



# DoDEA Education Partnership and Resources Evaluation Technical Assistance Center (ETAC)

**Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA)**

## **Grants to Military-Connected Local Educational Agencies for Academic and Support Programs (MCASP)**

**Goals and Strategies Webinar  
December 18, 2020**

**Nora Kern, Manager, Evaluation and Technical Assistance Center**

# Session Overview

- [2021 Broad Agency Announcement \(BAA\)](#)  
Section III: Project Goals and Design
  - SMART Goals
  - Strategies
  - Goal Measures
- Section III Scoring
- Submission Reminder
- BAA Resources
- Key Dates
- Contact Information



# BAA Section III: Project Goals and Design

- BAA pages 14 - 17 cover the guidelines for creating the project goals and how these goals are designed  
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=323789>
- Section III is worth up to 10 points of the total project score
- Projects may have up to three (3) goals
  - Having more goals does not equate to more points in the scoring rubric
  - Applicants should include the number of goals that are meaningful and achievable for the scope of the proposed project
- Projects may have up to three (3) strategies to support each goal
- Projects will select data to measure progress and accomplishment of the goals



# Creating SMART Goals

*Identify up to three SMART goals for your project.*

Specific



Measurable



Attainable



Realistic



Time-Bound



## SMART Goal Example:

- *Increase the percentage of military-connected middle level students in grades 6-8 scoring proficient or above in the SBAC science assessment during the grant cycle to 60%. (Currently 48%)*



# Creating SMART Goals

*Each main area of your project plan should include long- and short-term objectives.*

## Specific



Specific Goals describe:

- What the result will be?
- How it will be accomplished (i.e., what resources are required)?

## Measurable



Write your goals so that you can track your progress.

Ask questions like:

- How much?
- How many?
- What does success look like?

## Action-Oriented



Begin with an action verb followed by a noun.

For example:

- Identify needs
- List potential resources
- Develop a plan

## Realistic



Set goals that are realistically attainable given your project's capacity, timeframe, and any external limitations or constraints.

## Time-Bound



Provide a target date by which the goals will be achieved.

A time limit creates a sense of urgency, motivating your subconscious mind into action.



# Strategies

Strategies are the activities used to support the attainment of the SMART goal(s)

- **Extracurricular activities**
  - After-school STEM clubs
  - Student STEM-related competitions
  - Summer STEM programs
- **In-class curriculum and instruction support**
  - Project-based learning
  - Integrating social emotional learning with STEM in the classroom
  - Providing opportunities to earn industry recognized STEM careers certifications and credentials
  - Establishing pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship opportunities
  - Embedding work-based learning activities
- **Other**
- **Organizational capacity building**
  - Implementing train-the-trainer or mentoring STEM programs
  - Building faculty capacity to use student data to target student learning needs
  - Developing community support for STEM education for targeted schools (with businesses/military partnerships and higher education collaborations)
- **In-class technology supports**
  - Electronic white boards
  - Tablets/laptops
  - Educational software
- **Tutoring**
- **Virtual classes** (e.g. Completely online virtual classrooms, Blended classrooms, Flipped classrooms)

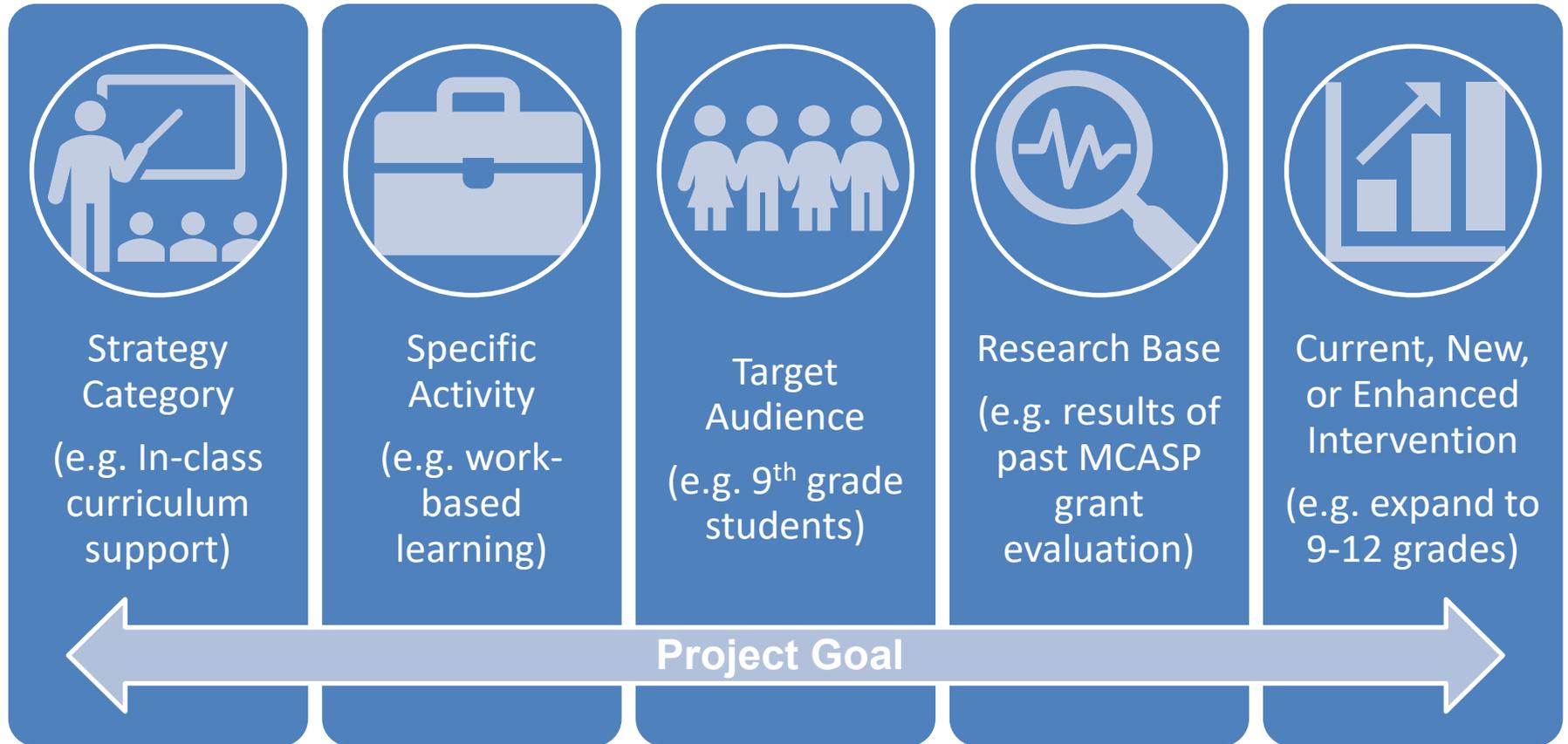


# Goal Measures

- Student performance in STEM courses in statewide, districtwide and/or schoolwide benchmark assessments
- Student performance in ALEKS (AI-adaptive learning and assessment web-based platform)
- Student performance in AP courses (STEM and interdisciplinary such as AP Seminar and AP Research)
- Student performance in college entrance exams (e.g., ACT Math, ACT Science, ACT overall, and Accuplacer)
- Enrollment and completion in dual enrollment STEM courses
- Enrollment, grade, and completion in CTE courses
- Number and percentage of students earning industry-recognized credentials
- Number and percentage of students matriculating to higher grades and grade groupings (regular and honors) and higher education STEM programs with articulation agreements



# Putting It All Together



# Review Criteria

- BAA pages 16-17 show instructions and criteria the reviewers will use to award points for Section III
- Structure your application to follow this organization and ensure that each criteria is directly addressed

Reviewers will use the rubric included below to score applications.

Goals are aligned with the needs identified and focus on military-connected student academic outcomes. (7 points)

Criteria	Evidence
Project has no more than two (2) SMART goals that are student-centered.	
Goals clearly align from the needs assessment.	
Each goal focuses on either one grade or school (elementary, middle, secondary) level.	
Each goal focuses on growth <u>over time</u> and should not maintain the status quo.	
Goals reference STEM academic achievement of military-connected students (e.g. state assessments, graduation rate, advanced placement (AP) exams, and college entrance exam scores).	
Outcomes are <b>reasonable</b> based on past performance and information provided in the needs assessment.	
Baseline data is used (or will be used) to determine outcomes.	
Strategies align with the goal and the needs identified. (3 points)	
Strategies come from the approved DoDEA list.	
No more than three (3) strategies per SMART goal.	
Strategies are aligned to need and relevant to meeting the SMART goal.	

Reviewers will use the rubric to score application: Presents information on district's past and current staff professional learning efforts (3 points).

Criteria	Evidence
Includes relevant information on past and current professional learning in project focus	

area(s) and proposed instructional strategies.	
Explains areas of need in professional learning (e.g. additional substitutes, teacher training in CCR-STEM standards curriculum and instruction, content specialists, coaches, PLCs).	
Includes current challenges in offering professional learning (e.g. administration/teacher buy-in, available planning time, contract hours).	



# Review Criteria Clarification

- Document page 16 lists a review criterion that says, “Strategies come from the approved DoDEA list.”
- *Clarification:* There is **NOT** an approved DoDEA list of strategies.
  - This criterion will be removed from the reviewers’ scoring rubric.

Reviewers will use the rubric included below to score applications.

Goals are aligned with the needs identified and focus on military-connected student academic outcomes. (7 points)

Criteria	Evidence
Project has no more than two (2) SMART goals that are student-centered.	
Goals clearly align from the needs assessment.	
Each goal focuses on either one grade or school (elementary, middle, secondary) level.	
Each goal focuses on <u>growth over time</u> and should not maintain the status quo.	
Goals reference STEM academic achievement of military-connected students (e.g. state assessments, graduation rate, advanced placement (AP) exams, and college entrance exam scores).	
Outcomes are reasonable based on past performance and information provided in the needs assessment.	
Baseline data is used (or will be used) to determine outcomes.	
Strategies align with the goal and the needs identified. (3 points)	
Strategies come from the approved DoDEA list.	
No more than three (3) strategies per SMART goal.	
Strategies are aligned to need and relevant to meeting the SMART goal.	



# Submission



- Applications **can only** be submitted through <https://grants.gov/>
  - For access to complete instructions on how to apply: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html>
  - No applications will be considered via email or after the deadline.





## Announcements

DoDEA is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2020 Grants to Military-Connected Local Educational Agencies for Academic and Support Programs (MCASP). The DoDEA Education Partnership and Resource Division, which executes grants to MCASP, provides resources to military-connected school districts to identify and implement evidence-based solutions to meet the academic needs of the highly mobile military-connected students in their community. Learn more by clicking on the link to view the Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) and the MCASP requirements:  
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=323789>.

DoDEA has scheduled two information sessions for potential LEA applicants to learn more about the grant opportunity and ask questions. The first will be a live webinar on Wednesday, February 12, 2020, from 2:00-3:30 ET.

[Webinar Recording](#)  
[Webinar Deck](#)

DoDEA will post a pre-recorded webinar that focuses on the goals and strategies of the grant opportunity on Wednesday, March 11, 2020. The pre-recorded webinar and the corresponding materials will be available on the [DoDEA ETAC](#) website after March 11, 2020. No registration is required to access the pre-recorded webinar to be released on March 11.

Additional Resources:  
[2020 MCASP Errata/FAQ Document](#)  
[2020 MCASP Budget Template](#)  
[2020 MCASP Cover Page and Project Narrative Template](#)

# BAA Resources on DoDEAGrants.org Homepage

- General Technical Assistance and Goals & Strategies Webinars and Slide Decks
- Additional Resources:
  - 2021 MCASP Budget Template
  - 2021 MCASP Cover Page and Project Narrative Template

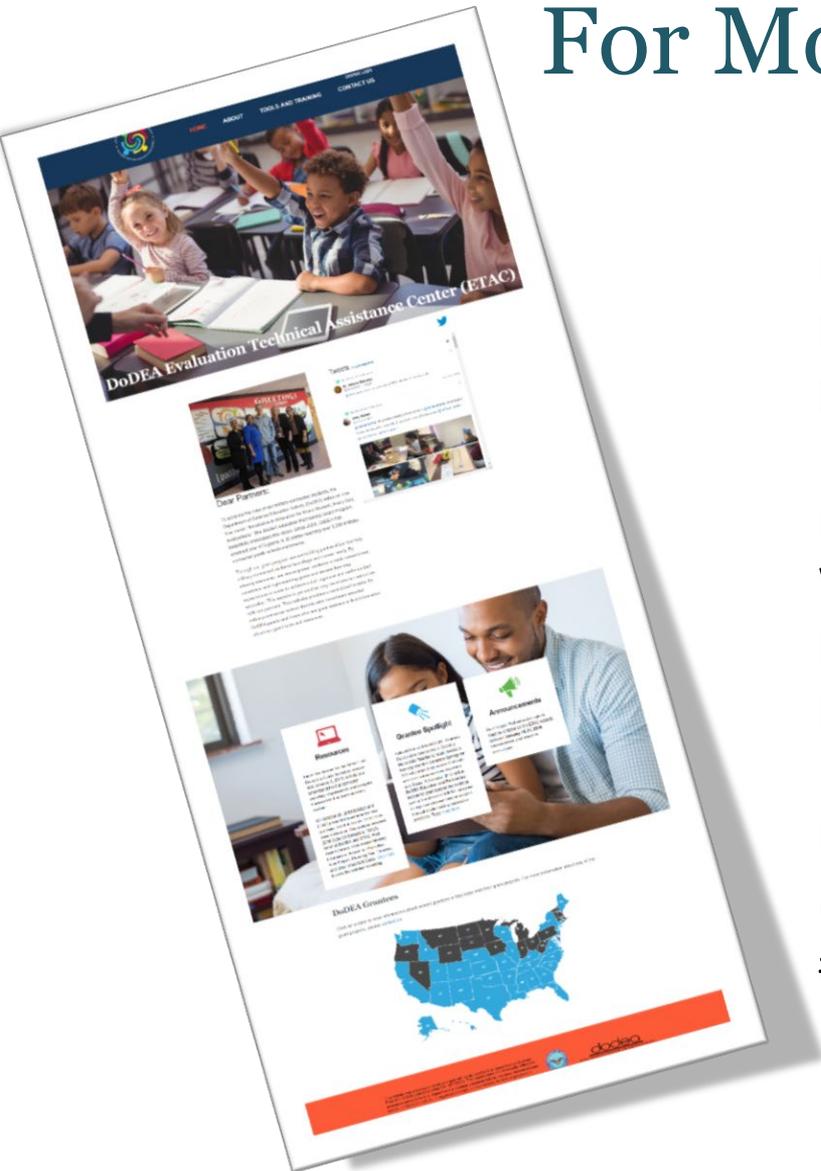


# Key 2020 Dates

- **January 20, 2021**—MCASP applications due by 11:59 PM ET
- **September 30**—MCASP grant award notifications made no later than this date



# For More Information...



## DoDEA Grant Program Office

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## Evaluation Technical Assistance Center (ETAC)

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