

Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP) Grant, CFDA 84.165A

Purpose

The MSAP provides grants to support magnet schools under an approved, required or voluntary, desegregation plan. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) amended the MSAP:

- ✓ To better support the development and implementation of magnet schools that increase racial integration and promote academic opportunity and excellence,
- ✓ To prioritize the creation and replication of evidence-based magnet programs and magnet schools that seek to reduce, eliminate, or prevent minority group isolation by taking into account socioeconomic diversity.

Program Description

MSAP grants assist in the desegregation of public schools by supporting the elimination, reduction, and prevention of minority group isolation in elementary and secondary schools with substantial numbers of minority group students.

Definition of Magnet School

A public elementary school, public secondary school, public elementary education center, or public secondary education center that offers a special curriculum capable of attracting substantial numbers of students of different racial backgrounds. [U.S. Department of Education website definition](#)

Application Timeline

RFP Announcement – December 13, 2016

Application Due – April 11, 2017

Project Period

Up to 60 months

MSAP Grant Funding

Available Funding: \$90,582,483

Number of Awards Anticipated: 23-30

Range of New Awards: \$700,000–\$3,000,000 per year/5 years

Eligibility

The MSAP provides grants to LEAs or consortia of LEAs implementing a desegregation plan: required by a court order; required by a State agency or an official of competent jurisdiction; required by the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), United States Department of Education (Department), under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI); or a voluntary desegregation plan adopted by the applicant and submitted to the Department for approval as part of the application.

Required Desegregation Plan

- ✓ Desegregation plans required by a court order: For school district under court-ordered desegregation plans, the applicant must submit complete and signed copies of all court or State documents demonstrating that the magnet schools are a part of the approved desegregation plan
- ✓ Desegregation plans required by a State agency or official of competent jurisdiction: The applicant must provide documentation that shows that the desegregation plan was ordered based upon a determination that State law was violated
- ✓ Desegregation plans required by Title VI: The applicant must submit a complete copy of the desegregation plan demonstrating that magnet schools are part of the approved plan or that the plan authorizes the inclusion of magnet schools at the discretion of the applicant
- ✓ Modifications to required desegregation plans: A previously approved desegregation plan that does not include the magnet school or program for which the applicant is now seeking assistance must be modified to include the magnet school component. The modification must be approved by the court, agency, or

Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP) Grant, CFDA 84.165A

official that originally approved the plan. The applicant must submit the proposed modification for review and approval to the OCR regional office that approved its original plan.

- ✓ **Voluntary Desegregation Plans:** For school districts that are not under court order, the applicant must submit the voluntary desegregation plan with evidence of approval by the local School Board or evidence of other official adoption of the plan as required by the regulations in 34 CFR 280.20(f)(2). The purposes of the MSAP include the reduction, elimination, or prevention of minority group isolation. All voluntary desegregation plans proposed in an LEA's application must be adequate under Title VI.

MSAP Resources:

- ✓ USDE Program Website: <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/magnet/index.html>
- ✓ Magnet Schools of America: <http://www.magnet.edu/>
- ✓ Evaluation of the Magnet Schools Assistance Program, 1998 Grantees: Final Report: <http://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/choice/magneteval/>
- ✓ Innovations in Education: Creating and Sustaining Successful K-8 Magnet Schools: <http://www2.ed.gov/admins/comm/choice/magnet-k8/index.html>
- ✓ Innovations in Education: Successful Magnet High Schools: <http://www2.ed.gov/admins/comm/choice/magnet-hs/index.html>
- ✓ Innovations in Education: Creating Successful Magnet Schools Programs <http://www2.ed.gov/admins/comm/choice/magnet/index.html>
- ✓ US Department of Education and Department of Justice – *Guidance on Voluntary Use of Race to Achieve Diversity and Avoid Racial Isolation in Elementary and Secondary Schools* at <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/guidance-ese-201111.pdf>

The AVID System Can be a Strong Foundation for a Magnet Schools Assistance Program

- ✓ **Most AVID students are underrepresented minorities**—about 52% are Hispanic, 17% are African American, and 66% are low income (qualify for the Free or Reduced Lunch program)
- ✓ **AVID significantly closes the achievement gaps between groups of students.** [About 93% of AVID students complete course requirements for admission to a four-year college or university.](#) The proportions of AVID students who completed these course loads were nearly consistent for each sub-group of students, with a gap of only 2 percentage points from the highest performing to the lowest nationally.
- ✓ **The AVID schoolwide system transforms schools** in four key areas of a school, Instruction, Systems, Leadership, and Culture, thus ensuring college readiness for all AVID Elective students and improved academic performance for all students based on increased opportunities
- ✓ **AVID instructional methodologies, known as WICOR**, were developed to open student access to rigorous college preparatory coursework. The methodologies are research-based and proven effective, and they form the foundation for AVID student instruction, curriculum materials, and professional development for educators
- ✓ **Intensive professional development for educators** prepares them to implement AVID and trains them to make learning more effective by providing engaging, rigorous, and collaborative classrooms
- ✓ Additional [grant writing resources](#) including the [AVID K-12 Grant Budget Development Chart](#) are available
- ✓ Additional evidence of AVID's success and AVID research are available [here](#)