BEING AMENDED: _____

IF NO, SERIES NUMBER OF NEW RULE BEING PROPOSED: 55 (Policy 2700.56)

TITLE OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: Competitive Grants For Instructional Improvement

IN LIEU OF A PUBLIC HEARING, A COMMENT PERIOD HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED DURING WHICH ANY INTERESTED PERSON MAY SEND COMMENTS CONCERNING THESE PROPOSED RULES. THIS

COMMENT PERIOD WILL END ON May 23 AT 9:00 a.m.

ONLY WRITTEN COMMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AND ARE TO BE MAILED TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS.

Mr. Thomas J. Currie, Acting Director

Office of General Education

West Virginia Department of Education

Bldg. #6, Room B-330, Capitol Complex

Charleston, WV 25305

THE ISSUES TO BE HEARD SHALL BE LIMITED TO THIS PROPOSED RULE.

Barbara L. Estep

ATTACH A **BRIEF** SUMMARY OF YOUR PROPOSAL

4-10-89

TITLE 126
LEGISLATIVE RULE
WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION
CHAPTER 18-2
Policy 2700.56 (Series 55)

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TITLE: Competitive Grants For Instructional Improvement

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Section 1 General

- 1.1 Scope - This legislative rule establishes guidelines and procedures for the distribution of competitive grants to schools for the purpose of implementing exemplary and innovative programs designed to improve instruction.
- 1.2 Authority - W.Va. Code 18-2-29
- 1.3 Filing Date -
- 1.4 Effective Date -
- 1.5 Repeal of Former Rule - None. This is a new rule.

Section 2 Applicability

West Virginia Code 18-2-29 grants authority to the State Board of Education to "establish no later than the school year one thousand nine hundred eighty-nine--ninety, a competitive grant program whereby schools may be awarded grants to implement exemplary and innovative programs designed to improve instruction." Priority for awarding competitive grants to schools shall be given to schools having probationary accreditation status, as defined in section five-c, article two-e, chapter eighteen, and school districts having nonapproval accreditation status as defined in section five-d, article two-e, chapter eighteen. The statute outlines criteria for the approval of competitive grant awards, and requires the State Board of Education to promulgate rules for the utilization of grant funds. The statute further encourages the donation of funds from private and other sources to augment state funding for the program.

Section 3 Rationale

The Competitive Grant Award Program (CGAP) is intended to encourage exemplary and innovative programs designed to improve instruction. The CGAP will financially assist schools or school districts in improving elementary and secondary education for West Virginia public school children by encouraging cognitive improvement, affective improvement or improvement in one of the following correlates of effective schools research:

- A. Developing the role of the principal as the instructional leader of the school;
- B. Establishing a school climate which is safe, orderly and conducive to learning;
- C. Developing teacher and administrator behaviors which convey high student expectations;

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- D. Developing a pervasive, broadly understood instructional focus;
and
- E. Continually monitoring and measuring student progress.

Grants funded under the CGAP are intended to support efforts to improve schools and classroom teaching practices and procedures in grades K-12.

Section 4 ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Two categories of applicants are eligible to apply for CGAP funds. State funds for matching and match free grants will be divided among these two categories. Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis if grant requests exceed available funds. The same, or substantially the same application may not be submitted in more than one category. The two categories are:

- A. SCHOOL - The building principal is responsible for submitting a school application. The grant must be schoolwide in scope and must be designed to impact the total school faculty, student body, or an entire program. A school may submit only one school grant application per year and is only eligible for match free grants up to \$5,000. An individual teacher or group of teachers may submit an application for the school with approval of the school principal.
- B. DISTRICT - The superintendent is responsible for submitting a district level application. The grant must be district wide in scope and must include all school buildings housing similar target populations. In districts having many such buildings, at least three fourths of the buildings housing similar target populations must be included. Examples of buildings housing similar target populations are elementary, middle, and secondary schools. A district may submit only one district application per year and is eligible for matching grants up to \$10,000. A district is eligible for a matching grant only.

Section 5 TYPES OF GRANTS

The Competitive Grant Award Program provides for two types of grants: 1) matching fund grants, and 2) match free grants.

5.1 MATCHING FUND GRANTS are for district improvement activities. They are available to districts for developing coordinated efforts to improve school or classroom teaching practices and procedures in a specified grade level(s) or in a specific subject area(s). Matching fund grants will be available on a competition basis.

- A. The variable match required will be determined by ranking each district or school by county accreditation status and dividing such ranking into three groups so that there is a nearly equal number of counties in each group. The required district match shall be as follows:

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Lowest third	10%
Middle third	20%
Upper third	30%

B. The latest available data will be used in determining which percent category a district or school should use. Matching fund grants will be reviewed on a competitive basis if the request for funds exceeds the total amount of the appropriation available to the matching fund grants program.

Section 5.2 MATCH FREE GRANTS are designed to promote exemplary and innovative projects to improve instruction at the school level. Match free grants are not awarded to school districts. Match free grants will be made only to schools on a competitive basis.

Matching or match free grants may be used to develop, expand, or adapt/adopt exemplary and innovative projects. They may also be used to continue previously funded CGAP projects for one additional year. The same, or substantially the same application may not be submitted concurrently under the matching and match free categories.

Section 6. Procedures

Procedures will be established by the State Department of Education for distributing Competitive Grant Funds.

- 6.1 LOCAL APPROVAL - Any grant must be approved by the local board of education prior to submission of the application to the Department of Education.
- 6.2 GRANT PERIOD - Grant applications will be funded for only one year at a time. But may be extended for a two year period if funds are available.
- 6.3 FUNDING CATEGORIES AND TOPICS - To allocate funds for competitions for the annual competitive grant cycle, the State Board of Education shall establish the funding categories and percentages, which will be announced to all county school districts and schools subsequent to confirmation of funds available. The amount of funding will be determined through the legislative appropriation process.

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 Revised: 3/2/89
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