



TENNESSEE BOARD OF REGENTS

Student Engagement, Retention and Success Grants

6th Biennial Diversity Conference
September 2016

SERS Grants – PURPOSE (1)

To support new and existing institutional programs that serve:

Underrepresented
Minorities

Non-traditional
Students

Economically
Disadvantaged
Individuals

Individuals with
disabilities

Other Specifically Targeted
Groups



SERS Grants – PURPOSE (2)

2. Significantly increase and/or impact educational or diversity initiatives focused on student success.



SERS Grants – PURPOSE (3)

- . Produce outcomes that correspond to the goals of the:

Drive to 55

TN Promise

Achievement GAP
Closure Initiatives

Complete College TN Act
2010

2015-2025 Strategic Plan



SERS Grants – FOCUS

Achievement of measurable improvements in the engagement, retention, and success of identified categories of students.



Pilot Programs (new programs) \$15,000 maximum



Program Enhancement (existing programs) \$25,000 maximum



High Impact Practice*



High Impact Practices*

- Service Learning
- Study Abroad
- Work-based Learning
- Undergraduate Research
- Learning Communities
- Badging/Certifications



Grant Timeline

September

Request for Applications Released

December - January

TBR Legal Review Submission deadline (if needed)*

February

Application Submissions Due to TBR Central Office

March - April

Grant awards are made

July 1,

Grant Program Period Begins

June 30

Grant Period Ends (single year grants)

August 31

Final Reports Due



Legal Review*

- Race or gender specific
- Race or gender considered when determining eligibility for participation



Minimum Requirements

- Answer all questions in the proposal narrative questionnaire.
- Follow directions
- Provide all required signatures (at institution level and with any collaborators)
- Meet the application deadline.



What do we look for?

Proposals should clearly state the following:

- What are you trying to do? **Problem**
- How are you trying to do it? **Outcome**
- How will you know you have succeeded?
Use of Data (current and projected)
- What will you do if you get off course?
Monitoring and Assessment



What do we look for?

Ineligible Components

- Purchase of equipment
- Speaker fees
- Funding new employees
- Scholarship and tuition costs



DO!

- 1) Be as narrowly focused as possible on a specific problem related to student success
- 2) Identify which students will be targeted and how targeting this group aligns with overarching **diversity/student success goals**;
- 3) Give current data regarding this group of students;
- 4) Describe how the program/intervention will have a positive impact on this group;
- 5) project (with data) what the expected outcome will be;



Don't

- 1) Propose programs that target all students in a particular program or major
- 2) Generalize the details of the program
- 3) Rely solely on anecdotal information;
- 4) Fluff the proposal to spend up to the limit
- 5) Be afraid to try something new and different;



QUESTIONS???



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