
Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences (IES) Funding Opportunities



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Director of Research Advancement
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Introductions

- Office of Federal and Washington Relations – new team and growing resource in DC
 - Laura McAleer and Jill Pentimonti
 - Our Goal: Support with federally funded research across agencies
 - Help to identify new funding opportunities
 - Outreach with agencies
 - Help to shape proposals
 - Connect the scholarly work on campus to DC
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Webinar Agenda

- Institute of Education Sciences (IES) overview
 - **Primary Grant Program Types**
 - Additional Grant Programs
 - Application and Review Process
 - Proposal Support Resources
 - Questions/Answers
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IES Overview



Institute of Education Sciences (IES)



Charged with providing rigorous evidence to inform education practice and policy, and sharing this information with educators, parents, policymakers, researchers, and the public



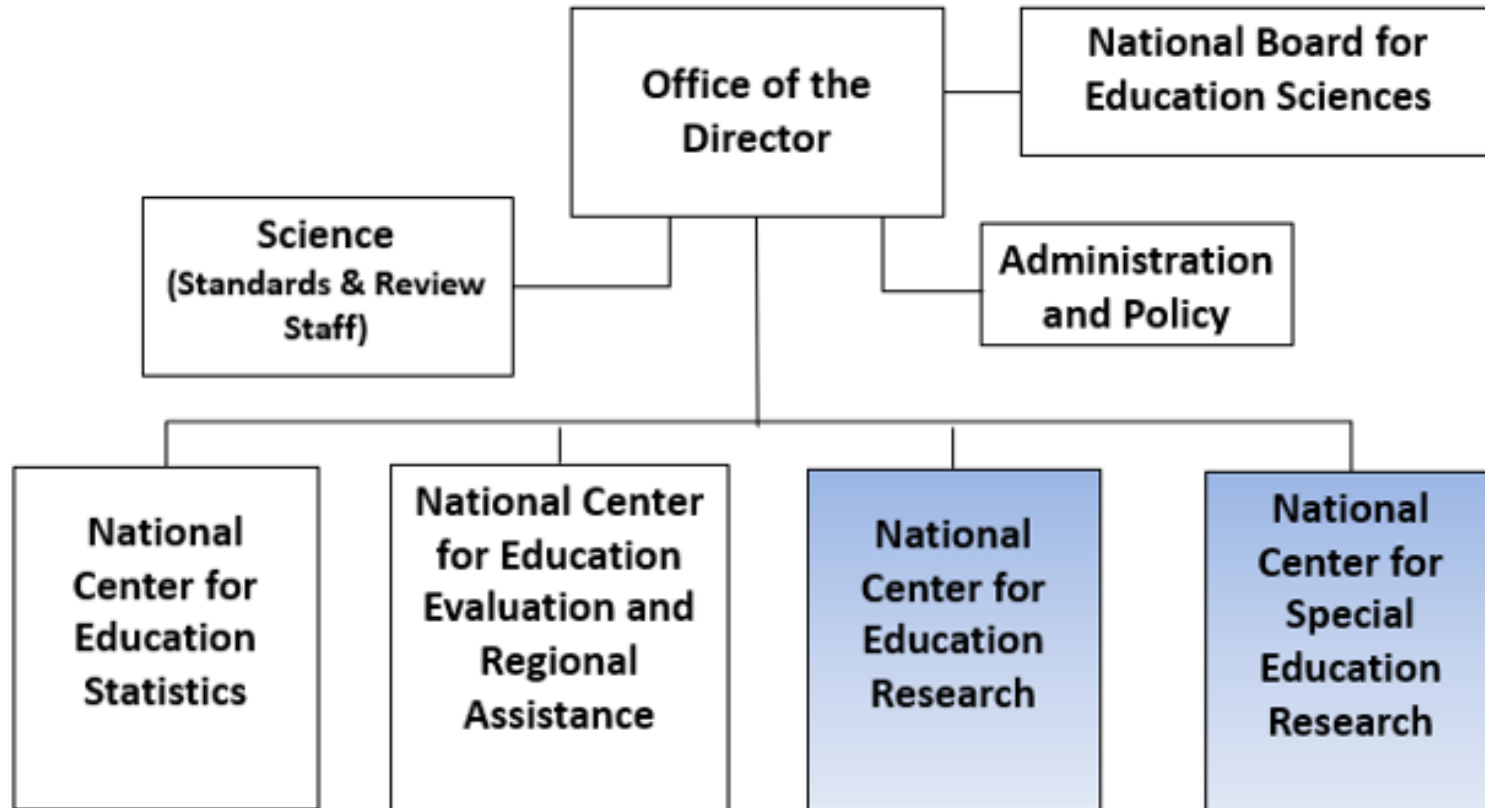
IES Funding Goals

- IES intends to provide national leadership in expanding knowledge and understanding of:
 - Developmental and school readiness outcomes for infants/toddlers with or at risk for a disability
 - Education outcomes for all learners from early childhood education through postsecondary and adult education
 - Employment and wage outcomes when relevant (such as for those engaged in career and technical, postsecondary, or adult education)

IES vs. Other Agencies

	Institute of Education Sciences (IES)	National Science Foundation (NSF)	National Institutes of Health (NIH)
Information about grants found in:	Requests for Applications (RFAs)	RFPs, Dear Colleague Letters	Parent Announcements
Who manages the peer review process?	Standards & Review Office	Program Officers	Center for Scientific Review
Advice provided by program officer	Yes	Some	Some
How competitive?	Very	Very	Very

IES Organizational Overview



FY 2021 IES Research Grant Programs



National Center for Ed Research (NCER)	National Center for Special Ed Research (NCSER)
Education Research Grants	Special Education Research Grants
Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication	Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication in Special Education
Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences	Research Training Programs in Special Education
Education Research and Development Centers	Research Grants Focused on NAEP Process Data for Learners with Disabilities
Statistical and Research Methodology in Education*	
Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Education Policymaking*	

2021 Research Grant Programs: Due date **August 20, 2020**

*Application package and RFA's available; due date **July 30, 2020**

IES Primary Grant Program Types

FY 2021 IES Research Grant Programs



NCER	NCSER
Education Research Grants	Special Education Research Grants
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Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Education Policymaking	

Research **Topic** Areas: NCER

National Center on Education Research

Career and Technical Education

Cognition and Student Learning

Early Learning Programs and Policies

Effective Instruction

English Learners

Improving Education Systems

Postsecondary and Adult Education

Literacy

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education (STEM)

Social and Behavioral Context for Academic Learning

Civics Education and Social Studies

Research **Topic** Areas: NCSEER

National Center for Special Education Research

Early Intervention and Early Learning

Educators and School-Based Service Providers

Families of Children with Disabilities

Reading, Writing, and Language

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education (STEM)

Social, Emotional and Behavioral Competence

Systems, Policy and Finance

Transition to Postsecondary Education, Career and/or Independent Living

Cognition and Student Learning

Finding More Information on Topics

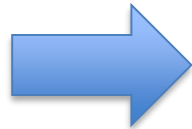
- NCER: https://ies.ed.gov/funding/ncer_progs.asp
- NCSEER: https://ies.ed.gov/funding/ncser_progs.asp

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

➔ Education Research Grants Programs

The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) has established 14 pr Each of these topics typically accepts applications once per yea [website](#). Topics being competed are included under one Educat description of the topic.

- 📌 [Career and Technical Education](#)
- 📌 [Civics Education and Social Studies](#)
- 📌 [Cognition and Student Learning](#)
- 📌 [Early Learning Programs and Policies](#)
- 📌 [Education Leadership](#) (Not being competed in FY2021)
- 📌 [Education Technology](#) (Not being competed in FY2021)
- 📌 [Effective Instruction](#)



Career and Technical Education

Grantees

Choose ▼

- OR -

Investigator

Choose ▼

- OR -

Goals

Choose ▼

- OR -

FY Awards

Choose ▼

- OR -

[View more on this topic](#)

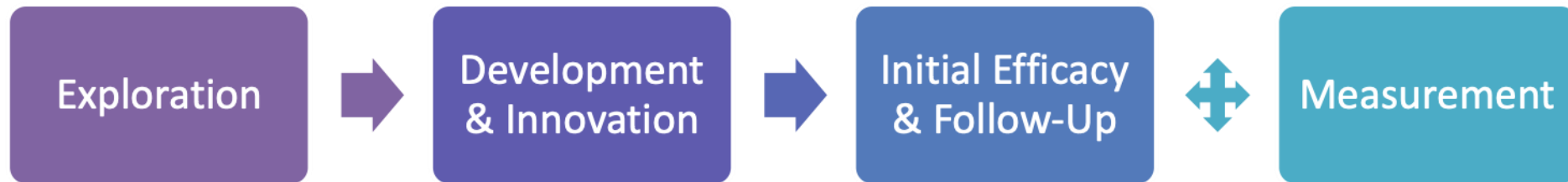
CONTACT:

Dr. Corinne Alfeld
(202) 245-8203
Corinne.Alfeld@ed.gov

DESCRIPTION:

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) topic supports research to understand the implementation and effects of CTE programs and policies on the education and career outcomes of students. Formerly called vocational education, CTE comprises training in the academic, technical, and employability skills and knowledge required to enter into and succeed in careers. The long-term outcome of this research will be an array of tools and strategies (e.g., curricula, assessments), as well as programs (e.g. career academies, career pathways) and policies (e.g., academic credit for CTE coursework; CTE certificates or endorsements at high school graduation) that are documented to be effective for improving learning, and academic and technical attainment in CTE.

Research Grant Program Types



Note: Applications for **replication** studies are competed under a separate program

Research Award Parameters (FY 2020)

Project Type	Type of Project	Maximum Duration	Maximum Award (direct + indirect)
Exploration	Secondary data analysis	2 years	\$600,000
Exploration	Primary data collection	4 years	\$1,400,000
Development & Innovation		4 years	\$1,400,000
Initial Efficacy & Follow-Up	Initial Efficacy, Primary Data Collection	5 years	\$3,300,000
Initial Efficacy & Follow-Up	Initial Efficacy, Secondary Data Analysis	3 years	\$1,100,000
Initial Efficacy & Follow-Up	Follow-up	3 years	\$1,100,000
Measurement		4 years	\$1,400,000

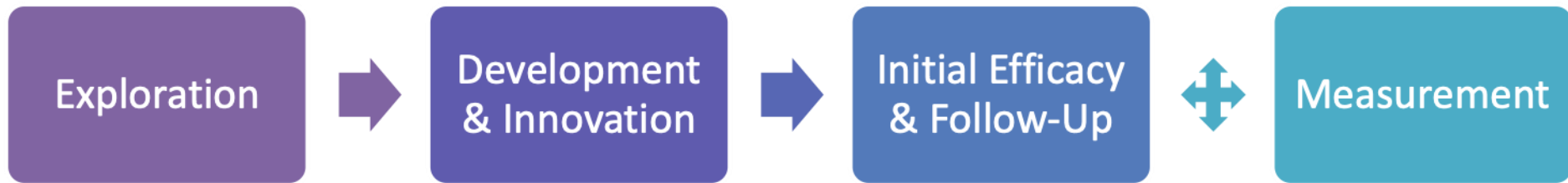
Commonalities Across All Program Types



- RFA includes requirements AND recommendations for strong applications for each type
 - Important to address both requirements and recommendations
- The application for each type must include:
 - **Significance**
 - **Research Plan**
 - Sample, Design/Methods, Analysis Plan
 - Cost Analysis*
 - Dissemination Plan
 - **Personnel**
 - **Resources**

*Exploration Grants do not require a cost analysis section

Research Grant Program Types



Note: Applications for **replication** studies are competed under a separate program

Exploration: The Basics

- Identify relationships between individual-, educator-, school-, and policy-level characteristics and education outcomes
 - Identify factors that may influence or guide those relationships
 - Possible methodological approaches include:
 - Analyze secondary data
 - Collect primary data
 - Complete a meta-analysis
 - Combination of above
-

Exploration: Tips & Tricks

- Significance:
 - Clearly describe the factors you plan to study and association with learner outcomes
 - Identify characteristics that mediate and moderate relationships between factors of interest and learner outcomes (graphics are great!)
 - Research Plan:
 - Specify research questions and tie back to the significance section
 - Describe your proposed sample clearly
 - Include a detailed timeline
-

- Develop an innovative intervention (e.g., curriculum, instructional approach, program, or policy) **OR** improve existing education interventions
 - **AND** collect data on its feasibility, usability, and fidelity of implementation in actual education settings
 - **AND** collect pilot data on promise
-

- Significance:
 - Establish why this new intervention is unique
 - Lay out a clear theory of change (include a graphic)
- Research Plan:
 - Describe: the iterative development process, plans for measuring feasibility of implementation, and plans for implementing a pilot study (include a timeline)
 - Explain how quantitative and qualitative analyses will inform one another



Initial Efficacy & Follow-up: The Basics

- Evaluate whether or not a fully developed intervention is efficacious under limited or ideal conditions
 - Gather follow-up data examining the longer term effects of an efficacious intervention
-

Initial Efficacy: Tips & Tricks

- Significance:
 - Identify research components and any supporting materials to support implementation
 - Establish initial evidence-base and/or wide use of the intervention
 - Research Plan:
 - Include thorough descriptions of: sample/setting AND research design (to include monitoring of fidelity)
 - Randomized Control Trials encouraged; quasi-experimental designs (regression discontinuity) can be used
 - Explain how design meets What Works Clearinghouse criteria <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/handbooks>
-

Measurement: The Basics

- Development of new assessments or refinement of existing assessments, and the validation of these assessments

OR

- Validation of existing assessments for specific purposes, contexts and populations
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Measurement: Tips & Tricks

- Significance:
 - Describe the specific need, potential market and potential commercialization of the new assessment
 - Identify implications for researchers, policymakers and practitioners
 - Address how this measure is unique
 - Research Plan:
 - Describe the iterative development process AND validation activities
-

Commonalities Across All Program Types



- The application for each type must include:
 - **Significance**
 - **Research Plan**
 - Sample, Design/Methods, Analysis Plan
 - **Cost Analysis***
 - **Dissemination Plan**
 - **Personnel**
 - **Resources**

*Exploration Grants do not require a cost analysis section

Cost Analysis: Tips & Tricks

- Growing emphasis from IES on cost analysis because this information can help schools/districts:
 - Determine level of resources needed to implement an intervention
 - Understand whether an intervention is financially feasible
 - IES training resources available:
 - Cost Analysis Took Kit
 - https://ies.ed.gov/seer/pdf/IES_Cost_Analysis_Starter_Kit_V1.pdf
-

Dissemination Plan: Tips & Tricks

- Ensure dissemination plans are tailored to the audiences that will benefit from your project's findings
 - Discuss different methods for reaching these audiences – include methods beyond publications in peer-reviewed journals
 - If applicable – mention pre-registering the study (Registry of Effectiveness and Efficacy Studies – REES; <https://sreereg.icpsr.umich.edu/sreereg/>)
-

Personnel: Tips & Tricks

- Briefly describe expertise of key personnel – with emphasis on relevant work to grant focus
 - Address key personnel’s qualifications to carry out proposed work
 - Identify key personnel responsible for cost analysis
-

Resources: Tips & Tricks

- Describe institution's capacity manage a grant of this size – to include description of resources
 - Describe access to data and settings/participants
 - Include Letters of Agreement in the Appendix
 - Ensure sample sized proposed in the study seem feasible and match what is identified in the letters of support
-

General Tips Across Project Types

- Read the RFA closely and address requirements and recommendations
 - Keep to the recommended length of 25 pages
 - Do not hide critical pieces in the appendices
 - Demonstrate strong partnerships with educational entities
 - Ensure research questions, measures and analyses are well aligned
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Additional Grant Programs

FY 2021 IES Research Grant Programs



NCER	NCSER
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Systematic Replication

- Goal: To systematically replicate interventions that have produced beneficial effects on educational outcomes
 - IES will support *Efficacy Replications* and *Effectiveness Replications*
 - Efficacy: provide more support than is typically provided under routine conditions (may or may not include an independent evaluator)
 - Effectiveness: independent evaluation of the intervention under routine conditions
-

Systematic Replication: Tips and Tricks

- Systematically vary at least one aspect of the prior impact study
 - Investigate factors that may lead to and sustain successful implementation
 - Keep in mind the overall goal – to understand **what is likely to work for whom and under what conditions**
-

Replication Award Parameters (FY 2020)



Type of Replication	Maximum Duration	Maximum Award
Efficacy	5 years	\$3,500,000
Effectiveness	5 years	\$4,000,000

Research Training Grant Programs



- **NCER:** Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences
 - Postdoctoral Research Training in the Education Sciences
 - Methods Training Program for Education Researchers
 - **NCSEER:** Research Training Programs in Special Education
 - Early Career Development and Mentoring
 - Methods Training Program for Special Education Research
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Methods Trainings: Examples

- Quasi-Experimental Design and Analysis
 - SMART (Sequential Multiple Assignment Randomized Trial) Design
 - Cluster-randomized Trials
 - Single-case Intervention Research Design
 - <https://ies.ed.gov/whatsnew/conferences/>
-

Training Award Parameters (FY 2020)



Training Program	Maximum Duration	Maximum Award
Postdoctoral Training	5 years	\$766,000
Early Career	4 years	\$500,000
Methods Training	3 years	\$800,000

Research & Development Centers

- Goal: To examine instructional innovations for improving postsecondary student learning outcomes
- Centers engage in a program of research around a topic area - research, development, evaluation, and national leadership activities

NCER Center	Maximum Duration	Maximum Award
Improving Teaching & Learning in Postsecondary Institutions	5 years	\$5 - \$10M

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Focus



- Goal: To conduct research using the restricted-use data, including the NAEP process data, from the 2017 eighth-grade NAEP mathematics assessment, to examine outcomes for students with disabilities

NCSER NAEP Grant	Maximum Duration	Maximum Award
Research Grants Focused on NAEP Process Data for Learners with Disabilities	2.5 years	\$250 – 720,000

- Goal: To develop new methodological approaches, to extend and improve existing methods, and to create other tools that can enhance the ability of researchers to conduct high quality, scientific education research

Stats/Research Grant (NCER)	Maximum Duration	Maximum Award
Regular	3 years	\$900,000
Early Career	2 years	\$225,000

Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Educational Policymaking

- Goal: To expand state education agencies' use of their state longitudinal data systems (SLDS) to provide evidence for use when making policy decision

NCER State Grant	Maximum Duration	Maximum Award
Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Educational Policymaking	3 years	\$1M

Application and Review Process

Identifying Opportunities

- Sign up for the [IES Newsflash](#)
- Look at abstracts of projects funded under a research topic or program
 - [NCER Projects](#)
 - [NCSEER Projects](#)



Education Research and Methods



Research Training in the Education Sciences



Small Business Innovation Research



Collaborations Between Researchers and Practitioners




National Research and Development Centers



Research Networks

Identifying Opportunities

- Find the active funding opportunities page of the [IES website](#) to find Request for Applications



The screenshot shows the IES website header and a navigation menu. The header includes the IES logo, the text "Institute of Education Sciences", and a "MENU" button. The navigation menu is a vertical list of links: "Featured", "Publications & Products Search", "For Researchers", "Funding Opportunities", "News & Events", and "About Us". A blue arrow points to the "Funding Opportunities" link.

Featured	Featured
Publications & Products Search	ERIC - Education Resources Information Center
For Researchers	Nation's Report Card
Funding Opportunities	Regional Educational Laboratory Program
News & Events	Small Business Innovation Research
About Us	What Works Clearinghouse
	College Navigator

FY 2021 FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING (ROLLING)

[Important Dates and Deadlines](#)

[Federal Register Notice](#) – May 4, 2020

Education Research and Training ([Federal Register Notice](#) – March 25, 2020)

FY 2021 RFAs will be posted on a rolling basis.

- [Education Research \(84.305A\)](#)
- [Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences \(84.305B\)](#)
- [Education Research and Development Centers \(84.305C\)](#)
- [Statistical and Research Methodology in Education \(84.305D\)](#)
- [Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication \(84.305R\)](#)
- [Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Education Policymaking \(84.305S\)](#)

Special Education Research and Training

FY 2021 RFAs will be posted on a rolling basis.

Request for Applications

- Each Request for Applications (RFA) includes sections:
 - Overview and General Requirements
 - Topics
 - Project Type Requirements and Recommendations
 - Appendices and Other Narrative Content
 - Competition Regulations and Review Criteria
 - Compliance and Responsiveness Checklist
 - Each RFA includes a summary of changes
-

Engage Program Officers!

- Discuss your research idea with a program officer
 - Email a synopsis and schedule a time for a call
 - Email short questions
 - For best response from program officers – submit a letter of intent
 - Program officers will review draft applications, given they receive drafts with sufficient time
 - Program officers are available for discussion after you receive your reviews
-

Important Dates for FY 2021 Applications



	NCER	NCSER
Letter of Intent: June 10, 2020 Application: August 20, 2020	Education Research Grants	Special Education Research Grants
	Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication	Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication in Special Education
	Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences	Research Training Programs in Special Education
	Education Research and Development Centers	Research Grants Focused on NAEP Process Data for Learners with Disabilities
Letter of Intent: May 28, 2020 Application: July 30, 2020	Statistical and Research Methodology in Education	
	Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Education Policymaking	

Peer Review Process

- Applications are reviewed for compliance and responsiveness to the RFA
- Applications that are compliant and responsive are assigned to a review panel
- Two or three panel members conduct a primary review of each application
- Scoring
 - Triage
 - Full panel review

[Standards and Review Office Website](#)

[Home](#)

[About](#)

[Peer Review of Grant Applications](#)

[Peer Review of Reports](#)

[List of Reviewers](#)

→ [FY 2019 Peer Reviewers](#)

→ [Peer Reviewers from Previous Years](#)

Peer Reviewers



Proposal Support Resources

Get these Resources Involved Early in Your Process



- Your Pre-Award Administrator (David Ross, Senior Director dross5@nd.edu)
 - Your Department Chair (start here if cost sharing is involved, then move to next steps)
 - Your Proposal Development Consultants facilitated by Dr. Heather Boyd (hboyd@nd.edu)
 - Sarah Nerenberg (peoserv@nd.edu)
 - Yvonne Chang (peoserv1@nd.edu)
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Contact Jill Pentimonti for any
follow-up questions

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Questions & Answers
