

**U.S. Department of Education
Office of Communications & Outreach, Press Office
400 Maryland Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 11, 2015

CONTACT:

Press Office, (202) 401-1576 or press@ed.gov

**U.S. Department of Education Announces 2016 National Professional Development Grant
Competition to Support Educators of English Learner Students**

The U.S. Department of Education’s [Office of English Language Acquisition](#) announced today in the [Federal Register](#) the availability of \$23.8 million for its [National Professional Development \(NPD\) grant competition](#) to support educators of English Learner students.

“These grants are a smart investment in biliteracy, family and community engagement, and expanding professional development for educators working to meet the needs of English learner students,” said [John King](#), senior advisor delegated duties of deputy secretary of education. “With this funding, we continue to deliver on our promise of equity, excellence and opportunity in supporting educators, students and families across the country.”

The NPD program provides grants for eligible institutions of higher education, in collaboration with states or districts, to implement professional development activities that will improve instruction for English Learners (ELs). Professional development may include preservice or in-service activities for educators of ELs including teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals or others educators working with ELs. Professional development activities may include teacher education programs and training for other education professionals that lead to certification, licensing, or endorsement for providing instruction to English learners.

The deadline for submitting an Intent to Apply is Dec. 31. The deadline for submitting applications is Feb. 19.

The Obama Administration’s commitment to equity in education underlies nearly every significant activity of the Education Department—from programs focused on [early learning](#) to [college affordability](#) and [tools for reducing student debt](#). Since 2008, the Department has awarded an estimated \$328 million in NPD grants to assist educators working with English Learner students.

###