Applying for Research Funding at IES

Erin Higgins, PhD
Program Officer, National Center for Education Research
What is the Mission of IES?

• IES is the **statistics, research, and evaluation** arm of the U.S. Department of Education.

• Charged with providing rigorous and relevant evidence on which to ground education practice and policy and share this information broadly.

• The mission of IES is to
  
  – Provide scientific evidence to inform education practice and policy.
  
  – Share information with a wide range of stakeholders by providing information in formats that are useful and accessible to educators, parents, policymakers, researchers, and the public.

[https://ies.ed.gov/](https://ies.ed.gov/)
IES Organizational Structure

- National Board for Education Sciences
- Office of the Director
  - Administration and Policy
  - Office of Science
    - National Center for Education Statistics
    - National Center for Education Research
    - National Center for Special Education Research
    - National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance
Objectives of the IES Research Centers

• Develop or identify education interventions (practices, programs, policies, and approaches) that enhance education outcomes and can be widely deployed

• Identify what works and 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

• Develop measures of academic achievement and progress
Education Research Grant Programs and Funding Opportunities

https://ies.ed.gov/funding
How to Identify Funding Opportunities

- Sign up for the IES Newsflash
- Funding opportunities are announced in *The Federal Register*
- Visit the funding opportunities page of the IES website
- Review the Requests for Applications (RFAs) and the Application Submission Guide
- Contact relevant Program Officer(s)
Funding Opportunities at IES
Learn more about current funding opportunities at the Institute of Education Sciences.

The Institute of Education Sciences supports research that addresses important issues in education and develops solutions that improve school readiness and academic achievement for all students. Learn more.

Requests for Applications

Deadlines

Webinars
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. View a funding opportunities webinar to learn more about the application process and choosing an appropriate funding opportunity and refer to our digital technical assistance page for additional resources.
3. Download the Application Submission Guide, as well as the appropriate Request for Applications and application package (Search for CFDA 84.305 or CFDA 84.324).
4. Submit your Letter of Intent (optional but strongly encouraged).
5. Register (or update) your organization on Grants.gov and SAM.gov.
6. Submit your application to Grants.gov before the application deadline.

STANDARDS AND REVIEW

The Standards and Review Office (SRO) is responsible for the scientific peer review process for the grant applications.
- SRO Website
- Peer Review Process
- List of Peer Reviewers

RESEARCH FUNDING WEBINARS

Check out our funding opportunities webinars to receive information on choosing the correct funding opportunity, grant writing, the application process, and more.
For more information regarding funding opportunities webinars, provide here.

FY 2021 FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING (ROLLING)

Important Dates and Deadlines

EDUCATION RESEARCH AND TRAINING

FY 2021 RFAs will be posted on a rolling basis.
Closed
- Education Research (84.304A)
- Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences (84.995)
- Education Research and Development Centers (84.995C)
- Statistical and Research Methodology in Education (84.305D)
- Research Fighters Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice (84.329N)
- Research Grants Focused on Systematic Application (84.329R)
- Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Education Policymaking (84.3505)
- Transformative Research in the Education Sciences (84.3507)

SPECIAL EDUCATION RESEARCH AND TRAINING

FY 2021 RFAs will be posted on a rolling basis.
Closed
- Special Education Research (84.324A)
- Research Training Programs in Special Education (84.324B)
- Research Grants Focused on NAEP Process Data for Learners with Disabilities (84.327D)
- Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication (84.327R)
NCER Grant Opportunities

In FY21, NCER ran 7 education research grant programs and 1 education training program.

- Education Research Grants
- Education Research & Development Centers
- Statistical and Research Methodology in Education
- Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication
- Transformative Research in the Education Sciences
- Research Networks
- Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Policymaking

- Education Training Program
  - Pathways to the Education Sciences
  - Postdoctoral Research Training
  - Methods Training
NCSER Grant Opportunities

In FY21, NCSER ran 3 research competitions and 1 research training competition

- Special Education Research
- Research Grant Focused on Systematic Replication
- Research Grants Focused on NAEP Process Data for Learners with Disabilities

- Special Education Research Training
  - Postdoctoral Research Training
  - Early Career Development and Mentoring
  - Methods Training
Resources for Applicants

• Program Officers

• IES Research Funding Opportunities On-Demand Webinars

• Virtual Office Hours with NCER and NCSER Program Officers

• Cost Analysis Technical Assistance
  – Cost Analysis in Practice Project and Help Desk
  – Resources for conducting costs analyses

• Other Resources available online
  – Data Sharing
  – Public Access to Research
IES Review Panels

Standing Panels:
- Basic Processes
- Early Intervention and Early Childhood Education
- Education Systems and Broad Reform
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)
- Reading, Writing, and Language Development
- Social and Behavioral
- Special Education
- Statistics and Modeling

Single-Session Panels:
- Convened as needed to cover competitions that are unique or run less frequently.
NCER 305A – Numbers of Applications Reviewed and Funded FY2008-FY2020

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Applications Reviewed</th>
<th>Applications Funded</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>FY2008</td>
<td>588</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY2009</td>
<td>533</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2010</td>
<td>835</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY2011</td>
<td>810</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY2012</td>
<td>704</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY2013</td>
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<td>FY2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY2020</td>
<td>432</td>
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NCSER 324A – Numbers of Applications Reviewed and Funded FY2008-FY2020

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<th>Funded %</th>
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<tr>
<td>FY2020</td>
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Stay Tuned for FY22 Funding Opportunities
For Questions and More Information

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