The U.S. Department of Education’s (ED) Institute of Education Sciences (IES) has announced its fiscal year (FY) 2023 competitions for education research and special education research. The funding notice explains that these awards will expand knowledge of “(1) developmental and school readiness outcomes for infants and toddlers with or at risk for a disability, (2) education outcomes for all learners from early childhood education through postsecondary and adult education, and (3) employment and wage outcomes when relevant (such as for those engaged in career and technical, postsecondary, or adult education).” The research programs will be administered through the Institute’s major grant-awarding centers, the National Center for Education Research (NCER) and the National Center for Special Education Research (NCSER).

IES plans to host four competitions in FY 2023. Of note, NCER will not compete the main Education Research grant program this coming fiscal year. In FY 2023, IES will also not be competing the Statistical and Research Methodology in Education or Systematic Replication in Education Research grant programs. Instead, IES will administer the following two competitions:

- **Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences** – Applications for this competition must address one of two topics: Early Career Mentoring Program for Faculty at Minority-Serving Institutions or Methods Training in Data Science for Education Researchers.

- **Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Education Recovery Policymaking** – Applications must address State agencies’ use of education longitudinal data systems to help identify achievement gaps for students from pre-K to adult education.

NCSER will administer two competitions in FY 2023:

- **Special Education Research Competition** – NCSER encourages a broad range of research, with applications concentrating on one or more research areas and focusing on a general range of students with disabilities or a specific disability. The range of research in this program includes, but is not limited to, projects on:
  - “child development and school readiness;
  - Academic and/or behavioral interventions;
  - Instructional practices and/or professional development programs for teachers and other school-based personnel;
  - strategies for improving the family support and engagement critical to the success of students with disabilities;
  - Policies and systems-level interventions and programs to address school finance, school-community collaborations, or school structures that affect educational progress for students with disabilities;
  - Transition from secondary school to postsecondary education, career, and/or independent living; as well as
• Access to, persistence in, and completion of postsecondary education.”

• Research Training Programs in Special Education Competition – Applicants must address Early Career Development and Mentoring.

Application Release Date and Proposal Deadline: All applications for all four competitions will be made available on June 30, 2022 and all proposals for the competitions must be submitted no later than September 8, 2022.

Total Funding and Award Size: The project period for Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences is up to four years, with award sizes ranging from $80,000 to $266,000. For the Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Education Policymaking program, the period of performance is up to three years and the awards range from $100,000 to $333,000. The period of performance for the Special Education Research program is up to five years and funding ranges from $200,000 to $760,000. The Research Training Programs in Special Education will have a performance period of up to four years with awards ranging from $100,000 to $200,000.

If further funding is available in FY 2023, “the Director intends to use the grant slate developed in FY 2022 for the Education Research and the Systematic Replication in Education Research grant programs to make new awards to high-quality applications that remain unfunded on this slate.” IES may also announce these additional competitions later in 2022 depending on the enactment of FY 2023 appropriations by Congress.

Eligibility: Eligible applicants include, but are not limited to, nonprofit and for-profit organizations, public and private agencies, institutions of higher education, and state education entities. For the Early Career Mentoring Program under the Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences, eligible entities are Department of Education designated Minority-Serving Institutions.

Sources and Additional Information:

• The Federal Register notice announcing the NCER and NCSER competitions is available at https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/05/26/2022-11355/applications-for-new-awards-education-research-and-special-education-research-grant-programs.
• The official Request for Applications for each competition and additional topic details are expected to be linked at https://ies.ed.gov/funding/.
• On-demand and technical assistance webinars for the research programs are available at https://ies.ed.gov/funding/webinars/index.asp.