Grant Title: HEAD START GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

Funding Opportunity Number: HHS-2014-ACF-OPRE-YR-0785. CFDA Number(s): 93.600.

Agency/Department: Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

Area of Research: Support dissertation research by advanced graduate students who are working in partnership with Head Start and Early Head Start programs and faculty mentors.

Release and Expiration: 04/14/2014

Application Deadline: Letters of intent are due May 15, 2014 and applications are due June 16, 2014. FY 2015: 4/27/2015. FY 2016: 4/25/2016. For Fiscal Years (FY) 2015 and 2016, the FOA will only be open for application submissions on Grants.gov 60 days prior to the listed due dates. No applications will be accepted for review by Grants.gov in between the open application periods.

Amount: Applicants may apply for project periods up to 24 months with two 12-month budget periods. Up to $25,000 may be awarded for each budget period.

Length of Support: Applicants may apply for project periods up to 24 months with two 12-month budget periods.

Eligible Applicants: Public and State controlled institutions of higher education. All eligible applicants must have a faculty mentor, who has a Ph.D. or equivalent in the respective field, and conducts research as a primary professional responsibility in their university/institution. Eligible U.S. institutions may apply on behalf of their own university faculty who will serve as Principal Investigator for an international non-U.S. citizen who is an advanced graduate student enrolled in their program.

Summary: The Head Start Graduate Student Research grant program is designed to build research capacity in and knowledge of effective early childhood interventions with low-income children and families. The grant program does this by providing support for dissertation research conducted by graduate students working in partnership with local Head Start or Early Head Start programs. Many former grantees have become leading researchers who continue to conduct research that informs and improves Head Start/Early Head Start, other early childhood intervention practices, and our understanding of low-income populations. The immediate goals of the grant program are to: (1) support the completion of high quality research projects directed at the current concerns of Head Start and Early Head Start programs and policy makers; (2) encourage research with Head Start and Early Head Start populations; (3) promote mentor-student relationships that provide project supervision in the field and support students' professional development; (4) emphasize the importance of developing working research partnerships with Head Start and Early Head Start programs, thereby increasing the effectiveness of the applied research work; and (5) support active communication, networking and collaboration among the group of grantee graduate students, their mentors and other prominent researchers in the field. This research contributes to the knowledge base about the best approaches for delivering services to low-income families and their children. The Head Start population offers a unique opportunity conducting for research that promotes understanding of how to effectively tailor services and interventions for children and families with different characteristics and needs. The grant program also emphasizes the importance of developing true working partnerships with Head Start and Early Head Start programs and other relevant entities within the community, which benefit both the researchers and the programs. Learning how to develop successful researcher-program partnerships under the guidance of experienced mentors strengthens the graduate student grantees' current and future capacity to conduct research relevant to practice and policy.

Detailed Information:
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/research/project/head-start-graduate-student-research-program-0