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BEST Act 230 Innovation Grant Instructions FY17

This document contains specific instructions on how to apply for the Innovation Grant. For general instructions on how to navigate in Grantium, please refer to the "[Grantium Applicant User Guide](#)" available via link on Front Office portal. *This application **must** be submitted on or before October 15, 2016.*

Program Narrative Page

Supervisory Unions may apply for an Innovation Grant for the 2016-2017 SY with BEST/Act 230 funds. The intent of this grant is to allow supervisory unions and schools to research and implement innovative systemic changes leading to improved student outcomes. Grant requests must be related to the Education Quality Standards (EQS), such as school climate, proficiency based learning, personalized learning plans (PLPs), alignment of PLPs and IEPs, multi-tiered systems of support, etc. Applicants may apply for an Innovation Grant of up to \$20,000. Grant applications will be reviewed by Agency of Education reviewers and any award amount will be determined by the reviewers. The grant may be approved in full, in part, or not approved.

Secretary Holcombe has designated implementation of evidence-based practices that support positive school climate, student proficiency, and personalization within a tiered system of academic and behavioral supports to assist all students in working toward attainment of the standards as the priority area for use of FY 17 Act 230 funds. BEST Funds are intended for training and professional learning to support students with emotional and behavioral needs.

When applying for the Innovation Grant, respond to the questions 1 - 4 on the Program Narrative page. Within your responses for questions include specifics on data, area of need determined by your Leadership Team, evidence to support the proposed practices, the relationship of the innovation to EQS, and professional learning with planned on-going support for sustainability.

1. Provide a summary of the innovation that you are proposing. Include information on the evidence base that supports this innovation.
2. What current organizational supports would contribute to the success of the proposed innovation?
3. What are the intended outcomes of this innovation on what and how students learn and how you will assess their progress?

4. What data have you collected that validates this innovation grant request and expected outcomes?

Program Activities and Budget Page

Enter the following in the budget activities entered:

1. Source: Keep the default setting of BEST in this field. Agency of Education reviewers will assign the source on review based on the appropriate funding source.
2. Area: Select the correct drop down for your Innovation Grant budget activity:
 - Professional Learning Activity
 - Other - Include specific activity in the *Description field
3. Amount Requested: List the total amount of funding you are requesting. The budget should reflect a clear relationship between the activity and amount requested. Note that the maximum amount for this Innovation Grant per supervisory union/district is \$20,000.00.
4. Description: For this Innovation Grant, identify the professional learning activities needed to research and implement innovative systemic changes, the number of participants, and list specific and itemized items in the budget (e.g. registration, trainer fee, training materials, mileage, meals, lodging, etc.).

(Example: PBIS Regional Conference - 2 participants x \$550 = \$1100,
Lodging 3 nights x \$145 = \$435, Mileage 100 miles x \$0.54= \$54,
Meals 2 x \$13 = \$26; Total \$1659)
5. Other Funds Amount: List the applicant contribution matching of at least 50%. This could include in-kind contributions such as staff time, stipends and substitute costs. This does not need to be entered for each activity, but total Other Funds should be at least 50% of the amount requested.
6. Other Funds Description: Note the source of other funds. This is required entry if Other Funds Amount > 0.