*Project Description*

The project description must consist of a narrative describing the proposed project (Items A-E) using the format below and in the order listed. The narrative must be limited to five (5) pages. Refer to the *Students with Visual Impairments who need Braille Scoring Rubric* to strengthen the quality of your proposal.

1. **Goal and Expected Outcomes**

The applicant must provide specific goals and outcomes related to implementing supports for students with visual impairments by increasing the number of students who will have access to instruction in Braille. Outcomes should specify how students, families and professionals will be impacted. At a *minimum* the application must include a plan for:

* five new teachers becoming Braille certified.
* three school systems receiving on-site technical assistance regarding Braille.
* ten students with Braille needs receiving targeted assistance.
* related professional development resources for housing on the LDOE website.
1. **Description of Activities**

The applicant must describe the activities that will be performed in order to achieve expected outcomes.

1. **Stakeholder Involvement**

The applicant must describe how the project will establish a statewide group of personnel who support students with visual impairments, and how this group will provide guidance and input on 1) the development of professional development resources for housing on the LDOE website and 2) the recommendations for future capacity building efforts for LA schools statewide to support students with Braille needs.

1. **Evaluation Plan**

The applicant must describe the evaluation plan and procedures. The evaluation must address the effectiveness of project activities.

1. **Expansion Plan Beyond Year 1**

The applicant must describe conditions for continuing the project into Year 2 and 3.

**Scoring Rubric**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **3** | **2** | **1** | **0** | **Score** |
| **Goals /Outcomes** | The application:* describes a coherent and comprehensive plan for increasing the numbers of teachers who can provide Braille instruction, including
	+ specific outcomes which target a *minimum* of five teachers in Louisiana schools trained in Braille
* reflects capacity building efforts for supporting teachers in providing Braille instruction through technical assistance and resources, including
	+ a *minimum* of three school systems to receive on-site TA.
	+ development of resources that will be made available to the LDOE for housing on its website.
	+ describes how a collaborative structure will be used to create recommendations for future capacity building efforts for LA schools statewide to support students with Braille needs.
* includes clearly articulated targets pertaining to students who have significant visual impairments and the supports they need to succeed in the general curriculum, with targeted assistance focused on a *minimum* of ten students with Braille needs.
 | The application:* describes a plan for training teachers to be Braille literate.
* describes outcomes of the project related to TA and PD.
* indicates resources will be made available to the LDOE for housing on its website.
* describes how recommendations for the LDOE will be created on future capacity building efforts needs related to visual impairments.
* includes targets pertaining to students who have significant visual impairments and the supports they need to succeed in the general curriculum.
 | The application:* includes marginal plans to train on Braille instruction.
* mentions resources to be made available to the LDOE for housing on its website.
* mentions the creation of recommendations to the LDOE for future capacity building efforts.
 | The application:* does not include goals/ outcomes for the grant funds.
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| **Activities** | The application:* describes a clear connection between the activities in the application and the expected outcomes related to supports for both students with visual impairments and the personnel who serve them.
* includes activities based on best practices related to the provision of PD and TA in a collaborative structure, and incorporates nationally recognized resources to the extent applicable.
* includes PD and resource content related to best practices in the provision of supports for students with visual impairments for inclusion on LDOE website.
 | The application:* describes activities that will be performed to support the goals of the project.
* includes some reference to collaborative structures in the PD and TA plans.
* references the PD and resource content related to visual impairments.
 | The application:* minimally describes activities that will be performed to support the goals of the project.
 | The application:* does not describe activities that will be completed with grant funds.
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| **Stakeholder Involvement**  | The application:* describes how school personnel statewide will guide the development of resources and provision of PD/TA related to VI
	+ for housing on the LDOE website.
	+ implementation and monitoring of PD/TA pertaining to VI.
	+ the creation of recommendations for future capacity building efforts for LA schools to support students’ VI needs.
 | The application:* includes a group of school personnel in guiding the development of resources and provision of PD/TA and capacity building efforts.
 | The application:* minimally describes input from school personnel.
 | The application:* does not include input from school personnel.
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| **Evaluation Plan** | The application:* describes how the results of the PD/TA will be measured, including
	+ effectiveness of project activities (e.g., feedback from PD/TA participants).
	+ increased skills of personnel.
	+ increased success of students using Braille materials in the general education environment.
 | The application:* describes how resources and PD/TA will be developed.
* describes how PD/TA results will be measured.
* describes how the success of students will be measured.
 | The application:* minimally describes how resources and PD/TA will be developed.
* minimally describes how PD/TA results will be measured.
* minimally describes how the success of students will be measured.
 | The application:* does not describe how resources and PD/TA will be developed.
* does not include an evaluation plan.
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| **Expansion beyond year 1** | The application:* describes how the work of the project could be expanded into year two and three, with an increased impact upon the number of personnel trained, number of districts receiving on-site technical assistance, and number of students supported in Braille materials.
* describes how teachers and other school personnel statewide will continue to provide guidance in this process.
 | The application:* describes a plan to continue project into year two and three.
* references the use of school personnel in the process.
 | The application:* minimally describes plans to continue the project.
 | The application:* states the intent to continue project, but does not provide a plan.
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| **Total** |  |

***Note abbreviations:***  *PD (Professional Development), TA (Technical Assistance), VI (Visual Impairments)*