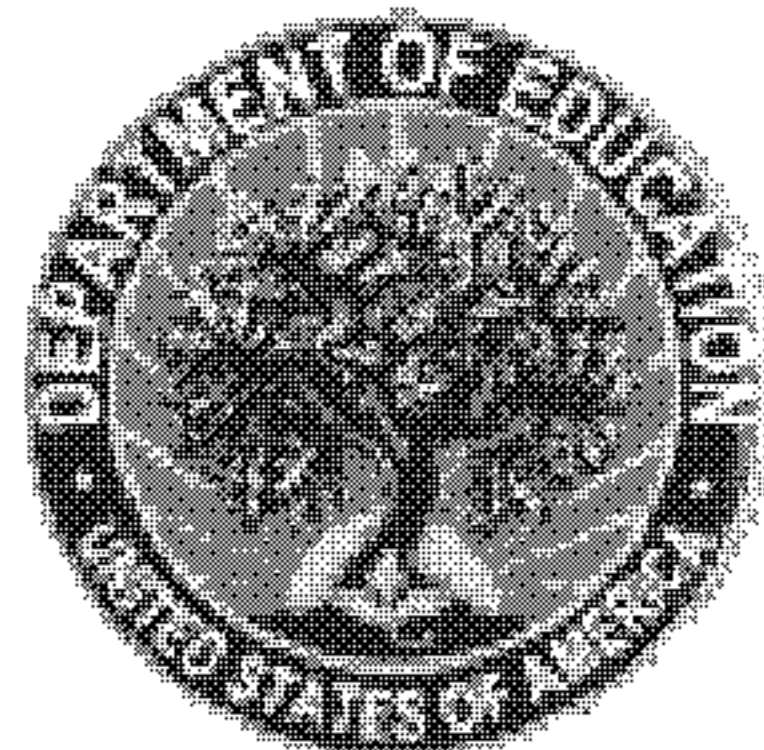


U.S. Department of Education

Washington, D.C. 20202-5335



APPLICATION FOR GRANTS UNDER THE

**STATEWIDE LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM RECOVERY ACT GRANTS
CFDA # 84.384A
PR/Award # R384A100018**

Closing Date: DEC 04, 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:
12/3/2009	8093996940000

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

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:	7. State Application Identifier:	State SLDS Grant
----------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name: Mississippi Department of Education

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):	* c. Organizational DUNS:
646000758	809399694

d. Address:

* Street1:	359 North West Street
Street2:	Post Office Box 771
* City:	Jackson
County:	Hinds
State:	MS
Province:	
* Country:	USA
* Zip / Postal Code:	39205

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:	Division Name:
MS Department of Education	Office of Research and Statistics

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

Prefix:	Mr.	* First Name:	John
Middle Name:	O		

* Last Name: Gilbert

Suffix:

Title: Director, Office of Educational Accountability

Organizational Affiliation:

MS Department of Education

* Telephone Number: (601)359-5254 Fax Number: (601)359-1748

* Email: JGILBERT@MDE.K12.MS.US

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-072909-001

Title:

Institute of Education Sciences;(IES) Grant Program for Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems Recovery Act Program (ARRA) CFDA 84.384A

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

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

All 82 counties within the state of Mississippi

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

Mississippi Integrated Education and Workforce Longitudinal Data System:
A Management Tool to Improve Student Achievement and Economic Competitiveness

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: MS-002

* b. Program/Project: MS-ALL

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

Attachment:

Title :

File :

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: 10/10/2010

* b. End Date: 9/30/2013

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

a. Federal	\$ 10004006
b. Applicant	\$ 0
c. State	\$ 92061
d. Local	\$ 0
e. Other	\$ 0
f. Program Income	\$ 0
g. TOTAL	\$ 10096067

*** 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 12/4/2009.

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: John
Middle Name: O
* Last Name: Gilbert
Suffix:

Title: Director, Office of Educational Accountability

* Telephone Number: (601)359-5254 Fax Number: (601)359-1748

* Email: JGILBERT@MDE.K12.MS.US

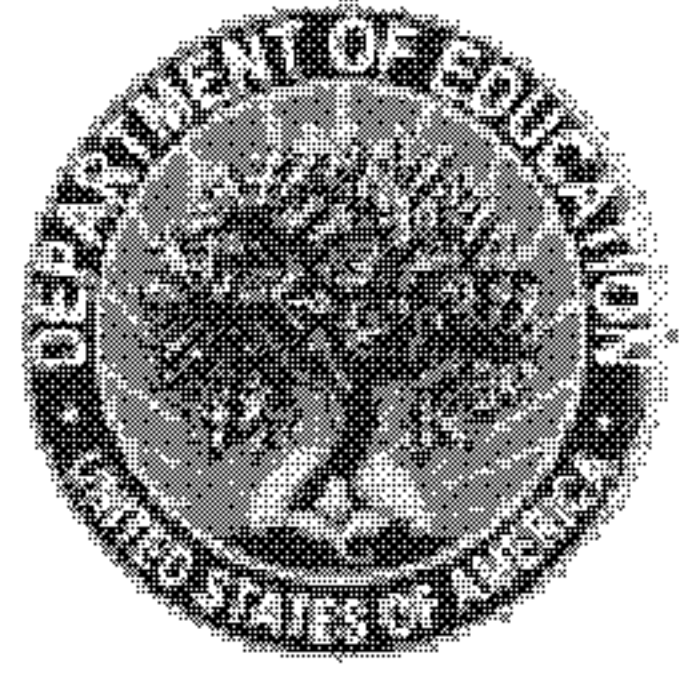
* Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed:

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:
Mississippi Department of Education

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

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	\$ 104,528	\$ 98,044	\$ 98,044	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 300,616
2. Fringe Benefits	\$ 27,132	\$ 25,332	\$ 25,332	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 77,796
3. Travel	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 30,000
4. Equipment	\$ 10,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,000
5. Supplies	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,000
6. Contractual	\$ 4,708,588	\$ 1,848,917	\$ 2,163,372	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 8,720,877
7. Construction	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
8. Other	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)	\$ 4,862,248	\$ 1,984,293	\$ 2,298,748	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 9,145,289
10. Indirect Costs*	\$ 456,111	\$ 186,524	\$ 216,082	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 858,717
11. Training Stipends	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)	\$ 5,318,359	\$ 2,170,817	\$ 2,514,830	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,004,006

***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? Yes No

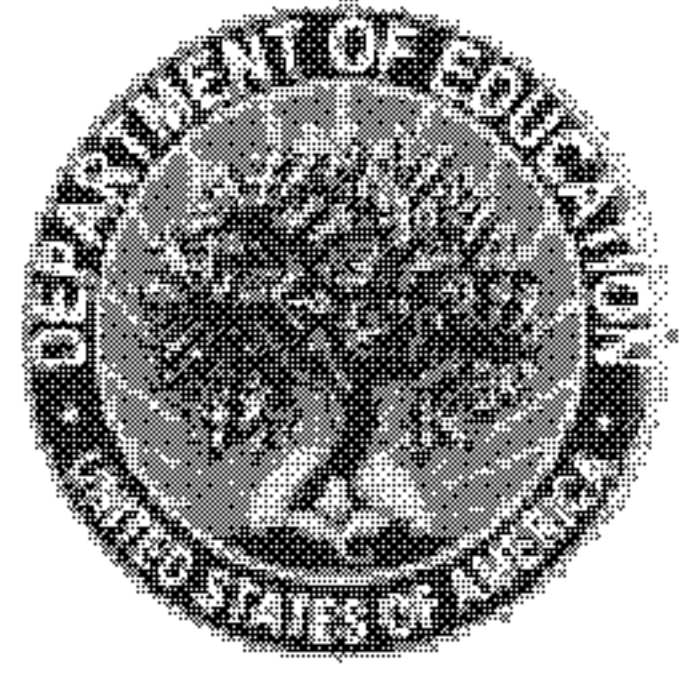
(2) If yes, please provide the following information:

Period Covered by the Indirect Cost Rate Agreement: From: 7/1/2009 To: 6/30/2010 (mm/dd/yyyy)

Approving Federal agency: ED Other (please specify): _____ The Indirect Cost Rate is 9.4%

(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:
Mississippi Department of Education

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	\$ 39,983	\$ 13,459	\$ 13,459	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 66,901
2. Fringe Benefits	\$ 10,318	\$ 3,466	\$ 3,466	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 17,250
3. Travel	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
4. Equipment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
5. Supplies	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
6. Contractual	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
7. Construction	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
8. Other	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)	\$ 50,301	\$ 16,925	\$ 16,925	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 84,151
10. Indirect Costs	\$ 4,728	\$ 1,591	\$ 1,591	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 7,910
11. Training Stipends	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)	\$ 55,029	\$ 18,516	\$ 18,516	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 92,061

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: John O. Gilbert

Title: Director of Educational Accountability

Date Submitted: 12/03/2009

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 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 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: John O. Gilbert Title: Director of Educational Accountability Applicant: Mississippi Department of Education Date: 12/03/2009	
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

Mississippi Department of Education

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Prefix: First Name: John Middle Name: O

Last Name: Gilbert Suffix:

Title: Director of Educational Accountability

Signature: _____ Date: 12/03/2009

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

1. Project Director:

Prefix:	* First Name:	Middle Name:	* Last Name:	Suffix:
Mr.	John	O	Gilbert	

Address:

* Street1: 359 North West Street
 Street2:
 * City: Jackson
 County: Hinds
 * State: MS* Zip / Postal Code: 39205 * Country: USA

* Phone Number (give area code)	Fax Number (give area code)
(601)359-5540	(601)359-1748

Email Address:

JGILBERT@MDE.K12.MS.US

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: **MS-SLDS Project Abstract** Pages: **1** Uploaded File: **MS-SLDS Project Abstract.pdf**

Project Abstract

Mississippi Integrated Education and Workforce Longitudinal Data System: A Management Tool to Improve Student Achievement and Economic Competitiveness

Since 2004, Mississippi has made considerable progress toward the development and establishment of a statewide integrated education and workforce longitudinal data system. Today, the system relies on strong political leadership, common vision and mission, sustainable partnerships, and inclusive governance and management plan for data sharing. It also relies on a data clearing house containing education and workforce data back to 2001 that is managed by a group with the expertise in data management and analysis, technology, and software development necessary to produce useful, accurate, reliable, and timely information. The data come from systems managed by the Mississippi Department of Education, State Board of Community and Junior Colleges (and its fifteen member institutions), Institutions of Higher Learning (and its eight member institutions), Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Mississippi Department of Human Services, Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services, and Mississippi Department of Corrections. Many education and workforce leaders have recognized the importance and the value of such a system as it has been used to generate information to inform policymakers and stakeholders on student achievement and workforce outcomes.

While the current model has served the state well over the last five years, it is not without limitations in regard to the latest national standards. The system has limited interoperability; that is, data can be made available on request from the data warehouse upon receiving written permission from the owner of the data. Reports can be generated on outcomes with the current system, but they are quite time-consuming. There is no statewide mechanism that facilitates easy, timely, efficient and reliable interoperability between state and local data systems. While each entity has its own internal quality control for data integrity, there is no statewide policy for data quality assurance. Several system partners need infrastructure upgrades for data collection, exchange, and reporting. Some data elements specific to the America COMPETES Act are not readily available in distinct fields despite the availability of the data within the system. Finally, the system lacks the necessary data to link PK with P-20.

With the help of additional funds, the state is committed to completing and institutionalizing a statewide, integrated education and workforce longitudinal data system, as set forth by the RFA. It is the intent of Mississippi to achieve the following outcomes: (1) Include all missing data elements as prescribed by the America COMPETES Act; (2) Create a relational database linking all education (K-20) and workforce data through a unique common identifier that does not permit an individual to be identified by users of the system; (3) Develop an online one-stop portal that will provide access to the relational database and make the system universally interoperable; (4) Develop the hardware and software capacity for building and hosting the relational database and the one-stop portal; (5) Upgrade each partner with the appropriate infrastructure and technology for data collection, storage, and use; (6) Develop and adopt a statewide, comprehensive policy on data quality assurance; (7) Train state and local personnel on data entry and use to facilitate full adoption and effective use of the system; and (8) Include all the necessary data to link PK with K-20.

The State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) will have oversight of data ownership and stewardship over the course of the project. It will also coordinate activities with a project director, two project managers (IT project manager and project system development manager), and a data council. The council will provide subject matter expertise at all levels and appropriate research knowledge.

Project Narrative

Project Narrative - Project Narrative

Attachment 1:

Title: **MS-SLDS Project Narrative** Pages: **30** Uploaded File: **MS-SLDS Project Narrative.pdf**

GRANTS FOR STATEWIDE, LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEMS UNDER THE
AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

CFDA NUMBER: 84.384

**Mississippi Integrated Education and Workforce Longitudinal Data System:
A Management Tool to Improve Student Achievement and Economic Competitiveness**

Project Narrative Summary

Since 2004, Mississippi has made considerable progress toward the development and establishment of a statewide integrated education and workforce longitudinal data system. Today, the system relies on strong political leadership, common vision and mission, sustainable partnerships, and inclusive governance and management plan for data sharing. It also relies on a data clearing house containing education and workforce data back to 2001 that is managed by a group with the expertise in data management and analysis, technology, and software development necessary to produce useful, accurate, reliable, and timely information. The data come from systems managed by the Mississippi Department of Education, State Board of Community and Junior Colleges (and its fifteen member institutions), Institutions of Higher Learning (and its eight member institutions), Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Mississippi Department of Human Services, Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services, and Mississippi Department of Corrections. Many education and workforce leaders have recognized the importance and the value of such a system as it has been used to generate information to inform policymakers and stakeholders on student achievement and workforce outcomes.

While the current model has served the state well over the last five years, it is not without limitations in regard to the latest national standards. The system has limited interoperability; that is, data can be made available on request from the data warehouse upon receiving written permission from the owner of the data. Reports can be generated on outcomes with the current system, but they are quite time-consuming. There is no statewide mechanism that facilitates easy, timely, efficient and reliable interoperability between state and local data systems. While each entity has its own internal quality control for data integrity, there is no statewide policy for data quality assurance. Several system partners need infrastructure upgrades for data collection, exchange, and reporting. Some data elements specific to the America COMPETES Act are not readily available in distinct fields despite the availability of the data within the system. Finally, the system lacks the necessary data to link PK with P-20.

With the help of additional funds, the state is committed to completing and institutionalizing a statewide, integrated education and workforce longitudinal data system, as set forth by the RFA. It is the intent of Mississippi to achieve the following outcomes: (1) Include all missing data elements as prescribed by the America COMPETES Act; (2) Create a relational database linking all education (K-20) and workforce data through a unique common identifier that does not permit an individual to be identified by users of the system; (3) Develop an online one-stop portal that will provide access to the relational database and make the system universally interoperable; (4) Develop the hardware and software capacity for building and hosting the relational database and the one-stop portal; (5) Upgrade each partner with the appropriate infrastructure and technology for data collection, storage, and use; (6) Develop and adopt a statewide, comprehensive policy on data quality assurance; (7) Train state and local personnel on data entry and use to facilitate full adoption and effective use of the system; and (8) Include all the necessary data to link PK with K-20.

The State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) will have oversight of data ownership and stewardship over the course of the project. It will also coordinate activities with a project director, two project managers (IT project manager and project system development manager), and a data council. The council will provide subject matter expertise at all levels and appropriate research knowledge.

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Mississippi Integrated Education and Workforce Longitudinal Data System: A Management Tool to Improve Student Achievement and Economic Competitiveness

A. Need for Project

Introduction

An individual's education level is most often the primary determinant of his or her quality of life. The relatively low level of education in Mississippi is the primary reason for the state's low average income, high rates of obesity, teenage pregnancies, infant mortality, and an array of other problems. We know education is the key to ameliorating many of these problems. Mississippi's education needs are greater and resources are less than in any other state. This dictates that we become more efficient and effective with our limited resources. To be sure, a well-designed, integrated education and workforce longitudinal data system will help Mississippi allocate education and workforce resources in a more efficient and effective way with an eye toward improving educational achievement and economic competitiveness.

In the effort to better serve the needs of the public and to meet state and federal reporting requirements, education and workforce entities, more than ever, have a need for efficiently exchanging information and large amounts of raw data. Integrated information and data is one of the most crucial business functions in and across organizations, for it provides a comprehensive mechanism to track progress of and identify best practices in education and workforce initiatives.

To complete and institutionalize Mississippi's current integrated longitudinal data system along the national standards prescribed by this RFA, the state has a critical need to address two general limitations:

- **Limited Interoperability**
 - Data in the current system are stored in separate files and physical environments.
 - Data and information cannot be easily exchanged across system partners.
 - Data collection and management infrastructure needs to be upgraded for several system partners.

- **Data Gaps in Fields and Quality Assurance**
 - Some data elements specific to the America COMPETES Act are not readily available in distinct fields despite the availability of the data within the system.
 - Lack of data to link PK with P-20
 - A statewide comprehensive standard for data quality has not been developed or adopted.

- Training for data quality assurance is needed across system partners.

Over the course of this project, these two general limitations will be overcome by achieving eight objectives aimed at meeting all the required data elements and establishing efficient and reliable interoperability that will improve the overall utility, accuracy, reliability, and timeliness of the data.

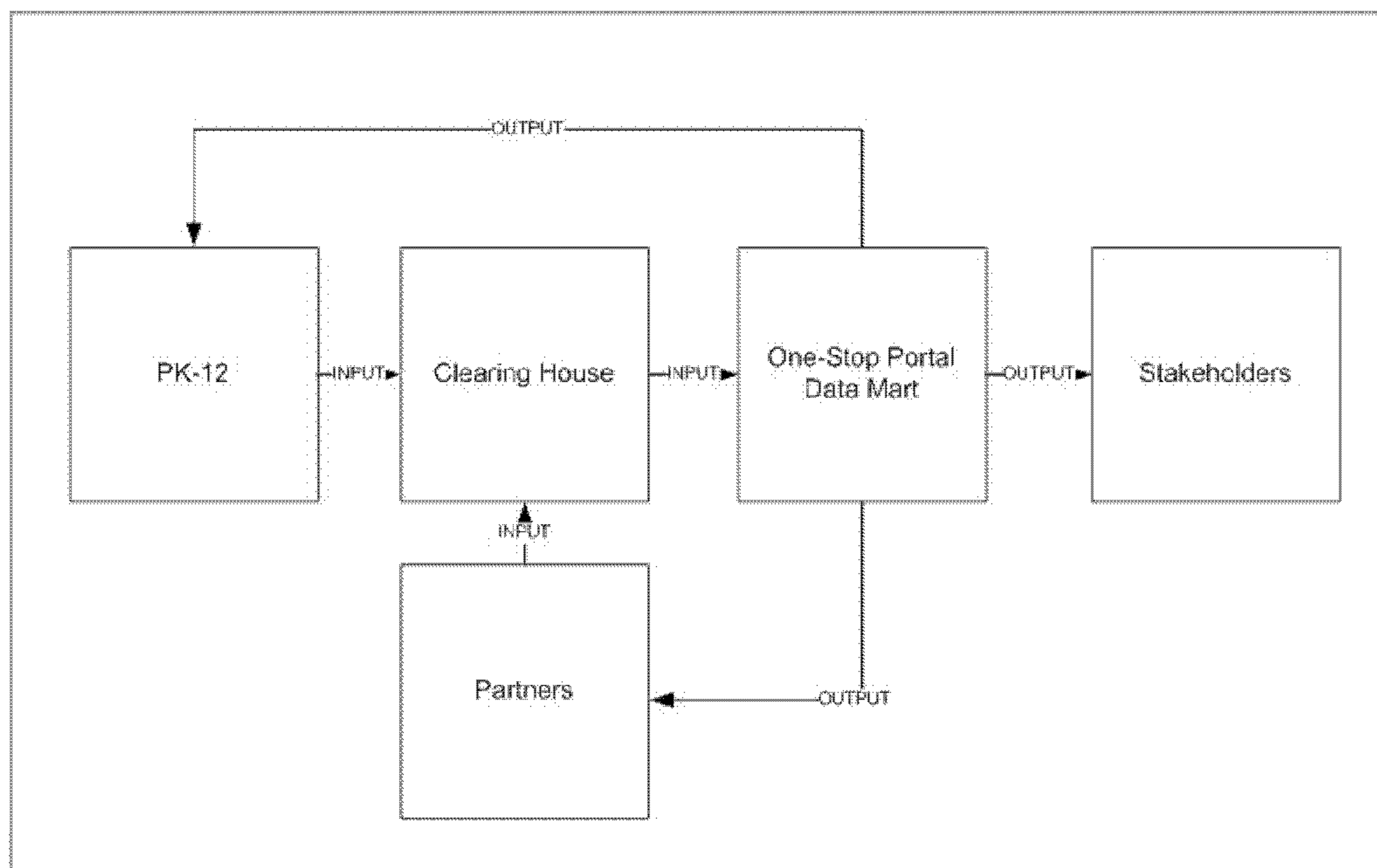
- Include all missing data elements as prescribed by the America COMPETES Act.
- Include all the necessary data to link PK with P-20
- Create a relational database linking all education and workforce data through a unique common identifier that does not permit an individual to be identified by users of the system.
- Develop an online one-stop portal that will provide access to the relational database and make the system universally interoperable.
- Develop the hardware and software capacity for building and hosting the relational database and one-stop portal.
- Upgrade each partner with the appropriate infrastructure and technology for data collection, storage, and use.
- Develop and adopt a statewide, comprehensive policy on data quality assurance.
- Train state and local personnel on data entry and use to facilitate full adoption and effective use of the system.

Mississippi is in an excellent position to complete and institutionalize a statewide, integrated education and workforce longitudinal data system, as set forth by the RFA. The state is committed to accomplishing this and has strong political leadership, a common vision and mission, sustainable partnerships, and an inclusive governance and management plan for data sharing. The state has also developed and implemented a data clearing house containing education and workforce data back to 2001 managed by a group with the expertise in data management and analysis, technology, and software development necessary to produce useful, accurate, reliable, and timely information. Most importantly, in the last few years, many education and workforce leaders have recognized the importance and the value of such a system, as it has been used to generate information to inform policymakers and stakeholders on student achievement and workforce outcomes.

The general blueprint for the system envisioned by Mississippi in this application is illustrated in Figure 1 (see page 3). First, this model illustrates how data from all system partners—education and workforce entities—will be transferred to the clearing house. Data will continue to come to the clearing house from systems managed by the Mississippi Department of Education, State

Board of Community and Junior Colleges (and its fifteen member institutions), Institutions of Higher Learning (and its eight member institutions), Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Mississippi Department of Human Services, Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services, Mississippi Department of Corrections, Mississippi Department of Health, and Mississippi Department of Mental Health. PK-12 data will be augmented with data from all education and workforce entities in the state. Second, in this process, unique individual-level identifiers will be created to replace Social Security Numbers and other personal identifiers. These data will then be inventoried, mapped, and used to create a relational database, which will be updated as new data are made available. Third, a Web-based interface will be developed through which the relational database can be accessed, queried, and analyzed by system partners and other stakeholders. A security protocol based on user permission that will clearly articulate what data will be accessible to which user and for what purposes will be instituted.

Figure 1: Mississippi Model



The full implementation of this model will allow Mississippi to:

- Generate and make available accurate, reliable, and timely data.
- Support informed decision making at all levels of the education and workforce system.
- Increase the efficiency and effectiveness with which data will be analyzed to support the continuous improvement of education and workforce services and outcomes.
- Promote a clear research agenda to examine factors that will help improve student achievement, close achievement gaps, improve quality of instruction, and promote economic competitiveness.
- Support state and federal accountability systems and public reporting.

