Grant Program Title	**Innovative Approaches to Literacy**
Funding Source	**ED**
Who is Eligible	**1) High-need LEA (at least 25% of students ages 5-17 are from families with incomes below the federal poverty line); 2) An NNP (national non-profit; local affiliate does not count) that serves children and students within the attendance boundaries of one or more high-need LEAs; 3) A consortium of eligible NNPs, eligible LEAs, or a combination of both. Applicants must coordinate projects with school libraries.**
Application Due Date	**5/9/16**
Submission Method	**Grants.gov**
Match Required?	**no**
Purpose of the Grant Program	**The IAL program supports high-quality programs designed to develop and improve literacy skills for children and students from birth through 12th grade in high-need LEAs and schools. ED intends to support innovative programs that promote early literacy for young children, motivate older children to read, and increase student achievement by using school libraries as partners to improve literacy, distributing free books to children and their families, and offering high-quality literacy activities.**
Project Period	**Up to 24 months**
Available Funding	**Approximately $26.8 million for 32-36 awards. There will be 30 awards for LEAs and consortia of LEAs, and 2-6 awards for NNPs and NNP/LEA consortia. Awards to LEAs: $175k-$750k annually, average of $500k. Awards to NNPs: $1.5M-$5M annually, average $3M.**
Program Deliverables	**The IAL program supports the implementation of high-quality plans for childhood literacy activities and book distribution efforts that are supported by evidence of strong theory (as defined in the notice). Activities include book distribution and childhood literacy activities (Absolute Priority); leveraging technology (Competitive Preference Priority 1); increasing access to hiqh-quality early learning and development programs and comprehensive services (especially for children with high needs), professional development for the early-learning workforce (Competitive Preference Priority 2). Competitive Preference Priority 3 is for projects implemented by rural LEAs. List of possible activities listed on pp. 3-4 of the RFP.**
Evaluation Potential	**Evaluation is required. Program must be based on a strong theory and must be supported by a logic model.**
Link to RFP	**http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/opportunities/instructions/oppED-GRANTS-040716-001-cfda84.215-cid84-215G2016-1-instructions.pdf**