

LSA RFP Questions and Answers 2009

Question 1

I have a question about the Participant Development Outcomes. It states:

Over a three year period each grantee will evaluate 10% of the K-12 student participants and at the end of the third year 85% of these students will demonstrate an improvement in their civic engagement skills.

Here's my question:

Are we to survey (using the survey provided by your office I'm presuming) the SAME 10%, in other words, the same students three times, or simply 10% of our students? I am assuming it is the former rather than the latter, but I want to be clear on that.

Additionally, is it to be a random sampling, in other words, a sampling of students between K-12 rather than a particular grade or segment of a grade? The difficulty with that is if we survey students in the 11th or 12th grade in the first year of the grant period, they will no longer be students in our school by the time the third year rolls around.

We have approximately 1350 students (currently) so I was thinking of choosing (randomly, initially) 45 3rd graders, 45 6th graders, and 45 10th graders in the first year, and then 'resurveying' that group in each of the funding years. Would that be appropriate?

Answer to Question 1

The concept of the 10% random sample can be applied to students in a particular grade(s) ie 4th grade students, middle school students, high school students; or you can take a random sampling of students as you have suggested over the three year period assuming that the students will have participated in service learning. In all three years students should be pre-tested and post-tested at the end of each year to demonstrate an improvement in civic engagement.

Question 2

New York State Learn and Serve America
School-Based K-12 Programs

RE: NYS LSA Application questions

- 1) New York State's overall primary statewide focus: (from page 8 of the RFP)

To ensure adequate community and nutritional food supplies and the related issues of hunger, nutrition education and/or childhood obesity area addressed by each Learn and Serve program.

Our LSA is comprised of a number of discrete units in a number of schools in our District.

Does your statement mean that:

- within the overall District we must address all aspects presented of NYS's primary statewide focus?
- within the overall District we must address one or more aspects presented of NYS's primary statewide focus?
- within each school we must address all aspects presented of NYS's primary statewide focus?
- within each school we must address one or more aspects presented of NYS's primary statewide focus?
- within each discrete unit we must address all aspects presented of NYS's primary statewide focus?
- within the each discrete unit we must address all aspects presented of NYS's primary statewide focus?

2) Page Limits and Standards

In this section (page 15. at the 2nd bullet)

Double space all text in the application narrative, double space between titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions as well as all text in charts, figures, and graphs.

Does this mean that the text in charts, figures, and graphs must be double-spaced or are charts, figures and graphs exempt from the double-spacing requirement?

Is it acceptable to use single spacing for the abstract and/or the Table of Contents?

Answer to Question 2

1. The district should try to address the statewide focus as much as you can on a district and school level- i.e., one school might be doing an anti obesity awareness campaign among elementary or middle school students; another

school might be planting an organic community garden to harvest food for a local food pantry, another school may have a home and careers class that conducts a food drive while learning about nutrition and then they prepare a meal at a local shelter. It is not mandated that every school in the district complete an activity to address the statewide priority but the district must demonstrate how they plan on addressing it.

2. You should use double spacing for charts and graphs but you may single space the abstract and table of contents. I would suggest that if you need additional room for charts or graphs that you add them to the appendices with a reference to them in the narrative.