

## § 607.4

## 34 CFR Ch. VI (7-1-11 Edition)

underrepresented in postsecondary education, or minority students;

(4) The institution substantially increases the higher education opportunities for individuals who reside in an area that is not included in a "metropolitan statistical area" as defined by the Office of Management and Budget and who are unserved by other postsecondary institutions;

(5) The institution is located on or within 50 miles of an Indian reservation, or a substantial population of Indians and the institution will, if granted the waiver, substantially increase higher education opportunities for American Indians;

(6) It is a tribal college or university; or

(7) The institution will, if granted the waiver, substantially increase the higher education opportunities for Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans or Pacific Islanders, including Native Hawaiians.

(c) For the purpose of paragraph (b) of this section, the Secretary considers "low-income" to be an amount which does not exceed 150 percent of the amount equal to the poverty level as established by the United States Bureau of the Census.

(d) Each year, the Secretary notifies prospective applicants through a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER of the low-income figures.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1058 and 1067)

[52 FR 30529, Aug. 14, 1987, as amended at 60 FR 15447, Mar. 23, 1995; 64 FR 70153, Dec. 15, 1999]

### § 607.4 What are low educational and general expenditures?

(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, for the purpose of § 6072(a)(2), an applicant institution's average educational and general expenditures per full-time equivalent undergraduate student in the base year must be less than the average educational and general expenditures per full-time equivalent undergraduate student of comparable institutions that offer similar institution in that year.

(2) For the purpose of paragraph (a)(1) of this section, the Secretary determines the average educational and

general expenditure per FTE undergraduate student for institutions with graduate students that do not differentiate between graduate and undergraduate E&G expenditures by discounting the graduate enrollment using a factor of 2.5 times the number of graduate students.

(b) Each year, the Secretary notifies prospective applicants through a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER of the average educational and general expenditures per full-time equivalent undergraduate student at comparable institutions that offer similar instruction.

(c) The Secretary may waive the requirement contained in paragraph (a) of this section, if the Secretary determines, based upon persuasive evidence provided by the institution, that—

(1) The institution's failure to satisfy the criteria in paragraph (a) of this section was due to factors which, if used in determining compliance with those criteria, distorted that determination; and

(2) The institution's designation as an eligible institution under this part is otherwise consistent with the purposes of this part.

(d) For the purpose of paragraph (c)(1) of this section, the Secretary considers that the following factors may distort an institution's educational and general expenditures per full-time equivalent undergraduate student—

- (1) Low student enrollment;
- (2) Location of the institution in an unusually high cost-of-living area;
- (3) High energy costs;
- (4) An increase in State funding that was part of a desegregation plan for higher education; or
- (5) Operation of high cost professional schools such as medical or dental schools.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1058 and 1067)

[59 FR 41922, Aug. 15, 1994]

### § 607.5 How does an institution apply to be designated an eligible institution?

An institution shall apply to the Secretary to be designated an eligible institution under the Strengthening Institutions Program by submitting an application to the Secretary in the form, manner and time established by

the Secretary. The application must contain—

- (a) The information necessary for the Secretary to determine whether the institution satisfies the requirements of §§ 607.2, 607.3(a) and 607.4(a);
- (b) Any waiver request under §§ 607.3(b) and 607.4(c); and
- (c) Information or explanations justifying any requested waiver.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1058 and 1067)

**§ 607.6 What regulations apply?**

The following regulations apply to the Strengthening Institutions Program:

- (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) as follows:
  - (1) 34 CFR part 74 (Administration of Grants to Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Nonprofit Organizations).
  - (2) 34 CFR part 75 (Direct Grant Programs), except 34 CFR 75.128(a)(2) and 75.129(a) in the case of applications for cooperative arrangements.
  - (3) 34 CFR part 77 (Definitions that Apply to Department Regulations).
  - (4) 34 CFR part 79 (Intergovernmental Review of Department of Education Programs and Activities).
  - (5) 34 CFR part 82 (New Restrictions on Lobbying).
  - (6) 34 CFR part 85 (Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)).
  - (7) 34 CFR part 86 (Drug-Free Schools and Campuses).
- (b) The regulations in this part 607.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1057)

[59 FR 41922, Aug. 15, 1994]

**§ 607.7 What definitions apply?**

(a) *Definitions in EDGAR.* The following terms that apply to the Institutional Aid Programs are defined in 34 CFR 77.1:

- EDGAR
- Fiscal year
- Grant
- Grantee
- Grant period
- Nonprofit
- Private
- Project period

Public  
Secretary  
State

(b) The following term used in this part is defined in section 312 of the HEA:

Endowment fund

(c) The following terms used in this part are defined in section 316 of the HEA:

Indian  
Indian tribe  
Tribal college or university

(d) The following terms used in this part are defined in section 317 of the HEA:

Alaska Native  
Alaska Native-serving institution  
Native Hawaiian  
Native Hawaiian-serving institution

(e) The following definitions also apply to this part:

*Accredited* means the status of public recognition which a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association grants to an institution which meets certain established qualifications and educational standards.

*Activity* means an action that is incorporated into an implementation plan designed to meet one or more objectives. An activity is a part of a project and has its own budget that is approved to carry out the objectives of that subpart.

*Base year* means the second fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which an institution seeks a grant under this part.

*Branch campus* means a unit of a college or university that is geographically apart from the main campus of the college or university and independent of that main campus. The Secretary considers a unit of a college or university to be independent of the main campus if the unit—

- (1) Is permanent in nature;
- (2) Offers courses for credit and programs leading to an associate or bachelor's degree; and
- (3) Is autonomous to the extent that it has—
  - (i) Its own faculty and administrative or supervisory organization; and
  - (ii) Its own budgetary and hiring authority.

*Comparable institutions that offer similar instruction* means institutions that