I hereby certify that I am the applicant’s chief school/administrative officer and that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, complete and accurate. I further certify, to the best of my knowledge, that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance with all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations, application guidelines and instructions, Assurances, Certifications, Appendix A, and that the requested budget amounts are necessary for the implementation of this project.

I further certify that:
- All SES Integration programs will be school-wide programs.
- At least 50% of the seats in innovative programs at targeted high poverty Title I Priority or Focus Schools will be reserved for students from the local school attendance area defined as the geographic area which had provided the highest level of admissions priority to the school prior to the implementation of the SES Integration program.
- Only low income students from targeted high poverty Title I Priority or Focus Schools will be eligible for transfers to low poverty schools in Good Standing.

It is understood by the applicant that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by the NYS Education Department or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement. It is also understood by the applicant that immediate written notice will be provided to the grant program office if at any time the applicant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

Authorized Signature of Chief Administrative Officer (in blue ink)

Typed Name: Date:
SECTION A – PROGRAM DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Model (check one):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual “Magnet” School (Model A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinated Grants (Model B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Innovation (Model C)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Instructions for Poverty Data

These instructions apply to Tables 1-3. The tables are displayed in a suggested format, and applicants may provide the data in a different format if they choose to do so. However submitted, this data is needed for each targeted Title I Priority or Focus school and each school in the district that serves the same or similar grade span.

Table 1: Determination of Poverty Measure

An LEA must use the same measure of poverty to identify all Title I eligible school building attendance areas. If the free and reduced-price lunch percentage is chosen as the poverty measure, an LEA may select from any of the monthly figures from the previous spring (March–June), as reported to the SED Child Nutrition Reimbursement Unit.

Poverty Percentage Methods: The LEA must identify the poverty measure used for Title I eligibility from the following options (all of which are based on counts of children ages 5-17):

**PLEASE CHECK THE TITLE I POVERTY MEASURE USED:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most recent census;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children eligible for free or reduced-price lunch under the National Free School Lunch Act (the default option; be sure to include all children who are automatically eligible for free lunch, even if there is no application submitted);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in families receiving assistance under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children eligible to receive medical assistance under the Medicaid program;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A composite of any of the above measures.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2: Priority or Focus School Poverty Rate and Targets
Rows that do not apply may be deleted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name:</th>
<th>School BEDS Code:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade Level</td>
<td>All Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3: Focus District & Comparable School Poverty Rates

1. Enter the Focus District Title I poverty rate.
2. List all schools in the district that serve the same grade span as the targeted Focus or Priority School.
3. Enter the number of students in each group (All students or Low Income Students).
4. Divide the number of Low Income Students by All Students and enter the poverty rate for each school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District Name:</th>
<th>District Poverty Rate:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School BEDS Code</td>
<td>School Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SECTION B - PROGRAM NARRATIVE

1. SES INTEGRATION PLAN OVERVIEW:
In this section, the district must describe the overall guiding principles at the core of the SES Integration plan, the strategy for executing the guiding principles, the key design elements of the plan, and other unique characteristics of the plan (if any), and provide evidence of the district’s capacity to effectively oversee and manage the plan as presented over a three year period of time.

The Overview should be no more than five pages in length, using the following standards:
• A “page” is 8.5” x 11”, on one side only,
• Double space
• Use a standard font such as Arial, Times New Roman, Courier or Verdana that is no more than 12-point and no less than 10 point (characters per inch).
• Include page numbers at the bottom of each page in your narrative.

The suggested page limit does not apply to the cover sheet; the budget section, including the budget narrative; the assurances, certifications, etc.

A complete narrative will include:
▪ A summary of the primary identified needs of the targeted school(s), specifying the data used and the stakeholders consulted that resulted in the identification of these needs.
▪ The strategy and overall timeline for implementing the proposed plan. Anticipated barriers should be addressed.
▪ An overview of the district structure that will support the strategic implementation of the plan. Communication with and professional development for school leaders at identified schools should be addressed.
▪ Identification of all funding sources that support implementation of the plan.
▪ Overarching SES Implementation goals to be achieved through this program by the end of the three year period.
▪ An explanation of any elements of the plan that are based upon inter-district agreements.

2. PLANNING PROCESS & PLANNING TEAM:
a. Describe the process for creating the plan. Include information about public outreach, stakeholder consultations and all meetings.
b. List the members of the Planning Team, their job title, the stakeholders they represent and how they were selected for the planning team.

3. NEEDS ASSESSMENT & PROGRAM SELECTION:
a. Describe all data sources and stakeholder input used to select the program for this school.
b. Explain how this program was selected.
c. If this is an innovative program, explain how the program will meet the needs and interests of the targeted groups.

4. RESEARCH BASE & DISTRICT CAPACITY:
a. Describe the research base for the program that has been selected.
b. Provide evidence to show that the district can successfully implement the program.

5. DISTRICT ORGANIZATION AND POLICY CHANGES REQUIRED FOR PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:
   a. Explain the changes, if any, which will occur as a result of this grant in terms of district zoning, grade configurations, admissions policies, etc.

6. INTER-DISTRICT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (if applicable):
   a. Provide detailed information about the SES status and student achievement for all partner school districts and schools.
   b. Explain the explicit agreements that have been reached between the applicant district and the partner district.
   c. Explain how multiple funding sources will be used to support the program. 1003(a) funds may only be used to support the transportation costs of eligible students from Title I Priority and Focus Schools as well as costs for parent outreach and assistance regarding public school choice. Transfers of non-Title I students cannot be funded with 1003(a) or Title I.

7. STUDENT SELECTION CRITERIA/PROCESS:
   a. Explain the selection process for recruiting students to participate in the program.
   b. Explain how low income students will receive equitable access to innovative programs.

8. TRANSPORTATION PLAN:
   a. Describe the transportation requirements for this program.
   b. Explain how the district will address these needs.

9. RECRUITMENT & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:
   a. Describe the staffing requirements for the program and the recruitment process that will be used to meet this need.
   b. Describe the professional development that will be provided to staff that will be implementing innovative programs or teaching more diverse students in this program.

10. STUDENT SOCIAL & DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS:
    a. Describe the socio-developmental needs of students in this program and explain how they will be addressed in this program.
    b. Describe how the district will promote parent involvement and engagement in this program.

11. SUSTAINABILITY & EXPANSION:
    a. Explain how the district will sustain this program after the implementation grant ends.
    b. Describe how the district will expand this program to other high needs schools.
## SECTION C – WORK PLAN

### Planning Period:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Activity</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Target and Evaluation</th>
<th>Person/Area Responsible</th>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>District Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Define each key activity/action step on its own row. Define as many key activities as necessary by adding rows to the table.</td>
<td>Identify the expected completion date (month and year) for each key activity.</td>
<td>Define the expected outcome and evaluative measure for each key activity.</td>
<td>Identify the person responsible for each key activity.</td>
<td>List all resources needed to complete the key activity.</td>
<td>Show all district costs and identify 1003(a) funded items with an *.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Implementation Period 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Activity</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Target and Evaluation</th>
<th>Person/Area Responsible</th>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>District Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Implementation Period 2:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Activity</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Target and Evaluation</th>
<th>Person/Area Responsible</th>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>District Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
## SECTION D – BUDGET NARRATIVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL DISTRICT</th>
<th>BUDGET NARRATIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CODE/</td>
<td>CODE/ BUDGET CATEGORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUDGET CATEGORY</td>
<td>Code 15 Professional Salaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Code 16 Support Staff Salaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Code 40 Purchased Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Code 45 Supplies and Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Code 46 Travel Expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Code 80 Employee Benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Code 90 Indirect Cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Code 49 BOCES Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assurances

The following assurances are a component of your application. By signing the certification on the application cover page you are ensuring accountability and compliance with state and federal laws, regulations, and grants management requirements and certifying that you have read and will comply with the following assurances and certifications.

Federal Assurances and Certifications, General:

- Assurances – Non-Construction Programs
- Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters
- Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion – Lower Tier Covered Transactions
- General Education Provisions Act Assurances

Federal Assurances and Certifications, NCLB (if appropriate):

The following are required as a condition for receiving any federal funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

- NCLB Assurances
- School Prayer Certification

General Federal Assurances

1. The program will be administered in accordance with all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans and applications;

2. Each LEA shall assure its compliance with all supplement not supplant requirements;

3. (a) The control of funds provided under each program and title to property acquired with program funds will be in a public agency or in a non-profit private agency, institution, organization, or Indian tribe, if the law authorizing the program provides for assistance to those entities; (b) the public agency, nonprofit private agency, institution or organization, or Indian tribe will administer the funds and property to the extent required by the authorizing statutes;

4. The applicant will adopt and use proper methods of administering each such program, including (a) the enforcement of any obligations imposed by law on agencies, institutions, organizations, and other recipients responsible for carrying out each program; and (b) the correction of deficiencies in program operations that are identified through audits, monitoring, or evaluation;

5. The applicant will cooperate in carrying out any evaluation of each such program conducted by or for the State educational agency, the Secretary, or other Federal officials;

6. The applicant will use such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, Federal funds paid to the applicant under each such program;

7. The applicant agrees to comply with the following civil rights authorities, their implementing regulations, and appropriate federal and State guidelines: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Federal Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975.
As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, and by signing the application cover page, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in this application.

2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.

3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.

4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.

5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C §§ 4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).

6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§ 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§ 290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. § 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328), which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.


10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is $10,000 or more.

11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clear Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clear Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L. 93-205).

12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1721 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.


14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.

15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.

16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.), which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.

17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.

18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.

Standard Form 424B (Rev. 7-97), Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102, Authorized for Local Reproduction, as amended by New York State Education Department
CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING LOBBYING

Applicants should refer to the regulations cited below to determine the certification to which they are required to attest. Applicants should also review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form. Signature of the Application Cover Page provides for compliance with certification requirements under 34 CFR Part 82, "New Restrictions on Lobbying," and 34 CFR Part 85, "Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement)." The certifications shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the Department of Education determines to award the covered transaction, grant, or cooperative agreement.

1. LOBBYING

As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 82, for persons entering into a grant or cooperative agreement over $100,000, as defined at 34 CFR Part 82, Sections 82.105 and 82.110, the applicant certifies that:

(a) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any Federal grant, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal grant or cooperative agreement;

(b) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and

(c) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub awards at all tiers (including sub grants, contracts under grants and cooperative agreements, and subcontracts) and that all sub recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.
CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION — LOWER TIER COVERED TRANSACTIONS

This certification is required by the Department of Education regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 34 CFR Part 85, for all lower tier transactions meeting the threshold and tier requirements stated at Section 85.110.

Instructions for Certification

1. By signing the Application Cover Page, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.

2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

3. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to whom this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

4. The terms “covered transaction,” “debarred,” “suspended,” “ineligible,” “lower tier covered transaction,” “participant,” “person,” “primary covered transaction,” “principal,” “proposal,” and “voluntarily excluded,” as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

5. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.

6. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled “Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions,” without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the Nonprocurement List.

8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered
transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred,
ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available
to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue
available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

Certification

(1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its
principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily
excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

(2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certific-
tation, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

ED 80-0014, as amended by the New York State Education Department
These assurances are required by the General Education Provisions Act for certain programs funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

As the authorized representative of the applicant, by signing the application cover page, I certify that:

(1) that the local educational agency will administer each program covered by the application in accordance with all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications;

(2) that the control of funds provided to the local educational agency under each program, and title to property acquired with those funds, will be in a public agency and that a public agency will administer those funds and property;

(3) that the local educational agency will use fiscal control and fund accounting procedures that will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, Federal funds paid to that agency under each program;

(4) that the local educational agency will make reports to the State agency or board and to the Secretary as may reasonably be necessary to enable the State agency or board and the Secretary to perform their duties and that the local educational agency will maintain such records, including the records required under section 1232f of this title, and provide access to those records, as the State agency or board or the Secretary deem necessary to perform their duties;

(5) that the local educational agency will provide reasonable opportunities for the participation by teachers, parents, and other interested agencies, organizations, and individuals in the planning for and operation of each program;

(6) that any application, evaluation, periodic program plan or report relating to each program will be made readily available to parents and other members of the general public;

(7) that in the case of any project involving construction –

   (A) the project is not inconsistent with overall State plans for the construction of school facilities, and

   (B) in developing plans for construction, due consideration will be given to excellence of architecture and design and to compliance with standards prescribed by the Secretary under section 794 of title 29 in order to ensure that facilities constructed with the use of Federal funds are accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities;

(8) that the local educational agency has adopted effective procedures for acquiring and disseminating to teachers and administrators participating in each program significant information from educational research, demonstrations, and similar projects, and for adopting, where appropriate, promising educational practices developed through such projects; and

(9) that none of the funds expended under any applicable program will be used to acquire equipment (including computer software) in any instance in which such acquisition results in a direct financial benefit to any organization representing the interests of the purchasing entity or its employees or any affiliate of such an organization.