FY 2012 Supplemental ARRA Education Jobs Funds Available

The U.S. Department of Education has notified the Illinois State Board that supplemental Education Jobs (Ed Jobs) funds in the amount of $6,136,142 are available for eligible Illinois local education agencies (LEAs). The supplemental Ed Job funds are in addition to the initial Ed Jobs grant award of $415,397,841 that was allocated to LEAs in August 2010. The supplemental Ed Jobs funds are subject to the same requirements as the initial Ed Jobs funds. Specifically, Ed Jobs funds may only be used for compensation and benefits for teachers and other employees who provide school-level educational services and other expenses, such as support services, necessary to retain existing employees, to recall or rehire former employees, and to hire new employees, in order to provide early childhood, elementary, or secondary educational and related services. For further details please refer to the September 9, 2010 Ed Jobs webinar which can be accessed at http://www.isbe.net/arra/ppt/arra_ed_jobs_fund_webinar.pdf.

The supplemental Ed Jobs program will carry the same revenue code of 4880 and Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number of 84.410. The Fiscal Year for the supplemental Ed Jobs funds will be 2012. As with the FY 11 Ed Jobs funds, LEAs will be distributed funds on a reimbursement basis which requires the LEA to submit a cumulative (i.e. year-to-date) electronic expenditure report via the Electronic Expenditure Reporting System in IWAS detailing the amount expended on a cash basis in the appropriate function and object code, in order to be reimbursed. In addition, LEAs must submit American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) data, reporting full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs funded with ARRA dollars as well as any single vendor payments made in the amount of $25,000 or more. Proper segregation of revenue and expenditures of all ARRA funds is critical for accountability and transparency purposes.

Preliminary FY 12 supplemental allocations have been calculated for all eligible LEAs. Due to the smaller supplemental amount, 458 LEAs are allocated $2,000 or less. In accordance with federal guidelines and to facilitate responses of acceptance or refusal of the supplemental Ed Jobs funds, we are requiring all LEAs to access the Ed Jobs - Supplemental Funds system in IWAS to formally accept or refuse the supplemental funds. In this system the LEA administrator will need to review the Overview, Applicant Information, Intent to Apply and Specific Terms of the Grant pages. The Intent to Apply page provides the current status of the FY 11 Ed Jobs funds as well as the FY 12 preliminary supplemental amount. On the Intent to Apply page, the administrator must select “yes” or “no” if the LEA wishes to accept or refuse the supplemental Ed Jobs funds. This review and response must be submitted on or before Monday, November 21, 2011.

Once all responses have been received, final allocations will be calculated and provided to LEAs that acknowledged acceptance of the supplemental funds. All Education Jobs funds must be obligated on or before September 30, 2012. You are encouraged to request any remaining FY 11 funds and FY 12 funds for reimbursement promptly.

If you have questions regarding the Ed Jobs program please contact Jim Mathes jmathes@isbe.net or Marj Beck mbeck@isbe.net in the Division of Funding and Disbursement Services at 217-782-5256.