Grant Title: STAR SCHOOL PROGRAM

Grant #: ED-GRANTS-030805-002

Area of Research: Encouraging improved academic instruction in schools and serving underserved populations

Release Date and expiration: Release- March 8, 2005; expires-NA

Annual Closing Date: Pre-application- April 7, 2005, final application- May 9, 2005

Amount: $2,000,000 per year

Length of Support: 5 years

Eligible applicants: A public agency or corporation established for the purpose of developing and operating telecommunications networks to enhance educational opportunities provided by educational institutions, teacher training centers, and other entities, (2) A partnership that will provide telecommunications services and that includes three or more of the following entities, at least one of which must be an agency, as described in paragraphs (A) or (B) below: (A) A local educational agency (LEA) that serves a significant number of elementary and secondary schools that are eligible for assistance under part A of title I of the ESEA, (B) A State educational agency, (C) An adult and family education program, (D) An institution of higher education or a State higher education Agency,(E) A teacher training center or academy that provides teacher preservice and inservice training, and receives Federal financial assistance or has been approved by a State agency,(F) A public or private entity with experience and expertise in the planning and operation of a telecommunications network, including entities involved in telecommunications through satellite, cable, telephone, or computer; or a public broadcasting entity with such experience,(G) A public or private elementary or secondary school.

Agency/ Department: Department of Education, Office of Innovation and Improvement

Summary: The purpose of the Star Schools program is to: (a) Encourage improved instruction in mathematics, science, and foreign languages, as well as other subjects (such as literacy skills and vocational education); and (b) Serve underserved populations, including disadvantaged, illiterate, limited English proficient populations, and individuals with disabilities through grants to eligible telecommunications partnerships to enable the partnerships to develop, construct, acquire, maintain and operate telecommunications audio and visual facilities and equipment; develop and acquire educational and instructional programming; and obtain technical assistance for the use of such facilities and instructional programming. This competition includes two absolute priorities and six competitive preference priorities. Absolute Priority 1: Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Using Emerging Mobile Technologies in Urban and Rural Communities To Enhance Reading and Mathematics Achievement; and Absolute Priority 2--Educational Gaming and Simulations Applications for Emerging Mobile Technologies To Enhance Literacy Skills and Mathematics at Any Grade Level or Span of Grade Levels.