

## School Improvement Grant (SIG) Request for Proposal (RFP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)- September 30, 2016

### 1. Where is the PowerPoint for the webinar located?

The PowerPoint for the School Improvement Grant Webinar can be found on the Office of School Improvement webpage at <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/OSI> located in the PowerPoints and Webinar section.

### 2. Since you can change one of the requirements, does the Principal have to be replaced in the Early Learning Model, or is that just for the Turnaround and Restart Models?

This option is only available if the district is eligible for services under subpart 1 or 2 of Part B of Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Rural Education Assistance Program (REAP). It only applies to the Turnaround or the Transformation model. If the LEA is eligible for the Rural Education Assistance Program, it may choose to modify one element of the Turnaround or Transformation model. If the LEA exercises this option, it must describe how it will meet the intent and purpose of that element.

The March 2015 Non-Regulatory Guidance for the School Improvement Grant also states the following with regard to providing Flexibility in Section G.

#### **G-1b. Does the flexibility afforded in Section I.B.1 of the final requirements enable an LEA to retain any principal who has been hired for an eligible school within the last two school years?**

No. The flexibility in Section I.B.1 is not intended to protect the job of any recently hired principal in an eligible school. Rather, the flexibility provided is intended to permit an LEA to continue a previously implemented intervention aimed at turning around a low-achieving school that included hiring a new principal for that purpose. Accordingly, an LEA taking advantage of this flexibility should be able to demonstrate that: (1) the prior principal in the school at issue was replaced as part of a broader reform effort, and (2) the new principal has the experience and skills needed to implement successfully a turnaround, restart, or transformation model.

### 3. If you have in the past lost a SIG grant does that lower your chances?

Possibly. SIG awards will be awarded to applicants that demonstrate both the greatest need and strongest commitment toward implementing an approved SIG

Model. Applicants must address previous School Improvement Grant (SIG) experience, specifically the school's grant was terminated at any point and why.

**4. Where is the 1003(g) application located?**

The School Improvement Grant Application (SIG) 1003(g) application is located on the School Improvement Grants (SIG) Information Center 1003 (g) webpage under the [Resources Link](#) and on the MDE homepage Using the [Public Notices Link](#).

**5. If the grant is approved and implemented in January; does the principal have to be replaced in January or July 2017?**

If the school will be implementing a planning year, the principal has to be replaced by the beginning of the first year of implementation.