RURAL EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM
REAP 2015-2016

Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP)

- The Rural Education Achievement Program provides flexibility and resources to help rural schools and districts use federal grant resources more effectively.

- There are two REAP Initiatives :

  Small, Rural School Achievement Program

  Rural and Low-Income School Program

SRSA Program

Two Components:

- REAP-Flex Program

- SRSA Grant Program

REAP-Flex

- Alternative uses of funding under SRSA program

- Applicable funding for which an eligible LEA may exercise REAP-Flex includes all funds under the following programs:

- Title II, Part A, Title II, Part D, Title IV, Safe and Drug-free Schools and Communities Grant, and Title V, Part A (Innovative Programs)

Use of Funds

Activities authorized under the following provisions:

- Title I , Part A (Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged)
- Title II, Part A (Teacher Quality and Principal Leadership)
- Title II, Part D (Educational Technology State Grants)
- Title III (Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students)
- Title IV, Parts A (Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities)
- Title IV, Part B (21st Century Community Learning Centers))
- Title V, Part A (State Grants for Innovative Programs)

SRSA Grant Program

- US Department of Education awards SRSA funds directly to eligible LEAs on a formula basis.

- LEAs eligible to participate in REAP-Flex also eligible for a grant under the SRSA grant program.

Basics of SRSA Eligibility

- To be eligible for an SRSA Grant and to make use of REAP-Flex authority, a LEA must be both "small" and "rural"

- To be SMALL, an LEA must:
- Have an average daily attendance (ADA) of less than 600 students, or
- Serve only schools that are located in counties that have a population density of fewer than 10 persons per square mile;
- To be RURAL, an LEA must;
- Serve only Schools that have an National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) school locale code of 7 or 8, or
- Be located in an area of the state defined as rural by a governmental agency of the state.

Locale Code

- What is the definition of locale codes 7 & 8? Schools receive locale code of "7" if according to the US Census Bureau it is located in a place that is outside the metropolitan statistical area (MSA) and has fewer than 2,500 persons.

- A locale code of "8" indicates a school is located inside an MSA with a population fewer than 2,500 persons.

FY 2015 SRSA Application Process

- Who can apply for SRSA?

- Only eligible LEAs who have never applied need to submit an SRSA grant application for FY 2015.

- ED anticipates that the SRSA e-Application will be open in G5 by late April, 2015.

- The closing date for SRSA applications is June 30, 2015.

- Applications received after June 30th will only be considered for an award if funds are available.

What is RLIS?

What is RLIS?

The RLIS Program authorizes formula grant awards to states, which in turn make sub grants to eligible rural LEAs.

North Carolina is one of the leading states for rural districts.

Basics of RLIS Eligibility

- An LEA is eligible for an allocation under the Rural Low Income School (RLIS) program if:

- 20% or more of the children age 5 to 17 served by the LEA are from families with incomes below the poverty line; and

- All schools served by the LEA have a school locale code of 6, 7, or 8 (assigned by the U.S Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics)

- The LEA is NOT eligible to participate in the SRSA program.

Use of Funds

- Recipients may use program funds to conduct the following activities:
- Teacher recruitment and retention;
- Teacher professional development;
- Support for educational technology, including software and hardware, that meets the requirements of the Enhancing Education Through Technology program;
- Parental involvement activities;
- Activities authorized under the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities: State Grants program;
- Activities authorized under Improving Basic Programs; or
- Activities authorized under Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students.

LEA/Charter Responsibility

- Supplement, not supplant
- Use resources effectively to improve quality of instruction & student achievement
- Keep accurate records required for fiscal audit and program evaluation
- Repayment of RLIS funds in the event of audit exception

Changes in Eligibility for SRSA & RLIS

SRSA	RLIS
• Missing rural definition • Locale Code Changes • ADA Changes • Population Density	• Poverty changes • Locale Code Changes • ADA Changes • Changes to SRSA

Questionable Values- Average Daily Attendance
Allocations (Title Programs)

FY 2015 REAP Grant Process Timeline

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February

- "Kickoff" Webinar with States (Feb 24, 25, and 26)
- REAP Team prepares spreadsheets for posting in Max.gov (beginning Feb 27)

March/April/May

- Data Quality review-ED cleans, formats spreadsheets
- Formatted spreadsheets available (along with DAR forms) in Max.gov to States for review
- States approve DARs and spreadsheets in Max.gov; approved spreadsheets are then posted on REAP website (target posting deadline: March 30)
- Federal Register Notice Inviting SRSA Applications published (March 26)
- SRSA application opened in G5 (March 30)
- Outreach to SRSA-eligible LEAs needing to apply (beginning Mar 30)
- Requested locale code tests are performed (April through June)
- Corrections to eligibility spreadsheets added (April through June)

June

- SRSA application closes on June 30th (4:30pm Washington D.C. time)

July

- Determine grant allocations

August

- Award SRSA and RLIS Grants
- NCCCIP Application due August 30th
- Obligate SRSA and RLIS Funds

NC REAP Funds

RLIS Funds

- FY 2014- $6,156,231.00
- FY 2015- Undetermined
- FY 2014- 56 schools
- FY 2015- 55 Schools

SRSA Funds

- FY 2014- $620,241.00
- FY 2015- $Undetermined
- FY 2014- 26 Schools
- FY 2015- 31 Schools

Questions

Resources

Rural Education Achievement Program
http://www2.ed.gov/nclb/freedom/local/reap.html

2015 REAP Eligibility Lists
http://www2.ed.gov/programs/reapsrsa/eligible15/index.html

Small, Rural Schools Achievement
http://www2.ed.gov/programs/reapsrsa/awards.html

Federal Program Monitoring and Support
http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/program-monitoring/reap/

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Federal Program Monitoring and Support

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