Date:       June 4, 2019
To:         Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To:   School Business Administrators, ESEA Project Directors
From:       Martin Egan, Acting Director
            Office of Grants Management
Deadline:   June 30, 2019

**Fiscal 2020 ESEA Allocation Notices and Consolidated Subgrant Application Available**

The Fiscal Year 2020 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Allocation Notices and the FY 2020 ESEA Consolidated Subgrant Application will be available on or about June 3, 2019 and both will be accessed through links on the NJDOE Homeroom webpage. Allocations are accessed through the ESEA Allocation Notices link. Applications are accessed through the Electronic Web-Enabled Grant (EWEG) system link. New users should contact their district web administrator for access and authorizations.

Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) should review their FY 2020 ESEA allocations and then create and submit their ESEA Consolidated Subgrant application by **June 30, 2019**.

**The FY 2020 ESEA Allocations**

For FY 2020, the New Jersey Department of Education will be awarding funds to LEAs for the following federal grant programs:

- Title I, Part A: Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies
- Title II, Part A: Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund
- Title III, Part A: English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act
- Title III, Part A-Immigrant: Language Instruction for Immigrant Students
- Title IV, Part A: Student Supports and Academic Enrichment

Formulas for determining the allocation amounts are based on federal statute and guidance.

Note: Allocations to charter schools opening in the fall of 2019 will be made in January 2020 based on actual enrollment data as of October 15, 2019. The allocation notices for these charter schools will be available by January 31, 2020.
The FY 2020 ESEA Consolidated Subgrant Application

Changes for FY 2020
The NJDOE limits yearly changes to the ESEA Consolidated Application to those required by federal regulations and guidance and those that will increase user-friendliness and accessibility for LEAs. The changes for FY 2020 include:

1. **ESEA Assurances** – The list of ESEA assurances appears in the application and no longer in a separate PDF file. The LEA must read and agree to the assurances on each of three new pages.

2. **Title I Reallocated** – In 2019, the Title I Reallocated grant was awarded mid-year and required a separate application. For 2020, Title I Reallocated is a sub-grant included as a separate section the ESEA consolidated application and the allocation will be available with the other titles at the beginning of the project cycle. The areas of focus for these funds are:
   - Social and Emotional Learning
   - STEM Curriculum
   - Expanding College Access and Advanced Learning Opportunities

3. **Title I SIA A** – All funds will be awarded at the beginning of the project cycle.

4. **Title I, Part A Homeless Reserve** – In previous years, a Title I-A reserve was calculated based on the number of homeless students in schools that were not being served with Title I funds and was calculated at $250 per student. Recent federal ESSA guidance clarified that the reserve is for all homeless students in the LEA and that the amount should be determined by assessing the needs of those students.

Annual School Plans
LEAs serving schools identified as in need of Comprehensive or Targeted support, as well as any school operating a Title I Schoolwide program in the 2019-20 school year, must complete an Annual School Plan (ASP) using the NJDOE’s Annual School Plan System (ASPS) accessed through NJDOE Homeroom. The ASP must reflect the interventions mutually agreed upon by the school, LEA, and NJDOE Comprehensive Support and Improvement Team.

Equitable Services for Nonpublic Schools
LEAs are required to engage in timely and meaningful consultation with nonpublic school officials to determine their needs and the services the LEA will provide. The nonpublic equitable share is calculated in the ESEA application and varies by title. For Title I, Part A, LEAs are required to identify the number of students who reside in their district and attend nonpublic schools either inside or outside of their geographic area. The equitable share is calculated in the Title I, Part A Eligibility section based on the information the LEA enters. For Title II, Part A; Title III; Title III Immigrant and Title IV, Part A, the calculation is based on information the nonpublic schools enter into the Nonpublic Enrollment Report and includes only those nonpublic schools located in an LEAs geographic area.

To ensure equitable services are provided in a timely manner, pursuant to requirements under ESEA, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), an LEA must obligate all funds allocated for equitable services in the year for which they are appropriated.

Consortiums
If a district’s Title III allocation is less than $10,000, they must either join a consortium with other districts to reach the threshold or refuse the funds. There is no minimum budget amount for any of the other titles, but districts may choose to form a consortium for Title IIA, Title III Immigrant, and Title IVA. Consortiums are not permitted for Title IA, Title I Reallocated or Title I SIA A. LEAs must follow these steps in EWEG to create or participate in a consortium:
1. Lead District (Applicant) creates the consortium
2. Participant Districts confirm participation
3. Lead District submits consortium after all participants have confirmed
4. The Office of Grants Management (OGM) approves the consortium

After OGM approves the consortium, the funds from the participant district’s applications transfer to the lead district’s application. The Lead Applicant enters all program and budget information on behalf of the Participants.

Applicants and participants should wait to submit their consolidated ESEA/ESSA applications until the consortium is approved and the funds have transferred into or out of their applications. Participants should not refuse funds for titles in which they are contributing funds to a consortium nor should they enter any information into the program or budget sections of their application for titles in which they have contributed funds to a consortium.

Resources
The NJDOE has scheduled FY 2020 ESEA Application Work Sessions throughout the month of June. These sessions provide an opportunity for LEA staff to work on their applications and ask questions of their County Education Specialists, Program Officers, and reviewers in the Office of Grants Management (OGM). Links to online resources will be posted on the OGM Entitlement Grants webpage as they become available and will include the Application Work Session schedule, the FY 2020 ESEA Allocation Tables, the FY 2020 ESEA Application Quick Start Guide, application tutorials, Nonpublic Equitable Services and Consortium Instructions.

Submission
When an LEA successfully submits an application, they receive an automatic email notification through the EWEG system that their application has been submitted in “substantially approvable form.” This is only a preliminary approval; the application will still be reviewed and final approved by NJDOE staff. Pursuant to federal guidance, if the LEA submits the application by the due date, they may begin to encumber funds as of the July 1 project start date. If the application is submitted after the due date, they may only encumber funds as of the date of submission. Applications will be considered on time if they are submitted by Sunday, June 30, 2019. Please note, however, that NJDOE staff will only be available for support Monday through Friday during regular business hours.

Review and Approval
Section 8452(b)(2) and (4) of the ESEA, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), imposed new restrictions on the length of time available for the review and approval of applications. The NJDOE is required to approve an application within 120 days of submission. If the NJDOE returns an application for revision to the LEA, the LEA must revise and resubmit the application within 45 days, otherwise the application will be deemed disapproved. Therefore, it is important for the LEA to keep their contact information in EWEG current, monitor email notifications and respond to any revision requests from the NJDOE in a timely manner.

Contacts
For questions or additional information regarding the FY 2020 ESEA Allocation Notices, contact the NJDOE’s Office of Supplemental Educational Programs at titleone@doe.nj.gov or (609) 376-9080. For questions regarding the FY 2020 ESEA Consolidated Subgrant Application, contact the Office of Grants Management at eweghelp@doe.nj.gov or (609) 376-9089.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group