NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS: EQUITY FOR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER PROGRAM BENEFICIARIES

Section 427 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) (<u>20 U.S.C. 1228a</u>) applies to applicants for grant awards under this program.

ALL APPLICANTS FOR NEW GRANT AWARDS MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN THEIR APPLICATIONS TO ADDRESS THIS PROVISION IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FUNDING UNDER THIS PROGRAM.

Please respond to the following requests for information:

1. Describe how your entity's existing mission, policies, or commitments ensure equitable access to, and equitable participation in, the proposed project or activity.

The vision and mission of the Utah State Board of Education (USBE) is to open doors of opportunity for all Utah children and achieve academic and organizational excellence in Utah education. This is accomplished by setting academic standards, developing education policy, advocating for Utah students and providing support and oversight to LEAs.

The USBE reviews data at least annually to determine if we are achieving that mission, then adjusts policy and practice when we are not meeting benchmarks and targets. The USBE also facilitates data-sharing meetings with local education agencies (LEAs) so they can review their own data and adjust their own policies and practices in turn.

- 2. Based on your proposed project or activity, what barriers may impede equitable access and participation of students, educators, or other beneficiaries? The USBE doesn't foresee any significant barriers to ensuring equitable access participation of students, educators, or other beneficiaries, as we review data frequently so we can adjust policy and practices when needed.
- 3. Based on the barriers identified, what steps will you take to address such barriers to equitable access and participation in the proposed project or activity? The USBE will continue to review state-wide and LEA data to determine that the mission of the USBE is implemented and the adjustments are made to policy and practice when data demonstrates that USBE or an LEA is meeting benchmarks and goals.
- 4. What is your timeline, including targeted milestones, for addressing these identified barriers?

The USBE addresses any failures to meet benchmarks and goals immediately, frequently within several months but always within one school year.

Notes:

- 1. Applicants are not required to have mission statements or policies that align with equity in order to submit an application.
- 2. Applicants may identify any barriers that may impede equitable access and participation in the proposed project or activity, including, but not limited to, barriers based on economic disadvantage, gender, race, ethnicity, color, national origin, disability, age, language, migrant status, rural status, homeless status or housing insecurity, pregnancy, parenting, or caregiving status, and sexual orientation.
- **3.** Applicants may have already included some or all of this required information in the narrative sections of their applications or their State Plans. In responding to this requirement, for each question, applicants may provide a cross-reference to the section(s) and page number(s) in their applications or State Plans that includes the information responsive to that question on this form or may restate that information on this form.

Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1894-0005. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 3 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering, and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain or retain a benefit. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving this individual collection, send your comments to ICDocketMgr@ed.gov and reference OMB Control Number 1894-0005. All other comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual form may be addressed to either (a) the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section in the competition Notice Inviting Applications, or (b) your assigned program officer.