



**NEBRASKA CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON
CHILDREN, YOUTH, FAMILIES & SCHOOLS**



IES 101

Welcome to IES Grant Essentials 2021!

IES Grant Essentials Sessions

- April 23 — IES 101
- May 21 — Preparing IES Budgets
- June 18 — Tips on Writing Your IES Research Plan
- July 16 — Beyond the Study: Other IES Components

All sessions are Fridays from 9:00-10:00 a.m.



Today

- Overview of IES
- Review competitions (based upon FY2021 RFAs)
- Next Steps and Resources



Tips from a Successful Applicant

Jessica Namkung, Ph.D.

- Assistant Professor, Special Education and Communication Disorders

Currently funded IES research:

- *Exploring Cognitive and Foundational Processes Underlying Pre-algebra among Students with and without Mathematics Learning Difficulties*

IES Overview

- Statistics, research, and evaluation arm of the US Department of Education
- Primary centers funding research NCER and NCSE
- “We fund development and rigorous testing of new approaches for improving education outcomes for all students.”
- 3 Questions:
 - What works to improve student education outcomes?
 - What doesn’t work?
 - How do interventions improve education outcomes – including for whom do they work and under what conditions?



FY2021 Competitions (RFAs released in 2020)

Primary Grant Programs

- 84.305A Education Research Grants
- 84.324A Special Education Research Grants

Apply to a Research Topic and a Project Type

- Topic: field you will be working in
- Project Type: type of work you will be doing



Award Parameters (based on FY21 RFA)

Project Type	Key Activities	Maximum Duration	Maximum Award (direct + indirect)
Measurement	Development and/or validate a measure (or measures)	4 years	\$2,000,000
Exploration	Assess relationships to education outcomes	4 years	\$1,700,000
Development & Innovation	Iteratively develop and pilot test an intervention	4 years	\$2,000,000
Initial Efficacy	Evaluate the initial efficacy, implementation, and cost of an intervention	5 years	\$3,800,000
Follow-Up	Evaluate the longer-term impact of an initially-effective intervention	3 years	\$1,500,000



Research Grants: Topic Structure (from FY21 RFA)

Education Research Grant	Special Education Research Grant
Cognition and Student Learning	Cognition and Student Learning
Early Learning Programs and Policies	Early Intervention and Early Learning
Effective Instruction	Educators and School-Based Service Providers
Literacy	Reading, Writing, and Language
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Ed	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
Social and Behavioral Context for Academic Learning	Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Competence
Improving Education Systems	Systems, Policy, and Finance
Career and Technical Education	Families of Children with Disabilities
Civics Education and Social Studies	Transition to Postsecondary Education, Career, and/or Independent Living
English Learners	
Postsecondary and Adult Education	



FY2021 Competitions (RFAs released in 2020)

NCER	NCSEER
Education Research Grants (84.305A)	Special Education Research Grants (84.324A)
Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences (84.305B)	Research Training Programs in Special Education (84.324B)
Education Research and Development Centers (84.305C)	Research using NAEP Process Data for Learners with Disabilities (84.324P)
Statistical and Research Methodology (84.305D)	Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication in Special Education (84.324R)
Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication (84.305R)	-
Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Education Policymaking (84.305S)	-

New RFAs
Expected in
May



Systematic Replication

Systematic Replication (NCER/NCSE)

Type of Replication	Maximum Duration	Maximum Award (direct + indirect)
Efficacy	5 years	\$4,000,000
Effectiveness	5 years	\$4,500,000

Training, Methodology, and Center Grants (from FY21 RFAs)

Research Training in Education Services (NCER)

- Methods Training (3 years, \$800,000)

Research Training in Special Education (NCSE)

- Early Career Development and Mentoring (4 years, \$700,000)
- Methods Training (3 years, \$800,000)

Statistical and Research Methodology

- Regular Grants (3 years, \$900,000)
- Early Career Grants (2 years, \$225,000)

Research and Development Centers (5 years, \$10,000,000)

- Variable topics



Peer Review

- Applications are reviewed for compliance and responsiveness to the RFA
- Applications that are compliant and responsive are assigned to a review panel
- 2-3 panel members conduct a primary review of each application
- Applications are rank ordered according to average overall score
- The most competitive applications are reviewed and scored by the full panel
- IES seeks to fund all applications scored as Outstanding or Excellent



Next Steps

CYFS Research Support



Now

- Contact CYFS for help (for UNL faculty)
- Review IES website for general information on proposal requirements, structure, etc. IES website: <https://ies.ed.gov/>
- Look at abstracts of projects funded under a research topic or program
- Expect RFAs in late May with August deadlines
- Plan your summer grant writing; create a plan

Soon Thereafter

- Strategize concept and questions for program officer
- Develop a concept paper or aims page
- Contact a program officer



Resources

- IES Newsflash (<https://ies.ed.gov/newsflash/#ies>).
- IES on-demand webinars
<https://ies.ed.gov/funding/webinars/index.asp>
- Standards for Excellence in Education Research (SEER) Research (SEER; <https://ies.ed.gov/seer/>)
- [Common Guidelines](#) for Education Research and Development

Thank you!

