

CHAPTER 37

RESEARCH

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RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION

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SUBCHAPTER 1. EDUCATIONAL CENTERS OF
RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION

Authority

Unless otherwise expressly noted, all provisions of this subchapter were adopted pursuant to authority delegated at N.J.S.A. 18A:6-71 and were filed and became effective July 1, 1974, as R.1974 d.173. See: 6 N.J.R. 221(b), 6 N.J.R. 301(e).

6:37-1.1 Purpose

(a) These centers, in voluntary cooperation with local school districts, are designed to concentrate upon the development, testing and installation of ideas and procedures to solve major educational problems.

(b) The centers shall be responsible to conduct projects within an experimental framework in order that unproven educational ideas can be objectively tested and evaluated and their value to local school districts demonstrated.

(c) Priority shall be given to those centers engaged in research and demonstration in one or more of the following areas:

1. Reading levels of low income children;
2. Early childhood development;
3. The gifted student;
4. Effective utilization of new materials and equipment;
5. Educational technology;
6. Patterns of school organization.

6:37-1.2 Eligibility

(a) Application and authorization for funds are as follows:

1. School districts, county community colleges, county and State institutions, private nonprofit colleges and universities and nonprofit organizations may apply to the Commissioner of Education for funds equal to the

amount of annual costs to operate centers within the scope of the approved plan.

2. In order that the commissioner may estimate by November the amount necessary to be appropriated to carry out the provisions of the act for the succeeding fiscal year, all plans for the succeeding fiscal year shall be received by August 1. All such plans when received will be reviewed within a reasonable time. No plan will be rejected in whole or in part without prior consultation with the applying agency.

3. The State Board of Education shall, upon recommendation of the Commissioner, approve applications and authorize award of funds.

4. The State Board of Education shall upon authorization of awards for a fiscal year, and upon recommendation of the commissioner, establish and order priorities to be delineated in N.J.A.C. 6:37-1.1(a) for the succeeding fiscal year.

6:37-1.3 Plan requirements

(a) Plan requirements are as follows:

1. Any educational institution or nonprofit education organization desiring to receive funds for any fiscal year pursuant to the title shall submit a plan at such time, in such detail and containing such information as the commissioner and State Board of Education deem necessary, which meets the following requirements:

- i. Preparation with involved constituency;
- ii. Designates the agency for administration;
- iii. Assurance of compliance with all State board policies, rules and regulations;
- iv. Is long-range in that the program will be operated for not more than five nor less than three years;
- v. Describes the present and projected educational research in terms of the purpose of this Title;
- vi. Sets forth a program of research objectives;
- vii. Sets forth an annual program plan which:

(1) Describes the allocation of all funds to programs, services and activities to be carried out under the plan;

(2) Indicates how and to what extent such programs, services and activities will carry out the program objectives set forth in the long-range plan.

viii. Provides for an evaluation design;

ix. Provides that effective use will be made of the results of evaluations;

x. Sets forth fiscal control and fund accounting procedures which shall include periodic audits to be conducted in a manner and at the time specified in the approved plan;

xi. Provides for making reports in the form and manner as described by the Commissioner of Education.

6:37-1.4 Fiscal control and program management

(a) Notwithstanding initial application plan approval, plans shall be resubmitted to the commissioner for approval periodically in accordance with the schedule of grant payments specified in the approved plan.

(b) Eligible agencies may contract with other agencies for specified functions with the approval of the Commissioner of Education. Overall responsibility for such contractual work shall remain with the eligible agency.

(c) Line item budget changes up to 15 per cent of the item may be effected without written agreement of the commissioner. Changes above 15 per cent must be approved in writing by the Commissioner of Education. All personnel changes must be approved in writing by the Commissioner of Education.

(d) The eligible agency shall maintain such records and accounts including personnel, financial and evaluation records in accordance with the approved plan and as are deemed necessary by the Commissioner of Education. Such records shall be submitted to the Department of Education on prescribed forms and on a regular schedule to be specified in the approved plan.

(e) The commissioner shall at any time have the authority to inspect the financial and program records of the eligible agency.