

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

ALLIANCE FOR COMPETITIVE ENERGY SERVICES

ACES Grant Application Procedures

The NJSBA shall award need and/or merit-based grants to entities involved in activities that advance, encourage and support public education and/or effective school board governance. Funds to support the grant program shall be derived from excess revenues generated from administration of the Alliance for Competitive Energy Services (ACES) program. The total amount of grants made each year will vary depending on the amount of excess ACES revenue.

All parties interested in a grant shall submit an application demonstrating their financial need or merit-based qualifications for the grant. "Need" eligibility criteria will be based on financial need, and "merit" criteria will be based on the level of an applicant's involvement in activities related to public education. The amount of each grant will be determined by the need and/or merit demonstrated by the applicant and costs associated with the relevant educational program. The NJSBA Board of Directors or designee(s) shall serve as the selection committee for awarding grants.

Grant recipients shall sign a binding grant agreement which specifies the responsibilities of the parties, obligates the grantee to use funds only for the purposes for which the grant was made, provides for written reports concerning the use of grant funds, requires a final written report and an accounting of how grant funds were used, and acknowledges NJSBA's authority to withhold and/or recover grant funds where such funds are, or appear to be, misused. Grant application and awarding procedures are as follows:

Selection Criteria

Applicants will be evaluated and selected based on their involvement in activities relating or applicable to the public education system and/effective board governance; demonstrated financial need; and quality of answers on the written application.

Eligible Expenses

Grants may be provided for program fees or costs directly related to support of public education or board governance. Costs not covered include personal expenses such as entertainment, personal phone calls, alcoholic beverages or local transportation not specifically related to the educational program.

Selection Process

The availability of grants may be publicized on NJSBA's website, publications, or by any other suitable means. Recipients shall be selected by the NJSBA Board of Directors/designee (i.e., "selection committee") from the pool of applicants based on the eligibility and selection criteria above. NJSBA staff will provide the selection committee with the names of the applicants, amount of grant sought, and supporting documentation. No person having a personal or business association with NJSBA or members of the selection committee shall be eligible for a grant.

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Terms and Conditions for Grants

Grant applicants must document the specific purpose of the grant; total amount of the proposed grant; and substantiated estimate of program costs. Grant recipients must agree to provide NJSBA with a final report as noted above, accounting for the use of funds received, including receipts for actual expenses.

NJSBA has the authority to follow the progress of the recipient, including reviewing each report submitted, and to determine whether the grant purposes are being or have been fulfilled, or that further scrutiny is required. NJSBA retains the right to withhold grant monies or seek reimbursement if it is found that monies have been used improperly or for purposes other than that stated in the grant application.

Recordkeeping

NJSBA will maintain records of all grant recipients, including name; address; the manner of selection of the recipient; the purpose and amount of the grant.

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