Certification Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion; and Drug-Free Workplace Lower Tier Covered Transactions

Requirements regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion; and, Drug-Free Workplace, are prescribed in 34 C.F.R. Part 82 and Part 85, and 7 C.F.R. Part 3017, and in the required regulations implementing Executive Order 12549. Copies of these regulations may be obtained by contacting the Office of Federal and State Grants Management.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the participant or prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment. By signing and submitting this statement, it is understood that the participants and prospective lower tier participant has done so in accordance with the following:

LOBBYING:

(a) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the above signed, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer of employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement.

(b) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer/or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with a Federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form – LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

(c) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subgrantees shall certify and disclose accordingly.

(d) This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

(a) The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to whom this statement is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

(b) The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "lower tier covered transaction," "participant," "person," "primary covered transaction," "principal," "proposal," and "voluntary excluded," as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the Office of Federal and State Grants Management for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

(c) The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this statement that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency from which this transaction originated.

(d) The prospective lower tier participant further agrees, by submitting this statement, that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

(e) A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the Non procurement List.

(f) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealing.

(g) Except for transactions authorized under paragraph (e) of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, the department or agency from which this transaction originated may, in addition to other remedies available, pursue suspension and/or debarment.

DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE (Grantee other than Individuals)

As required by the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, and subsequent regulations, the applicant certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

(a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition.

(b) Establishing an on-going drug-free awareness program to inform employees about the dangers of drug abuse; grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace; any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and, the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace.

(c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a).

(d) Notify the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will abide by the terms of the statement; and, notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction.

(e) Notifying the agency, in writing, within 10 calendar days after receiving notice under paragraph (d) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to: Director, Grants and Contracts Service, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 3124, Washington, D.C. 20202.