Maine
Maine Department of Education
R384A100049

Project Title: *TEAchME - Tools for Educational Achievement in Maine*

The 2007 SLDS grant project TEAchME (Tools for Educational Achievement in Maine) established the core components of the Maine longitudinal data system and was designed to meet or exceed the Data Quality Campaign (DQC) Essential Elements for state longitudinal data systems, enable timely and accurate federal and State reporting, and provide training to stakeholders on collecting and reporting quality data and how to interpret data to make well informed research-based decisions for improving student achievement.

While the 2007 SLDS grant project has provided significant value to the stakeholders in pre-k through 12 education, it does not include linkages to early childhood, postsecondary and workforce data. This inhibits the ability of educators, policy makers and researchers to conduct longitudinal studies and determine the effectiveness of early childhood programs, curriculum, teaching practices and other interventions throughout a person's life that impact education and workforce outcomes. Maine is seeking $9,531,000 in additional funding to expand the core system to include a wider range of longitudinal data including early childhood programs, teacher effectiveness data, adult education and linkages to postsecondary and workforce data. Maine has identified the following four areas and key underlying components:

> 1) Improve Teacher Effectiveness through implementing of a new web-based Educator Credentialing System and a new web-based Teacher Quality Management System.
> 2) Expand the SLDS Education Data Warehouse from a Pre-K through 12 to an Early Childhood through 20 system by Linking to Early Childhood Programs; Linking with Postsecondary Data from the University of Maine System; replacing the existing Adult Education System with a more comprehensive centralized statewide system; and Linking to Department of Labor Data Systems to evaluate the relationships between student employment earnings outcomes and entry into Maine growth industries.
> 3) Deliver Comprehensive Data Use Training Programs by expanding the current SLDS Data Quality Certification Program to a wide range of stakeholders including the general public.
> 4) Partner with the Maine Education Research Policy Institute (MEPRI) to conduct Longitudinal Research Studies utilizing the expanded TEAchME longitudinal data.

The 2009 grant project will be a coordinated effort that will include resources from the Maine Department of Education, the State Office of Information Technology, personnel from other State agencies, research organizations, contracted providers, local school administrative units, and public and private higher education institutions in Maine. Each component will add value to the existing longitudinal data system and address needs identified by stakeholders.

The 2009 grant components will leverage existing TEAchME capabilities including direct linkage to the education data warehouse and decision support business intelligence application and provide Maine with the tools and resources to meet or exceed the 2009 Recovery Act SLDS grant requirements. All new SLDS applications will be accessed through the education portal leveraging the State enterprise security model. Stakeholders will only need to sign-on to the portal to gain access to all the applications based on their roles and permissions.