

Dear Senators MORTIMER, Thayn, Buckner-Webb, and
Representatives VANORDEN, McDonald, Kloc:

The Legislative Services Office, Research and Legislation, has received the enclosed rules of the
Career-Technical Education, Division of:

IDAPA 55.01.03 - Rules of Career Technical Schools - Proposed Rule (Docket No. 55-0103-1701);

IDAPA 55.01.04 - Rules Governing Idaho Quality Program Standards Incentive Grants and
Agricultural Education Program Start-up Grants - Proposed Rule (Docket No.
55-0104-1701).

Pursuant to Section 67-454, Idaho Code, a meeting on the enclosed rules may be called by the
cochairmen or by two (2) or more members of the subcommittee giving oral or written notice to Research
and Legislation no later than fourteen (14) days after receipt of the rules' analysis from Legislative
Services. The final date to call a meeting on the enclosed rules is no later than 11/06/2017. If a meeting is
called, the subcommittee must hold the meeting within forty-two (42) days of receipt of the rules' analysis
from Legislative Services. The final date to hold a meeting on the enclosed rules is 12/06/2017.

The germane joint subcommittee may request a statement of economic impact with respect to a
proposed rule by notifying Research and Legislation. There is no time limit on requesting this statement,
and it may be requested whether or not a meeting on the proposed rule is called or after a meeting has
been held.

To notify Research and Legislation, call 334-4834, or send a written request to the address on the
memorandum attached below.



Eric Milstead
Director

Legislative Services Office

Idaho State Legislature

Serving Idaho's Citizen Legislature

MEMORANDUM

TO: Rules Review Subcommittee of the Senate Education Committee and the House Education Committee

FROM: Senior Legislative Research Analyst - Elizabeth Bowen

DATE: October 18, 2017

SUBJECT: Career-Technical Education, Division of

IDAPA 55.01.03 - Rules of Career Technical Schools - Proposed Rule (Docket No. 55-0103-1701)

IDAPA 55.01.04 - Rules Governing Idaho Quality Program Standards Incentive Grants and Agricultural Education Program Start-up Grants - Proposed Rule (Docket No. 55-0104-1701)

The Division of Career-Technical Education submits notice of proposed rulemaking at IDAPA 55.01.03 and 55.01.04.

55.01.03

This rule provides definitions for the terms "administrator" and "capstone course," removes obsolete language, and revises terminology. Additionally, the rule clarifies: (1) career technical school program requirements, and (2) eligibility requirements for career technical school added cost unit funding.

Negotiated rulemaking was conducted, and there is no anticipated negative fiscal impact on the state general fund. The Division states that this rulemaking is authorized pursuant to Section 33-2205, Idaho Code, which authorizes rulemaking for career technical education.

55.01.04

This rule concerns incentive grants for high school agricultural and natural resources programs. Under the rule, if a qualified teacher does not receive a grant in the year he or she applies, the teacher will receive priority consideration for the grant the following year. Additionally, the rule lengthens the period of time in which a new program is eligible for a start-up grant and clarifies when grant payments will be made.

Negotiated rulemaking was conducted, and there is no anticipated negative fiscal impact on the state general fund. The Division states that this rulemaking is authorized pursuant to Section 33-1629, Idaho Code, which governs the incentive grants.

cc: Career-Technical Education, Division of
Tracie Bent

Mike Nugent, Manager
Research & Legislation

Paul Headlee, Manager
Budget & Policy Analysis

April Renfro, Manager
Legislative Audits

Glenn Harris, Manager
Information Technology

IDAPA 55 – DIVISION OF CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

55.01.03 – RULES OF CAREER TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

DOCKET NO. 55-0103-1701

NOTICE OF RULEMAKING – PROPOSED RULE

AUTHORITY: In compliance with Section 67-5221(1), Idaho Code, notice is hereby given that this agency has initiated proposed rulemaking procedures. The action is authorized pursuant to Sections 33-2205, 33-2211 and 33-1002G.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE: Public hearing(s) concerning this rulemaking will be scheduled if requested in writing by twenty-five (25) persons, a political subdivision, or an agency, not later than October 18, 2017.

The hearing site(s) will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for accommodation must be made not later than five (5) days prior to the hearing, to the agency address below.

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: The following is a nontechnical explanation of the substance and purpose of the proposed rulemaking:

The purpose of the proposed amendments is to make technical corrections, such as alphabetizing the definition section, adding definitions to terms that were used and not defined and updating terminology. Additional amendments remove redundant language that is already contained in Section 33-1002G, Idaho Code, and provide additional clarification of career technical school program requirements and career technical school added cost unity funding eligibility requirements.

FEE SUMMARY: The following is a specific description of the fee or charge imposed or increased: N/A

FISCAL IMPACT: The following is a specific description, if applicable, of any negative fiscal impact on the state general fund greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) during the fiscal year resulting from this rulemaking: N/A

NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING: Pursuant to Section 67-5220(1), Idaho Code, negotiated rulemaking was conducted. The Notice of Intent to Promulgate Rules – Negotiated Rulemaking was published in the April 5, 2017 Idaho Administrative Bulletin, [Vol. 17-4, Page 38](#).

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE: Pursuant to Section 67-5229(2)(a), Idaho Code, the following is a brief synopsis of why the materials cited are being incorporated by reference into this rule: This rulemaking does not incorporate any documents by reference.

ASSISTANCE ON TECHNICAL QUESTIONS, SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS: For assistance on technical questions concerning the proposed rule, contact Tracie Bent at (208) 332-1582, or tracie.bent@osbe.idaho.gov. All written comments must be directed to the undersigned and must be delivered on or before October 25, 2017.

DATED this 31st day of August, 2017.

Tracie Bent
Chief Planning and Policy Officer
State Board of Education
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Fax: (208) 334-2632

THE FOLLOWING IS THE PROPOSED TEXT OF DOCKET NO. 55-0103-1701
(Only Those Sections With Amendments Are Shown.)

005. DEFINITIONS.

01. Administrator. A designated school administrator, holding a career technical administrator certificate pursuant to IDAPA 08.02.02, "Rules Governing Uniformity," Section 015, and who oversees and monitors the career technical school programs and is responsible for ensuring the school meets all applicable federal, state, and local school district regulations, rules, and policies. ()

02. Attendance Zones. For purposes of Section 33-1002G, Idaho Code, each high school is classified as an attendance zone. The attendance zone requirement can be met by having students from at least two (2) high school zones within a district or at least two (2) high school zones in different districts participate in the career technical school. A minimum of fifteen percent (15%) of the total student body must reside in attendance zones apart from the attendance zone of the majority of students. Cooperative Service Agencies must meet the fifteen percent (15%) attendance criteria on a program-by-program basis. (3-30-01)

~~**02. Dual Credit.** Pursuant to Section 33-5109, Idaho Code, dual credit may be granted for Advanced Placement, College Level Examination Program, or Tech Prep class offerings that are approved through an accredited institution of higher education. This does not have to be a one (1) credit for one (1) credit articulation. Competencies from multiple classes can count toward postsecondary credit/credits. (3-30-01)~~

03. Capstone Course. A culminating course that requires students to demonstrate the knowledge and skills learned throughout their program of study. ()

04. Career Technical Schools. Schools designed to provide high-end, state-of-the-art technical programs that foster quality technical education ~~at the secondary level~~ through intermediate and capstone courses. Programs and services are directly related to the preparation of high school students for employment in current or emerging occupations that require other than a baccalaureate or advanced degree. These schools are closely linked to postsecondary education, thereby avoiding redundancy and maintaining rigor. They are also closely linked to current business and industry standards to ensure relevance and quality. (3-30-01)()

05. Field Experience. Paid or unpaid work experience such as business/industry internship, clinical experience, supervised occupational experience, job placement, school-based enterprise, or similar work experience setting. The field experience must be of sufficient duration and depth to add to the technical competencies of the student. (3-30-01)

(BREAK IN CONTINUITY OF SECTIONS)

101. CAREER TECHNICAL SCHOOL GENERAL APPROVAL CRITERIA.

For approval, applying career technical school's ~~districts/consortiums~~ must meet at least four (4) of the five (5) criteria listed in Section 33-1002G, Idaho Code. Approval criteria: (3-30-01)()

- 01. **High School Attendance Zones.** Two (2) or more high school attendance zones. (3-30-01)
- 02. **Dual Credit.** (3-30-01)
- 03. **Field Experience.** (3-30-01)
- 04. **Funded as a Separate School.** (3-30-01)

05. Separate Site or Cooperative Service Agency. Located at a separate site or approved by the State Board of Education as a cooperative service agency. (3-30-01)

102. CAREER TECHNICAL COMPONENT CRITERIA.

01. Program Criteria. Career technical schools are intended to deliver high-end technical education programs that go beyond the scope of traditional career technical education. The lab should be appropriately designed for the type of program and the number of students enrolled. The program should have state-of-the-art equipment, current technology and strong links to business and industry. (3-30-01)

02. Career Technical School Program. Each program of a career technical school shall: (3-30-01)

- ~~a. Be based on industry standards that are measurable using a competency-based evaluation system. (3-30-01)~~
- ~~b. Demonstrate a responsiveness to students' needs and to labor market needs. (3-30-01)~~
- ~~c. Contain a sequence of instruction that follows a set of industry competencies. (3-30-01)~~
- ~~d. Reinforce basic and advanced academic skills. (3-30-01)~~
- ~~e. Have at least one (1) dual credit technical course or be approved for postsecondary credit as part of a Tech Prep agreement. (3-30-01)~~
- ~~f. Promote access and equity for all students and school personnel. (3-30-01)~~
- ~~g. Incorporate active input from an appropriately qualified business/industry technical advisory committee. (3-30-01)~~
- a. Deliver a sequence of career technical education courses that culminate in a capstone course. ()**
- b. Meet all of the required technical competency credit standards established by the state board of education. ()**
- c. Develop and maintain business and industry partnerships in addition to the technical advisory committee. ()**
- ~~h. Ensure that all programs implement instructional delivery methods that use current teaching and industry technologies integrate advances in industry technologies. (3-30-01)()~~
- h. Employ instructors who hold career technical certification to teach the occupation and who also hold a related industry-based credential, or equivalent credential, as approved by the division of career technical education. (3-30-01)()**
- i. Be delivered over a term of not less than five semesters, or the equivalent instructional hours. Semester and trimester equivalencies will be approved by the division of career technical education. ()**
- g. Enroll students from at least two (2) high schools. No single high school will comprise more than eighty-five percent (85%) of the total enrolled career technical school students. In the event a student enrolled in the career technical school is not enrolled in a high school, that student will be reported separately, based on the high school attendance zone where the student resides. ()**
- ~~j. Promote the development of leadership, interpersonal and other cross-functional workplace skills through career technical student organizations or other appropriate means. (3-30-01)()~~
- ~~k. Ensure that the instructional setting is appropriate and effective regarding. (3-30-01)~~

- ~~i. Student teacher ratios. (3-30-01)~~
- ~~ii. Number of lab work stations. (3-30-01)~~
- ~~iii. Number of quality work-experience sites. (3-30-01)~~
- ~~iv. Safety. (3-30-01)~~
- ~~v. Work-experience agreements. (3-30-01)~~
- ~~vi. Facility maintenance. (3-30-01)~~

(BREAK IN CONTINUITY OF SECTIONS)

104. CAREER TECHNICAL SCHOOL ADDED COST UNIT FUNDING AND ELIGIBILITY.

Section 33-1002G, Idaho Code, provides school districts an opportunity to establish career technical schools that qualify for funding appropriated for the specific purpose of supporting the added cost of career technical schools. The funds are appropriated to the State Board for Career Technical Education to be expended by the Division of Career Technical Education. Funding is based on the average daily attendance (ADA) of students enrolled in the career technical school. If any approved program within a career technical school does not enroll students from more than one (1) high school during the reporting period, the enrolled students may not be counted as part of the school's average daily attendance for that reporting period. If the overall enrollment exceeds more than eighty-five percent (85%) of students from any single high school during the school year, the division of career technical education may withhold all or part of the career technical school's funding. (3-30-01)()

105. CAREER TECHNICAL SCHOOL AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE.

The Division of Career Technical Education shall use the enrollment ~~reports sent to the State Department of Education~~ and attendance submitted to the division of career technical education by the school district to calculate career technical school average daily attendance (ADA) in accordance with applicable laws and rules (Section 33-1002, Idaho Code). Students in attendance at a qualifying career technical school shall be reported as aggregate hours and/or aggregate attendance. The aggregate hours and aggregate attendance will be combined to calculate the ADA for the career technical school. (3-30-01)()

01. Aggregate Hours. The daily hours of all students enrolled in approved intermediate and capstone courses who attend less than two and one-half (2.5) hours per day shall be added together and reported as weekly aggregate hours. (3-30-01)()

02. Aggregate Attendance. Students attending enrolled in approved intermediate and capstone courses who attend more than two and one-half (2.5) hours per day are to be reported as aggregate attendance. (3-30-01)()

106. CAREER TECHNICAL SCHOOL ADDED COST UNIT CALCULATION.

The Division of Career Technical Education shall use the career technical school average daily attendance (ADA) as the basis for added cost unit funding. (3-30-01)

01. State Support Unit Value. The added cost support unit value shall be based on state salary-based apportionment, state paid employee benefits (less state unemployment), base support, and safe environment distribution factors found in the Public School Support Program. (3-30-01)

02. Support Unit Divisor. Added cost support units for career technical schools shall be calculated by using the secondary support unit attendance divisor of eighteen and one-half (18.5) as shown in Section 33-1002(6), Idaho Code. (3-30-01)

03. Added Cost Support Factor. The added cost support factor for career technical schools shall be calculated by multiplying point thirty-three (.33) times the added cost support units generated in the career technical

school. (3-30-01)

04. Estimated ~~Reimbursement~~ Distribution. The estimated ~~reimbursement~~ distribution shall be calculated by multiplying the state support unit value by the added cost support factor. ~~(3-30-01)()~~

107. CAREER TECHNICAL SCHOOL ADDED COST UNIT FUND DISTRIBUTION.

Once the career technical appropriation is made, the per unit value will be determined by dividing the total units into the appropriation. (3-30-01)

01. Payment Distribution. Added cost support unit funds shall be distributed by the Division of Career Technical Education in two (2) payments: (3-30-01)

a. Seventy percent (70%) of the total estimated funds for which ~~a~~ career technical schools ~~are is~~ eligible shall be distributed each year following receipt of first-period ~~enrollment~~ attendance data from the ~~Department of Education~~ approved career technical schools. Funding will not be distributed until reports have been received and approved by the division of career technical education from each approved schools. ~~(3-30-01)()~~

b. Based on actual support units generated during the year, the balance shall be distributed each year by July 15th. (3-30-01)

~~**02. Reduced Funding.** In the event that the legislature does not appropriate enough funds to cover at least ninety percent (90%) of the calculated per unit value, preference will be given to existing schools and funding will not be reduced to less than ninety percent (90%) of the previous year's level. (3-30-01)~~

~~**03. Adjusted Distribution.** In the event that program growth exceeds the amount of the requested appropriation on a given year, the distribution of funds to each career technical school will be based on the projected ADA from the Annual Application or the actual ADA from the enrollment reports, whichever is smallest. (3-30-01)~~

108. ACCOUNTABILITY.

01. Assessment Process. The Division of Career Technical Education shall develop an assessment process that includes measures and standards for career technical school programs. (3-30-01)

02. Reporting. No later than October 15 of each year, career technical schools will submit a report to the division of career technical education, detailing their enrollment at the program level by high school. ()

~~**03. Administrator Responsibility.** The administrator of each career technical school shall be responsible to provide ~~a complete report for each program on the measures and standards at the end of each fiscal year~~ onsite administration of the career technical school. The administrator will submit all required career technical school reports requested by the division of career technical education. ~~(3-30-01)()~~~~

034. Accreditation. Each career technical school shall be accredited following Department of Education guidelines. This accreditation shall be appropriate for the individual type of career technical school that is developed. (3-30-01)

045. School Improvement Plan. The administration, faculty and staff at each career technical school shall be responsible to develop and implement a local school improvement plan based on the assessment process developed by the division of career technical education. ~~(3-30-01)()~~

IDAPA 55 – DIVISION OF CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

55.01.04 – RULES GOVERNING IDAHO QUALITY PROGRAM STANDARDS INCENTIVE GRANTS AND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAM START-UP GRANTS

DOCKET NO. 55-0104-1701

NOTICE OF RULEMAKING – PROPOSED RULE

AUTHORITY: In compliance with Section 67-5221(1), Idaho Code, notice is hereby given that this agency has initiated proposed rulemaking procedures. The action is authorized pursuant to Section 33-1629, Idaho Code.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE: Public hearing(s) concerning this rulemaking will be scheduled if requested in writing by twenty-five (25) persons, a political subdivision, or an agency, not later than October 18, 2017.

The hearing site(s) will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for accommodation must be made not later than five (5) days prior to the hearing, to the agency address below.

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: The following is a nontechnical explanation of the substance and purpose of the proposed rulemaking:

Proposed amendments will create a “carry forward” function within the incentive grant that will allow qualified teachers priority consideration for a subsequent grant cycle, in the event that a qualified teacher does not receive funds in the year they are eligible. In years that the number of qualified teachers exceeds available funds, those teachers would be placed at the top of the consideration list the following year. The second amendment expands the window of time that a new program is eligible for the start-up grant from one year to three years of program approval. Additional amendments will change the disbursement of grant funds structure, rather than using a reimbursement process, districts will receive their entire grant award in October of each year and then file an annual report with the Division of Career Technical Education documenting the appropriate use of funds at the end of the award cycle.

FEE SUMMARY: The following is a specific description of the fee or charge imposed or increased: N/A

FISCAL IMPACT: The following is a specific description, if applicable, of any negative fiscal impact on the state general fund greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) during the fiscal year resulting from this rulemaking: N/A

NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING: Pursuant to Section 67-5220(1), Idaho Code, negotiated rulemaking was conducted. The Notice of Intent to Promulgate Rules – Negotiated Rulemaking was published in the April 5, 2017 Idaho Administrative Bulletin, [Vol. 17-4, Page 39](#).

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE: Pursuant to Section 67-5229(2)(a), Idaho Code, the following is a brief synopsis of why the materials cited are being incorporated by reference into this rule: This rulemaking does not incorporate any documents by reference.

ASSISTANCE ON TECHNICAL QUESTIONS, SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS: For assistance on technical questions concerning the proposed rule, contact Tracie Bent at (208) 332-1582, or tracie.bent@osbe.idaho.gov. All written comments must be directed to the undersigned and must be delivered on or before October 25, 2017.

DATED this 31st day of August, 2017.

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THE FOLLOWING IS THE PROPOSED TEXT OF DOCKET NO. 55-0104-1701
(Only Those Sections With Amendments Are Shown.)

100. INCENTIVE GRANT.

01. Eligibility Requirements. Eligible applicants must meet quality program and instructor requirements as approved by the board. Applicants may re-apply each year regardless of whether they have received a previous grant award. (4-11-15)

a. An agricultural and natural resources program in any grade nine (9) through twelve (12) must first meet the minimum program-specific quality program standards as approved by the board. (4-11-15)

b. Programs will be rated on a scale consisting of “non-existent,” “below basic,” “basic,” “qualified,” “distinguished,” and “exemplary.” Eligibility requires that the program must meet each of the program quality indicators at the level of “basic” or higher. Programs must also have an overall average rating of no less than “distinguished” for all program-specific quality standards. This average will be calculated using the quality indicators within each standard. Programs that do not meet the minimum quality standards requirements in one (1) year may be found eligible in subsequent year. Programs will be assessed by the division. (4-11-15)

c. Instructors must teach in an agricultural and natural resources program that meets the quality program standards and must also meet the instructor-specific quality program standard as approved by the board. (4-11-15)

d. Instructors will be rated on a scale consisting of “non-existent,” “below basic,” “basic,” “qualified,” “distinguished,” and “exemplary.” Eligibility requires that the instructor must meet each of the program quality indicators at the level of “basic” or higher. Instructors must also have an average rating of no less than “distinguished” for all instructor-specific quality indicators. Instructors that do not meet the minimum quality standards requirements in one (1) year may be found eligible in subsequent year. All instructors of agricultural and natural resources programs in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) are eligible to apply for the grant. (4-11-15)

e. Payments to districts will be adjusted according to the percent of time an instructor teaches within an approved agricultural and natural resources program. (4-11-15)

f. Should the division request additional information from a school district regarding a grant application, districts must respond to the request within the time period indicated. Failure to respond will result in the cancellation of the application and/or the forfeiture of the grant. (4-11-15)

02. Application Process. The application process consists of a formal application and assessment. (4-11-15)

a. To be considered for the grant, a school district must first complete and submit a formal application and supporting documentation on behalf of an instructor for an approved program according to the timeline established by the administrator. Applications may be submitted electronically to the division. In the event of a mailed application, applications must be postmarked no later than the timeline specified by the division. Instructors may not apply on their own behalf. (4-11-15)

b. Following the receipt of an application, the division will conduct an assessment of the program and instructor to ensure they both meet the minimum eligibility requirements, as outlined in the quality program standards. At the administrator’s discretion, the division may partner with additional subject-matter experts to assist in the evaluation. Assessments will be conducted each school year the instructor and program participate in the grant program. Districts will only be eligible to apply for the grant during the academic year the program received an assessment. Prior assessments cannot be used for subsequent grant applications. (4-11-15)

03. Selection of Grant Recipients. Grants will be awarded annually based on the availability of grant

funds and the number of qualified applicants. Grants will be awarded to applicants based on ranking in accordance with the following criteria: (4-11-15)

- of:
- a. Applicants will be ranked according to their overall score. Scores will be calculated using the sum (4-11-15)
 - i. The average score of the program quality indicators; and (4-11-15)
 - ii. The average score of the instructor-specific program quality indicators. (4-11-15)

04. Incentive Grant Award. (4-11-15)

a. Announcement of the grant award will be made following administrator approval through the distribution of a funding authorization letter. Prior to the distribution of the letter, the division will verify that the grant recipient continues to teach at the same school, in the same agricultural and natural resources program, and at the same FTE level as indicated on the formal application. (4-11-15)

b. The total number of recipients will vary by year in accordance with the availability of funds and the qualifications of the applicant pool. Awards will be in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) until available funds are exhausted or all qualified recipients have been awarded the grant. In the event that funds are exhausted and a qualified teacher does not receive the grant in the year he or she applies, that teacher will receive priority consideration for the grant the following year. If the teacher(s) reapplies and continues to meet the minimum qualifications the following year, he or she will be eligible to receive the grant regardless of where he or she ranks. Once the prioritized teacher(s) has been awarded funds, the remaining teachers will be ranked and funds will be awarded until the remaining funds have been exhausted. This cycle of prioritization may continue for multiple years; once a qualified teacher receives funds, he or she automatically moves back into the pool of teachers whose applications will be ranked in the following application cycle. Grants may be less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) when certain conditions exist: (4-11-15)()

i. Tied ranking. In the event of a tie, and in those instances where the number of qualified applicants exceeds the available funds, grants will be awarded evenly among those recipients with a tied score. (4-11-15)

ii. Less than full-time employment in an approved program. Grants will be awarded using FTE to calculate the percent of time an instructor spends teaching within an approved agricultural and natural resources program. In the event an instructor teaches in an approved program in less than a full-time capacity, grants will be pro-rated according to the percent of time the instructor spends teaching in the approved program. (4-11-15)

c. Grants are awarded on an annual basis and are not renewable or transferable. (4-11-15)

d. The use of grant funds must be in accordance with division guidelines and must be clearly linked to the agricultural and natural resources program identified on the formal application. (4-11-15)

e. Grant funds may be used to improve the agricultural and natural resources program, including but not limited to: (4-11-15)

i. Offset travel and registration fees associated with educational workshops and/or professional training on behalf of the instructor; (4-11-15)

ii. Purchase or repair equipment; or (4-11-15)

iii. Purchase educational supplies/curricula. (4-11-15)

f. Grant funds may not be used to: (4-11-15)

i. Cover the costs of either salaries or benefits, including extended contracts; (4-11-15)

ii. Offset expenses associated with the FFA organization or other student organizations; or (4-11-15)

- iii. Supplant other district funding sources, e.g. routine facility maintenance or improvements. (4-11-15)

101. -- 199. (RESERVED)

200. START-UP GRANT.

01. Eligibility Requirements. A school district may apply for a start-up grant for a newly-approved agricultural and natural resources program or to re-establish an agricultural and natural resources program in any grade nine (9) through twelve (12) when specific eligibility requirements are met. Districts are *only* eligible to apply for the grant *in the within the first three (3) fiscal years* their program is approved or re-established. *If a district applies for the grant but does not receive it, the district may reapply the following year(s). However, the district may only receive the grant once and may not apply beyond the three-year window.* (4-11-15)()

a. To start a new program, districts are required to first complete a request for new secondary program of study form for a new agricultural and natural resources program in one (1) of the specified grades. The new agricultural and natural resources program must then be approved by the division prior to application for the grant. Expansions of existing programs, including the addition of new career pathways or additional staff, do not qualify as a new program. (4-11-15)

b. To re-start a program, districts are required to first complete a Request for New Secondary Program of Study form to re-establish an agricultural and natural resources program in any grade nine (9) through twelve (12). The re-established agricultural and natural resources program must then be approved by the division prior to application for the grant. The re-established program must have been inactive for at least two (2) academic years to qualify for the grant. (4-11-15)

02. Application Process. A school district may submit an application for a new or re-established program. Completed applications, which must be authorized by the district superintendent, must be submitted to the division according to the timeline established by the administrator. In the event of a mailed application, the application must be postmarked no later than the timeline specified *in the request.* (4-11-15)()

a. Applications must include all required information outlined in the grant application, including specific documents detailing the district's proposed budget and long-term strategy for sustaining the program. (4-11-15)

b. Communication with state officials. Should the division request additional information from a district regarding a grant application, districts must respond to the request within the time period indicated. Failure to respond will result in the cancellation of the application and/or the forfeiture of the grant. (4-11-15)

03. Selection of Grant Recipients. Grants will be awarded annually by the division based on the availability of grant funds and the number of qualified programs. Grants will be awarded to districts based on ranking and priority that considers factors including but not limited to: the strength of the budget proposal, sustainability potential of the proposed program, and the history of prior grant awards. (4-11-15)

04. Start-up Grant Award. Announcement of the grant award will be made following administrator approval through the distribution of a funding authorization letter. The total number of recipients will not exceed four awards annually, and may vary by year in accordance with the availability of funds and the qualifications of the applicant pool. Awards will be in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) until available funds are exhausted or all qualified recipients have been awarded the grant. (4-11-15)

a. Grants are awarded on a one-time basis and are not renewable or transferable. If a district is awarded the grant for a new program, the program is ineligible for future awards should the program terminate and then be re-established. (4-11-15)

b. Use of grant funds must be in accordance with division guidelines and must be clearly linked to the agricultural and natural resources program identified on the formal application. If a district fails to spend the entire

award amount, those funds may not be carried forward to the next fiscal year. (4-11-15)

c. Grant funds may be used to improve the agricultural and natural resources program, including but not limited to: (4-11-15)

i. Offset travel and registration fees associated with educational workshops and/or professional training on behalf of the instructor; (4-11-15)

ii. Purchase or repair equipment; (4-11-15)

iii. Purchase educational supplies/curricula; or (4-11-15)

iv. Start-up costs, up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000,) associated with establishing a new chapter of FFA or other relevant student organization. (4-11-15)

d. Grant funds may not be used to: (4-11-15)

i. Cover the costs of salaries and/or benefits, including extended contracts; (4-11-15)

ii. Offset ongoing expenses associated with the FFA organization or other student organizations; or (4-11-15)

iii. Supplant other district funding sources, e.g. routine facility maintenance or improvements. (4-11-15)

201. -- 299. (RESERVED)

300. PAYMENTS.

Payment of grant funds will be made to the district ~~using a reimbursement process~~ once the final award determinations are made. For grants awarded under Section 100, funds will be made to the district on behalf of the instructor. ~~To receive reimbursement for eligible expenses, school districts must submit a reimbursement request no later than July 15 each year for the preceding school year, but may request reimbursement as costs are incurred~~ No later than June 30 of the fiscal year the grant was received, the district must submit a detailed expenditure report to the Division. Each report is subject to review and verification by the Division and must detail that all expenditures were allowable under the grant and that all funds were spent within the fiscal year. Any unspent grant funds must be returned to the Division. (4-11-15)()