



Youth for Justice

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS 2004-2005

Grants for Exemplary/Innovative Programs by State LRE Centers

In 2004-2005, Youth for Justice will fund up to nineteen grants of up to \$7,500 each for Exemplary or Innovative LRE Projects that help sustain LRE centers and are aligned with LRE best practices. States selected will receive a grant from Youth for Justice in addition to ongoing technical assistance.

Purpose of Funding

Youth for Justice State LRE Centers offer a variety of quality LRE programs which are expected by their many constituencies and necessary to the maintenance and expansion of their service. The ability to deliver and to sustain these programs is a distinguishing characteristic of an effective State LRE Center.

For the past two years, Youth for Justice has emphasized best practices in professional development, and quality professional development remains a key to the success of LRE as a field. With the publication of *The Civic Mission of Schools* report, the time is ripe for renewed attention to what makes law-related/civic education powerful.

Application Requirements

Applicants should have a well-developed institutional base and other factors suggesting the feasibility of project implementation in one year.

Examples of projects that are eligible for funding under this category include: statewide LRE public-private partnership conferences (generally one day); summer institutes and other professional development opportunities for teachers; youth summits; State-level replication of the ABA's national online youth summit; LRE-based youth courts; extended youth and police initiatives; training and/or collaboration opportunities for social studies supervisors; and LRE demonstration programs in school, community (including after school), and juvenile justice settings. These examples are illustrative but not exhaustive.

Examples of projects which will not be considered include: web site development; board development; the creation of a lending LRE library; newsletters or other publications; and fundraising initiatives.

All proposals must address the "Best Practices in Civic/Law-Related Education" document provided with this RFP. This formulation of best practices has been updated to reflect the strong research base on which *The Civic Mission of Schools* report rests. **An attempt to address all the best practices in a cursory fashion is less likely to be successful than a proposal that demonstrates how the project will work on a select number of the best practices in depth.**

All proposals must include the following:

- Narrative not to exceed three pages [excluding budget]; and
- Budget showing evidence of in-kind support and/or other resources [one page].

Proposals lacking these components will not be scored.

Application Review Process

Applications will be scored according to the enclosed rubric by a panel of outside LRE experts. Proposals recommended for funding are given final approval by the YFJ Coordinating Committee and the YFJ Program Manager at OJJDP. In order to diversify the pool of awardees, State LRE Centers that have not received a YFJ grant in the past three grant years and which receive the minimum fundable score of 80 will be awarded an additional 5 points.

**Proposal Score Sheet:
Exemplary/Innovative LRE Programs
Youth for Justice Request for Proposals, 2004-2005**

CRITERIA	SCORE
<p>Project Abstract [5 Points] Includes project title and name of the State LRE Center. Describes project scope and purpose. Addresses how the project addresses state LRE needs and what successful implementation might look like. Less than 100 words.</p>	
<p>Project Goals and Rationale [35 Points] Clear delineation of project goals, objectives, and outcomes [10 points]. Explanation of how project addresses LRE needs in the State and how the project fits within the plan for the State LRE Center [10 points]. Explicit identification of specific best practices that are the focus of the proposal and how these best practices will guide project design and implementation [15 points].</p>	
<p>Project Design [40 Points] Specific plan that addresses project goals and objectives [10 points]. Description of proposed project activities and explanation of how these activities can be expected to achieve the project outcomes [15 points]. Additional required components [15 points]:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ description of the target audience (grade level, experience, setting [e.g., rural, suburban, urban, poverty level, diversity], et al.) and the recruitment process; ▪ specific rationale and process for how the applicant will develop the project, including any past history with this model or format; ▪ examples of LRE content and methods which will characterize the activities; and ▪ project timeline (August 2004 - July 2005) that demonstrates scope and sequence of activities and includes when outcomes will be met. 	
<p>Project Management and Organizational Capability [10 Points] Proposed management structure and staffing are adequate and appropriate for the successful implementation of the project within the program period. Names and titles of project personnel identified. Roles of project partners clearly identified. Most recent partnership with YFJ described. If challenges existed, reasonable plan presented for overcoming/avoiding them in the proposed project.</p>	
<p>Project Budget and Resources [10 Points] Project budget is detailed, reasonable and cost effective for the proposed work plan. Application includes evidence of in-kind support and/or other resources.</p>	
<p>Score <i>90-100.</i> Recommended for funding without reservations. <i>80-89.</i> Conditionally recommended for funding if specific questions of reviewers are satisfactorily addressed and funding permits. Please list specific questions/concerns. <i>Below 80.</i> Not recommended for funding under this initiative.</p>	
<p><i>Bonus if state has not received a YFJ grant in past three years (5 points) – to be awarded only by Youth for Justice</i></p>	
<p>Total Score</p>	