Final Guidance & Monitoring of SFSF

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY
OFFICE OF ARRA COORDINATION
SEPTEMBER 28, 2009

Frequent SFSF Application Issues

- All Assurances are agreed to in PS3410
- In PS3410 the activity chosen to use SFSF funds for must be authorized under the one of the four Act and specific Title (if under ESEA) chosen

Frequent SFSF Application Issues

- Although districts are not required to submit a needs assessment, they should have in their district and campus improvement plans how they plan to use the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) funds. Districts may have to respond to financial review of the SFSF funds from auditors in the future. In the plans, district should discuss what they are doing with the funds and how these resources/staff will meet the needs of students.

Frequent SFSF Application Issues

- In Certify and Submit section of application, the Authorized user and Submitter must be the same person
- Please ensure that in PS3410 the Total Activities Amount = Total Direct Costs in BS6004
- Any attachments can be uploaded from the main SFSF eGrants page under the Table of Contents

Frequent SFSF Application Issues

- Please note any pre-award costs in both PS3410 and BS6004
- Pre-award costs are from February 17, 2009 through the later of September 1, 2009 or date of LEA SFSF grant submission
- Make sure pre-award attachment is submitted with SFSF application and reflects what is laid out in application

Frequent SFSF Application Issues

- Construction, renovation, repair or modernization should be placed under ESEA: Title VIII, Impact Aid
- LEAs must attach a drawing or blueprint that contains dimensions of major construction, renovation, repair or modernization

Frequent SFSF Application Issues

- Please closely review Capital Outlay guidelines in the SFSF grant application
- Ensure that supplies and materials do not need to be capitalized and therefore placed in Capital Outlay

Texas Steps Up Application Issues

- Texas Steps Up (TSU) is an optional program; LEAs will receive their entitlement regardless of their participation in TSU
- To designate TSU in your application, the activity must be new, or the expansion or enhancement of an existing program
- LEAs should expect to demonstrate this qualifier to reviewers in the negotiation process

Texas Steps Up Application Issues

- If the activity is not a new program, or the expansion or enhancement of an existing program DO NOT SELECT STEPS UP
- There **may be** some flexibility on TSU in regard to programs that would have otherwise been eliminated without SFSF funds
- In that scenario, at the very least, LEAs would have to demonstrate through evidence (i.e. Board Minutes) that the program would have been eliminated without SFSF
- This will be reviewed as the program moves forward

Webinar Dates

Sign up for future webinars at
www.tea.state.tx.us/arrastimulus

- Tuesday, September 29, 2009 10:00 -11:30am CST
- Wednesday, September 30, 2009 10:00 -11:30am CST

Q&A and Contact Information

- **USDE:**
- Please email any questions about the SFSF program for the USDE to State.Fiscal.Fund@ed.gov.
- Please write ARRA in the email subject line.

- **TEA:**
- ***Office of ARRA Coordination***
- ***Phone:*** 512.936.3647
- ***Website:*** www.tea.state.tx.us/arrastimulus/
- ***Email:*** arrastimulus@tea.state.tx.us

- Or join the Stimulus-Funds for Texas Education listserv by entering in your email address and name, then choose your preferred format, join or leave.

- ***Formula Funding Division***
- ***Phone:*** 512. 463.8525

- ***State Funding Division***
- ***Phone:*** 512.463.9238 and indicate that you need information about the HB 3646 calculation in order to route your call to the appropriate staff