

Frequently Asked Questions
FY 2008 Math Science Partnership (MSP) Request for Proposal
Solutions for Florida's Future

1. Is the RFP for \$8.1 Million over 3 years or \$8.1 Million for one year and renewable for 3 years?

Funding for this proposal is for \$8.1 Million for the performance period of this grant (December 1, 2007, through September 30, 2008). The grant may be renewable for additional funding of about the same amount for 2 additional years pending (1) continued federal funding and (2) satisfactory performance.

2. Does the page limit include the budget?

There is a 30 page limit for each proposal. This does not include:

- Appendices
- biographical information (limit to five pages per person to include only information that impacts the success of this application)
- letters of commitment from all partners
- required forms – DOE 100A and DOE 101

Because the budget is an integral part of the proposal, it is included as part of the 30 page limit. Supplemental budget material may be included as part of an appendix which is not included in the page count.

3. Is there any reason why a research component would not be appropriate?

The priorities as specified in the RFP are as follows:

1. Include higher education partnerships with science, engineering, and/or mathematics departments and high needs LEA(s)
2. Develop K-12 teacher training in the provisions of challenging mathematics and science course content that includes the integration of appropriate technology and is based upon Florida's research-based, world-class mathematics and science sunshine state standards. The professional development must be aligned to the *Professional Development System Evaluation Protocol*. For information on the protocol please visit: <http://www.fldoe.org/profdev/pdstandards.asp>.
3. Training that includes laboratory training and beginning teacher induction components
4. Training that results in advanced college course credit for participation and completion
5. Alignment of colleges of education courses to teacher training
6. Development of curriculum planning tools that result in teacher instruction and student learning at higher complexity levels
7. Statewide deployment of teacher training

There is nothing in the RFP that requires a research component, but there is also nothing in the RFP that would preclude including a research component, especially if the research results can be used to show evidence of the effectiveness of an intervention designed to address one of the priorities listed in the RFP.

4. Do the free & reduced-price lunch statistics at the end of the MSP RFP include charter schools?

Yes, the data for each district includes charter schools in the district.

5. What are the expectations for the Teacher Induction component? Is this meant to specifically address lab safety issues for new teachers? Or is this possibly meant to address the needs of beginning teachers in relation to understanding the new science and mathematics standards?

Priority 3 states “Training that includes laboratory training and beginning teacher induction components.” It is our intent that new science teachers would receive some training about how to include laboratory instruction (of which laboratory safety is an important component) as a means of incorporating the new science content standards into their classroom instruction. For all beginning teachers in Florida, understanding the impact of the new content standards for mathematics and science should be addressed as part of the proposal.

6. What are the funding periods for fiscal years 2 and 3?

Fiscal years 2 and 3 will be dependent on continued funding from the US Department of Education and satisfactory performance by the awardee. Expected funding periods are October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009 for year 2 and October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010 for year 3.

7. On priority 2 of the *Solutions for Florida's Future* RFP, we need clarification on the meaning of “integration of appropriate technology.” Does this mean use of technology in providing teacher professional development or helping teachers use technology to instruct their students?

The meaning in Priority 2 is for helping teachers use appropriate technology in their classroom instruction related to the content standards for mathematics and science.