

Developmental Education Reform Act (DERA) Implementation Act FAQs  
(Updated 03/14/2023)

**Would academic ESL be included as a discipline that could be included in this grant?**

Academic ESL programs can be included as part of this grant within the following guidelines. The proposed program must use using funds for evidence-based developmental education work related to academic ESL. The proposed program must have a purpose of move ESL students into and hopefully through developmental education. Additionally, the proposed program should also respond to the other requirements of the grant. A limitation of this use is that the grant cannot be used for basic level ESL supports that would be part of Adult Ed.

**When submitting a proposal for the DERAIP, may colleges submit a separate proposal for each subject area - one for English and another for math, or must they combine both into one proposal?**

Colleges should submit a single proposal for the entire project, which should be inclusive of math and English.

**Is there a specific split in terms of the amount of effort and funds that should be directed to campus level work v. collaborative partner work?**

No, there is not a designated split in the funds an institution uses for individual campus level work and collaborative community college partner work. The key is that in addition to the individual campus efforts, applicants should also show a real and significant plan for collaborative work with community college partners. For each applicant, this may look differently in terms of the split in costs, depending on the types of work the institution plans to undertake.

**While discussing activities to support the implementation of DERA, one position we want to invest in is a specialized tutor for Dev Ed students (one for Math, one for English). If we hired a tutor on the grant, would there be flexibility for them to sometimes work with non-Dev Ed students or would we want to closely guard which student populations they serve (no more than 25% of their time spent with non-Dev Ed student tutoring)?**

Tutors, or any staff, hired and paid under the grant would need to work specifically on the scope of the DERA Implementation Project. If you wanted to hire a tutor or tutors who would spend, in this example, 75% percentage of their time on the DERA Implementation Project work, the remaining 25% of their salary would need to be funded through other institutional funds and not with grant funds. This type of split in responsibilities would then require clear time and effort reporting showing the distinction between DERA implementation and non-DERA implementation work.

**Are the pieces of the package (Application & Cover Page) are two separate pages or whether the Application template is also the Cover Page (it seems to have all the requested cover page information on it already).**

The cover page will be a separate document from the grant application. It will include much of the same information as the grant application, but it also needs to include the statement required in the NOFO that stipulates: "This application is being submitted on behalf of the <Institution's Name>; and, if awarded, the applicant agrees to abide by the provisions and guidelines set forth in the application and by the ICCB. Furthermore, the individuals listed in the application are authorized to act on behalf of the institution."

**For institutions who have already been working with other institutions through external partnerships (such as Women Employed, Partnership for College Completion, etc.), can we use the group we previously established?**

Yes, institutions may continue to work with regional partners established in external projects, as long as the work done continues under the DERA Implementation Act NOFO.

**Can the grant support bringing in more support from external partners?**

Yes, institutions may use grant funds to work with external partners to support the work of the grant. The work undertaken with external partners should take a deep dive into implementation of DERA rather than just an overview of DERA.

**Can colleges and partners support data-specific work?**

Yes, funds may be spent on supporting data-specific work, but the work should be clearly steeped in how institutions will use data to scale and implement activities related to DERA.

**Can colleges use funds from this grant to bring in more from a speaker who has previously shared expertise?**

Yes, funds may be spent to support bringing in a speaker to delve more deeply into implementing and scaling Developmental Education reform efforts and strategies.