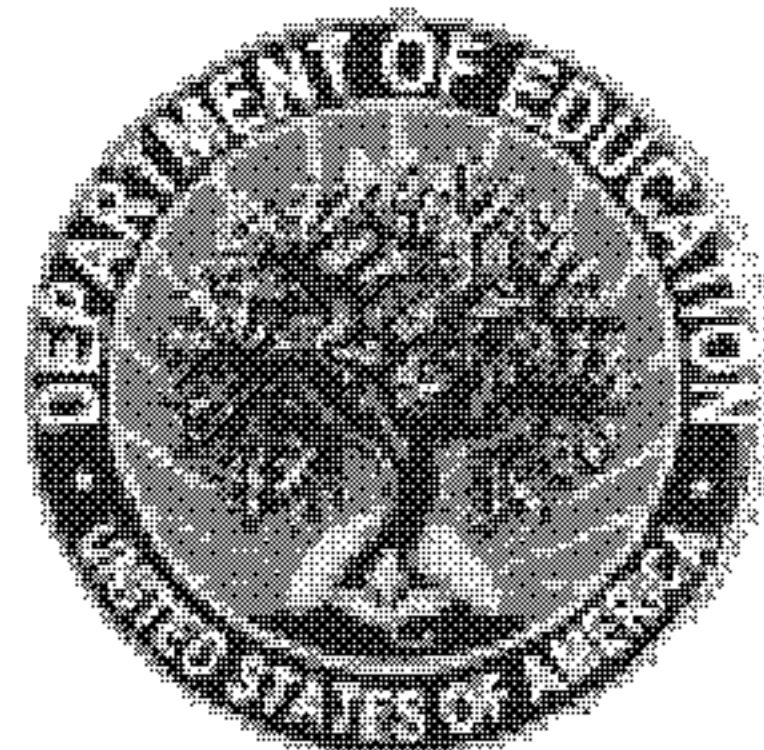


U.S. Department of Education

Washington, D.C. 20202-5335



APPLICATION FOR GRANTS UNDER THE

**STATEWIDE LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM RECOVERY ACT GRANTS
CFDA # 84.384A
PR/Award # R384A100012**

Closing Date: NOV 19, 2009

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This application was generated using the PDF functionality. The PDF functionality automatically numbers the pages in this application. Some pages/sections of this application may contain 2 sets of page numbers, one set created by the applicant and the other set created by e-Application's PDF functionality. Page numbers created by the e-Application PDF functionality will be preceded by the letter e (for example, e1, e2, e3, etc.).

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

* 1. Type of Submission	* 2. Type of Application:* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Continuation	* Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Revision	

* 3. Date Received:	4. Applicant Identifier:
12/1/2009	

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:	* 5b. Federal Award Identifier:
	NA

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:	7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name: North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):	* c. Organizational DUNS:
456002426	803755057

d. Address:

* Street1:	600 E. Boulevard Ave, Dept 201
Street2:	
* City:	Bismarck
County:	
State:	ND
Province:	
* Country:	USA
* Zip / Postal Code:	58505

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:	Division Name:
North Dakota Department of Public Instruction	Adminstrative Services

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:	Mr.	* First Name:	Frank
Middle Name:	S		

* Last Name: Snow

Suffix:

Title: Director, Management of Information Systems

Organizational Affiliation:

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

* Telephone Number: (701)328-2189 Fax Number: (701)328-2255

* Email: FSNOW@ND.GOV

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

A: State Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

10. Name of Federal Agency:

U.S. Department of Education

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

84.384A

CFDA Title:

Statewide Longitudinal Data System Recovery Act Grants

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

ED-GRANTS-072909-000

Title:

Statewide Longitudinal Data System Recovery Act Grant

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

multi-agency, statewide

*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

ND is seeking federal funding to expand current efforts to plan, design, develop and implement a statewide LDS. The system will link records between K12, Early Childhood, Higher Education and WorkForce and provide information back to stakeholders.

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Attachment:

Title :

File :

Attachment:

Title :

File :

Attachment:

Title :

File :

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant: ND-All

* b. Program/Project: ND-All

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Attachment:

Title :

File :

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: 4/1/2010

* b. End Date: 3/31/2013

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

a. Federal	\$
b. Applicant	\$
c. State	\$
d. Local	\$
e. Other	\$
f. Program Income	\$
g. TOTAL	\$ 0

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .

b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.

c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes", provide explanation.)**

Yes No

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: Mr. * First Name: Frank
Middle Name: S
* Last Name: Snow
Suffix:

Title: Director, Management of Information Systems

* Telephone Number: (701)328-2189 Fax Number: (701)328-2255

* Email: FSNOW@ND.GOV

* Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed:

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424 Version 02

*** Applicant Federal Debt Delinquency Explanation**

The following field should contain an explanation if the Applicant organization is delinquent on any Federal Debt. Maximum number of characters that can be entered is 4,000. Try and avoid extra spaces and carriage returns to maximize the availability of space.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

BUDGET INFORMATION

NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Control Number: 1894-0008

Expiration Date: 02/28/2011

Name of Institution/Organization:
North Dakota Department of Publi...

Applicants requesting funding for only one year should complete the column under "Project Year 1." Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns. Please read all instructions before completing form.

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FUNDS

Table with 7 columns: Budget Categories, Project Year 1(a), Project Year 2 (b), Project Year 3 (c), Project Year 4 (d), Project Year 5 (e), Total (f). Rows include Personnel, Fringe Benefits, Travel, Equipment, Supplies, Contractual, Construction, Other, Total Direct Costs, Indirect Costs, Training Stipends, and Total Costs.

*Indirect Cost Information (To Be Completed by Your Business Office):

If you are requesting reimbursement for indirect costs on line 10, please answer the following questions:

(1) Do you have an Indirect Cost Rate Agreement approved by the Federal government? [X] Yes [] No

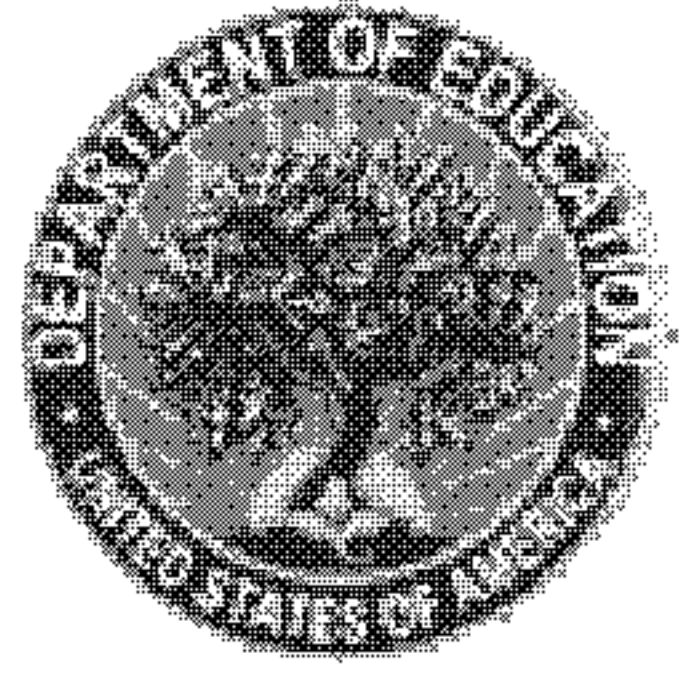
(2) If yes, please provide the following information:

Period Covered by the Indirect Cost Rate Agreement: From: 7/1/2008 To: 6/30/2011 (mm/dd/yyyy)

Approving Federal agency: [X] ED [] Other (please specify): _____ The Indirect Cost Rate is 12%

(3) For Restricted Rate Programs (check one) -- Are you using a restricted indirect cost rate that:

[] Is included in your approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement? or, [] Complies with 34 CFR 76.564(c)(2)? The Restricted Indirect Cost Rate is 0%



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

BUDGET INFORMATION

NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Control Number: 1894-0008

Expiration Date: 02/28/2011

Name of Institution/Organization:
North Dakota Department of Publi...

Applicants requesting funding for only one year should complete the column under "Project Year 1." Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns. Please read all instructions before completing form.

SECTION B - BUDGET SUMMARY

NON-FEDERAL FUNDS

Budget Categories	Project Year 1(a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Project Year 5 (e)	Total (f)
1. Personnel	\$ 199,543	\$ 199,543	\$ 199,543	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 598,629
2. Fringe Benefits	\$ 39,742	\$ 39,742	\$ 39,742	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 119,226
3. Travel	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
4. Equipment	\$ 263,200	\$ 411,400	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 674,600
5. Supplies	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
6. Contractual	\$ 11,990	\$ 13,200	\$ 13,200	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 38,390
7. Construction	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
8. Other	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)	\$ 514,475	\$ 663,885	\$ 252,485	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,430,845
10. Indirect Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
11. Training Stipends	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)	\$ 514,475	\$ 663,885	\$ 252,485	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,430,845

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Standard Form 424B (Rev.7-97)

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes 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. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. "4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. "1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. '794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act
9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. "276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. '276c and 18 U.S.C. "874) and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. " 327-333), regarding labor standards for federally assisted construction sub-agreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. "1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clear Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clear Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. "7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. "1721 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance

of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. " 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) " 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. " 290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. ' 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. "1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. '470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. "469a-1 et seq.).

14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. "2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. "4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead- based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.

Signature of Authorized Certifying Representative:

Name of Authorized Certifying Representative: Wayne G. Sanstead

Title: State Superintendent

Date Submitted: 10/19/2009

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352

1. Type of Federal Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Contract <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperative Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Loan Guarantee <input type="checkbox"/> Loan Insurance	2. Status of Federal Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Bid/Offer/Application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial Award <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Award	3. Report Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Initial Filing <input type="checkbox"/> Material Change For Material Change only: Year: 0 Quarter: 0 Date of Last Report:
4. Name and Address of Reporting Entity: <input type="checkbox"/> Prime <input type="checkbox"/> Subawardee Tier, if known: 0 Name: Address: City: State: Zip Code + 4: - Congressional District, if known:	5. If Reporting Entity in No. 4 is a Subawardee, Enter Name and Address of Prime: Name: Address: City: State: Zip Code + 4: - Congressional District, if known:	
6. Federal Department/Agency:	7. Federal Program Name/Description: CFDA Number, if applicable:	
8. Federal Action Number, if known:	9. Award Amount, if known: \$0	
10. a. Name of Lobbying Registrant (if individual, last name, first name, MI): Address: City: State: Zip Code + 4: -	b. Individuals Performing Services (including address if different from No. 10a) (last name, first name, MI): Address: City: State: Zip Code + 4: -	
11. Information requested through this form is authorized by title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. This disclosure of lobbying activities is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed by the tier above when this transaction was made or entered into. This disclosure is required pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352. This information will be reported to the Congress semi-annually and will be available for public inspection. Any person who fails to file the required disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.	Name: Wayne G. Sanstead Title: State Superintendent Applicant: North Dakota Department of Public Instruction Date: 10/19/2009	
Federal Use Only:		Authorized for Local Reproduction Standard Form LLL (Rev. 7-97)

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements.

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal Loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance.

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee or any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

APPLICANT'S ORGANIZATION

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Prefix: Dr First Name: Wayne Middle Name: G

Last Name: Sanstead Suffix:

Title: State Superintendent

Signature: _____

Date:

10/19/2009

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
REQUIRED FOR
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANTS**

1. Project Director:

Prefix: * First Name: Middle Name: * Last Name: Suffix:
Mr. Frank S Snow

Address:

* Street1: 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 201
Street2:
* City: Bismarck
County:
* State: ND* Zip / Postal Code: 58505 * Country: USA

* Phone Number (give area Fax Number (give area
code) code)
(701)328-2189 (701)328-2189

Email Address:

FSNOW@ND.GOV

2. Applicant Experience

Novice Applicant Yes No Not applicable

3. Human Subjects Research

Are any research activities involving human subjects planned at any time during the proposed project period?

Yes No

Are ALL the research activities proposed designated to be exempt from the regulations?

Yes Provide Exemption(s) #:

No Provide Assurance #, if available:

Please attach an explanation Narrative:

Attachment:

Title :
File :

Project Narrative

Project Narrative - Project Abstract

Attachment 1:

Title: ND SLDS Grant Abstract Final Pages: 1 Uploaded File: C:\Documents and Settings\fsnow\Desktop\Grant Submission\ND SLDS grant abstract final .pdf

5. Project Abstract: ND EdSmart Data System

North Dakota proposes to build a state longitudinal data system (SLDS) to enhance its ability to provide accountability reporting to leaders and stakeholders. This initiative, named ND EdSmart, provides the planning, development, and coordination efforts that are required to realize a data repository that unifies key data from public PK-12, higher education, and workforce development initiatives and provides the analytical insight to ensure that students transition successfully from K-12 to higher education and the workforce and to foster educational improvement statewide.

The EdSmart data system – a powerful combination of an easy-to-use business intelligence tool and a state data warehouse populated with select data from multiple agencies—will empower and enlighten state leaders by providing answers to questions that are essential for meeting North Dakota’s education and workforce goals. Outcomes of this initiative include:

1. A SLDS data warehouse incorporating metrics from K-12, postsecondary and workforce will be implemented
2. A secure, robust system will be in production to link records based on standards for exchanging data
3. A robust business intelligence system will be in place for developing and publishing reports
4. The SLDS Committee and key stakeholders will be trained
5. A data quality process will be in place
6. Automated systems will be in place to capture source data

The ND EdSmart data system will build on the capabilities of the K-12 data system currently being implemented in North Dakota. ND EdSmart will meet the required capabilities and elements not met by that K-12 system.

As part of the project, data linkages will be built to identify teachers with the postsecondary program where they received their degree to correlate with teacher-student outcomes. Linkages between K-12 and post secondary records will provide information about the preparation for and transition to college. Data linkages will also be established to link K-12 and post secondary students (graduates and drop outs) to employment records and the military. Pre-K to K-12 linkages will also be built.

Major activities in the project will be the design and development of the SLDS. Major components of the system will be a data warehouse, a “master data management” solution to link records, and a business intelligence system to produce reports. Broad training programs will be implemented so that key stakeholders are skilled at data governance as well as using the data. A process for validating and continuous auditing of the data will be developed so that match rates can be improved and confidence in the data can be assured. In addition, improvements will be made to source systems in local districts, the Center for Distance Education, and the North Dakota University System, to facilitate the sharing of information.

Project Narrative

Project Narrative - Project Narrative

Attachment 1:

Title: **ND SLDS Grant Narrative Pages: 30** Uploaded File: **C:\Documents and Settings\fsnow\Desktop\Grant Submission\ND SLDS grant narrative.pdf**

Narrative: ND EdSmart Data System

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6. Project Narrative:

6. (a) Need for project

The State of North Dakota is working towards the goals of improving student achievement in K-12 schools and ensuring that K-12 students transfer successfully from K-12 to postsecondary education and the workforce. To that end, the State is requesting this grant in order to deploy the technical infrastructure for a State Longitudinal Data System - the North Dakota EdSmart Data System. Today the State has limited capabilities for analyzing student outcomes over time, using systems running on inadequate technology. In addition, stakeholders need training in governance and data quality processes to have consistent, reliable information for analysis. Significant work is also needed to implement automated systems to capture source data for the North Dakota Center for Distance Education, Pre-K programs, K-12 school districts, postsecondary and workforce programs.

Background / Current Status

The State of North Dakota has already initiated a number of programs that can contribute toward achieving the goal of providing comprehensive, statewide, P-20 longitudinal data reporting and analysis.

- The State of North Dakota has established a multi-agency Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) Committee that is responsible for the establishment and ongoing management of data governance standards and practices. This is an important step in gaining the requisite participation of state departments and agencies, establishing priorities and setting direction so that the SLDS goals can be successfully attained. The legislation regarding the SLDS Committee and its membership is found in Appendix A.
- The State of North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (DPI) applied for and received a \$6.7 million grant award to meet the demands of K-12 longitudinal reporting via the ndSLEDS project. The State has established a standard for deploying a Student Information System (SIS) with the PowerSchool application to collect data at the local level. That application is already in production at a number of the State's schools and the State is committed to full implementation in all schools by 2014. However, the State determined that this needs to be accelerated. Data from the individual school SIS applications is consolidated in the State Automated Reporting System (STARS). At present, schools that are not yet live on PowerSchool enter data directly into STARS, effectively attempting to use that application to accomplish some of the tasks of a full-featured SIS.
- The State has experience linking educational and workforce data with the current Follow-up Information on North Dakota Education and Training (FINDET) System. While the FINDET technical architecture needs to be replaced, the state agencies involved with FINDET have experience working

together that will be leveraged when implementing ND EdSmart, the new SLDS.

- The North Dakota University System, made up of the eleven state colleges and universities, has a single student information system and is currently implementing a data warehouse to capture postsecondary data for reporting purposes.

Current State and Local Data Systems

North Dakota prides itself on creating and maintaining an accountability system that meets the federal reporting requirements of *EDFacts* and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). North Dakota has invested over \$3 million in developing its statewide data collection systems. DPI began building an online system, the State Automated Reporting System (STARS) for collecting data to meet No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirements and establishing a state student identifier. STARS also provides the data collection and calculations required for State Foundation Aid. The online collection system has been rewritten to meet heightened data needs as demands for data required by the Education Data Exchange Network (EDEN)/ *EDFacts*, technology standards and data quality issues have increased.

The second generation STARS, upgraded in 2008, expands the state collection system in program areas to meet more *EDFacts* requirements and increase data validations and quality enhancements to improve the data. STARS has created a strong foundation to build on as North Dakota moves toward collecting the data elements and quality audits needed to provide a robust collection system for a statewide longitudinal data system.

The State hosts PowerSchool, a student information system, for local districts and is piloting automated reporting from PowerSchool to STARS. In 2009, the Legislature mandated that all school districts use PowerSchool as the State standard. Until that time it was voluntary. However, the Legislature did not fund adequate resources to implement PowerSchool in less than five years. Having the same student information system across the State will facilitate the adoption of standard interfaces and data collections.

Via the PowerSchool SIS and STARS application, the State of North Dakota has established a strong foundation for K-12 reporting by establishing standards for reporting key fields of entities such as School, Student, Teacher, and Course in order to provide the basis for reporting and analysis of metrics related to major events such as student enrollment, transfer, withdrawal, testing, graduation, and disciplinary action. Full adoption of PowerSchool by all North Dakota primary and secondary schools will improve data consistency and is key to integration.

In 2009, DPI received an SLDS grant from IES to develop the North Dakota Statewide Educational Longitudinal Data System (ndSLEDS). The ndSLEDS project is focused on building a state K-12 data warehouse and reporting system, with limited data exchanges with other partners. It does provide for the collection of student level test scores and

assessment data, linking students to teachers and the collection of identifying information to link K-12 information to post secondary. Appendix C indicates the current status of the requirements and also those that are being addressed by the ndSLEDS project. The ndSLEDS data warehouse will serve as the primary K-12 source for the proposed ND EdSmart data system. The outcomes identified in this grant application will build on the work done in the ndSLEDS project by enhancing the linkages with postsecondary, workforce and Pre-K.

The North Dakota University System (NDUS) has implemented ConnectND, a common SIS based on Oracle's PeopleSoft Campus Solutions application. This has enabled NDUS to assign and manage unique IDs for students systemwide. NDUS has successfully completed a pilot to match K-12 data supplied by DPI with student data managed by NDUS' ConnectND student system. The pilot has proven the feasibility of achieving a high degree of match (approximately 80% success rate) in order to align the statewide K-12 student ID with the ConnectND student ID. The state will seek to employ more sophisticated matching techniques and algorithms to achieve higher match rates through the policies and data quality efforts proposed in this project and the ndSLEDS project. The data sharing agreement between DPI and NDUS that governs this current cooperative effort is found in Appendix A.

NDUS also captures student profile data, including Social Security Number, from the ACT performance assessment and from student enrollment/registration demographic information. This places NDUS in the position of being able to provide the means of linking students at the secondary and postsecondary levels with workforce.

Further, NDUS has licensed and, in 2009, will begin implementing a data warehousing and business intelligence system that will enable data from all NDUS colleges and universities to be loaded into a common repository that will serve as the primary Higher Ed source for the proposed ND EdSmart data system. The three modules chosen for the current implementation focus on enrolled students, their financial information and employees of the NDUS. In order to fulfill the data requirements associated with the grant proposal it is essential that NDUS also implements the Student Admissions and Recruitment Module.

While NDUS captures all students taking classes for credit, they do not have a standard solution for capturing students in non-credit workforce training programs. The North Dakota Workforce Training System (TrainND) provides business and industry specific training. Currently there is not a standard application nor data definitions for the data collected through TrainND throughout North Dakota. Implementation of a common system could provide North Dakota with another data source to create metrics regarding educational preparation.

Job Service North Dakota operates the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program for the State. The UI operational system runs on a 30 year old mainframe. UI data is downloaded to a personal computer where a single individual is responsible for developing and running reports using FoxPro. Wage data records are keyed by SSN but

demographic data such as name, gender, birth date, etc. are not collected on a consistent basis making linkage to K-12 records difficult.

Current data exchange system

The current system for exchanging data across agencies is called FINDET or Follow-up Information on North Dakota Education and Training. FINDET is administered by the NDUS through a state agency steering committee formed to provide information regarding the status of graduates and program completers of North Dakota educational programs. FINDET was originally modeled after Florida's program and has been in place for more than 15 years. Many of the reports that are provided by FINDET are required by state or federal law. FINDET has two research analyst positions responsible for collecting the data and creating the reports. The system runs on a standalone computer and is highly dependent on the availability and knowledge of the limited staff that understand its operation.

FINDET uses two primary sources of data to "find" students. The first is the PeopleSoft student information system used by all eleven institutions of North Dakota University System (NDUS). Enrollment and graduation data is extracted for each fall and spring semester. The other primary data source is the Unemployment Insurance (UI) information from Job Service. This data is used to match students to employment and wages in North Dakota

Other agencies can supply data to FINDET to match against the NDUS and UI data. Follow-up reports are provided back to the agency at a summary level without personally identifiable information. FINDET reports, including longitudinal data studies, are reported in aggregate form to state agencies in full compliance with all state and federal regulations regarding privacy information, including FERPA, HIPPA, and CIPSEA.

In the 2007 session, the legislature created the State Longitudinal Data System Committee and asked it to study the issue and create a recommendation regarding the long term role of FINDET, as well as plan for an SLDS, the North Dakota EdSmart data system, incorporating educational and workforce data. The State hired Claraview to develop a roadmap which has become the basis for moving forward. Claraview recommended replacing FINDET with a robust SLDS system. The SLDS Committee recognized that getting a K-12 longitudinal system in place and developing an NDUS data warehouse were necessary first steps in evolving from FINDET into a more robust system. The State began working toward designing and implementing a K-12 SLDS system (the ndSLEDS project) with 2009 IES SLDS grant funds and is using State resources to begin implementing the NDUS data warehouse.

Need for the Project / Gaps

While North Dakota has made some progress toward building an SLDS, gaps remain before it can produce the type of reporting and analysis necessary to promote improvements in student outcomes. Appendix C identifies the status of each requirement identified in the RFA. With this grant, North Dakota plans to address five of the seven capabilities and six of the twelve elements prescribed by the America

