4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice Inviting Statements of Interest from Nonprofit
Organizations Interested in Partnering to Expand the
#GoOpen Network

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department through the Office of the
Secretary's Office of Educational Technology (OET) created
the #GoOpen Network in October of 2015, to support the use
of openly licensed educational resources, by establishing a
network of mentoring relationships with experienced
districts and States providing support to those districts
that were new to the use of open resources. To support this
work, OET is seeking to select and partner with a nonprofit
organization or a consortium of nonprofit organizations to
further expand and enhance the network. Thus, this notice
outlines the criteria to be used for selecting partner
organizations; invites statements of interest from
nonprofit organizations interested in partnering to build
on and expand the #GoOpen network; and announces the date

by which organizations must submit these statements of interest in order to be considered for selection.

A call for statements of interest was first published in the blog post *#GoOpen: More than a Hashtag* on May 10, 2017. We are publishing a new request for statements of interest through this *Federal Register* notice in order to more widely publicize the call and reach a broader group of interested stakeholder organizations. Respondents to the previous call through the blog are encouraged to reapply by submitting a statement of interest in accordance with this notice; prior statements will not be considered.

DATES: Deadline for transmittal of statements of interest: [INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Submit your statement of interest electronically to tech@ed.gov with the subject line "#GoOpen Statement of Interest."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sara Trettin, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 11152, Washington, DC 20202-7240. Telephone: (202) 453-6604 or by email: tech@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf

(TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay

Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Department of Education's #GoOpen movement

supports States and districts choosing to transition to the

use of openly licensed educational resources by

establishing a network of mentoring relationships between

experienced districts and States and those new to the use

of open educational resources.[1] #GoOpen States and

districts are sharing new approaches to professional

learning for teachers, developing systems for tagging and

curating resources that offer students and teachers options

for personalizing learning, and building robust technology

infrastructure to support curating, creating, adapting and

sharing openly licensed educational resources. To date,

#GoOpen has a network of 20 States and 114 districts

committed to documenting and sharing their implementation

strategies and partnering with committed nonprofit

organizations, policymakers, foundations, and private-

sector companies. The #GoOpen movement and the growing

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[1] Openly licensed educational resources, or open educational resources,
are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the
public domain or have been released under a license that permits their
use, modification, and sharing with others.

network of States, districts, and educators has not only provided a space for robust discussions about the merits of openly licensed educational resources but also supported broader dialogue and dissemination of information on the policies and practices that impact teaching, learning, and collaboration.

OET is interested in working with one or more nonprofit organizations or a consortium of nonprofit organizations to build on and expand the #GoOpen network. In addition to connecting additional States and districts to #GoOpen, the partnership will (1) engage education leaders across a network of States and districts to form regional communities of practice; (2) facilitate the sharing of openly licensed educational resources including those that are accessible (e.g., text to speech, captioning and highlighting features, embedded videos, font and size choices) and the dissemination of promising practices in teaching and learning; and (3) integrate evidence of the efficacy of openly licensed resources into the broader education policy dialogue.

Criteria for Partner Organization(s): The organization(s) best suited to helping the Department build

on and expand the #GoOpen network must be an existing

nonprofit organization(s):

(a) With experience assisting educators, such as
teachers, district leaders, superintendents, and other
educational resource and technology staff, in
selecting and implementing a variety of digital and
non-digital learning strategies. The organization(s)
must have specific expertise in providing assistance
to stakeholders with respect to sharing, using, and
collaborating on the use of open educational resources
using a variety of digital learning platforms. In
addition, the organization(s) must have a positive
record of leading or coordinating discussions on a
range of education policy issues, especially related
to the promise and perils of digital learning and
increasing educational opportunity for an increasingly
diverse student population, including children with
disabilities who can use or require technology
accommodations;

(b) That commits to collaborate with OET in providing

leadership in the development of regional communities of

practice and building networks of impact comprising a

strong and diverse consortium of committed partner

organizations. The organization(s) must coordinate with

OET to (1) design the structure of the expanded #GoOpen

network; (2) in collaboration with OET, design, develop,

and lead outreach activities geared toward developing a

coalition of local leaders and regional communities of

practice; (3) create experiences (e.g. in-person and

virtual professional learning opportunities, etc.) that

encourage States, districts, and educators to build on

initial commitments; (4) capture and share promising

practices; (5) integrate evidence of the efficacy of openly

licensed resources into the broader education policy

dialogue; and (6) advance the education policy dialogue

(e.g. through articles, presentations, etc.) on the use of

technology to transform learning; and

   (c) With the resources necessary to support its own

activities during this partnership. OET will not provide

funding for organization(s) in this partnership.[2]

   Submission Requirements: Interested organizations

must submit a statement of interest that describes:

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[2] Note that this is not a notice inviting applications for any grant
program.

(a) The organization's experience assisting educators in selecting and implementing digital and non-digital learning strategies;

(b) The organization's expertise in providing assistance to stakeholders with respect to sharing, using, and collaborating on the use of open educational resources using a variety of digital learning platforms;

(c) The organization's record of leading or coordinating discussion on a range of education policy issues;

(d) The organization's commitment to collaborate with OET in providing leadership in the development of regional communities of practice and building networks of impact comprising a strong and diverse consortium of committed partner organizations;

(e) A possible design for the structure of the expanded #GoOpen network;

(f) The organization's role and approach to scaling the #GoOpen movement through regional communities of practice;

(g)   The organization's approach to creating

experiences that encourage States, districts, and

educators to build on initial commitments and

capturing and sharing promising practices;

(h)   The organization's strategy to integrate evidence

of the efficacy of openly licensed resources into

the broader education policy dialogue and advance

the education policy dialogue on the use of

technology to transform learning;

(i)   How the organization will support its own

activities during this partnership;

(j)   Any other information relevant to the

organization's experience in education or

technology policy; and how it might carry out the

activities to partner with the Department and

otherwise help to implement the #GoOpen network,

and

(k)   Contact information (name of the organization,

address, contact person's name, email address

etc.).

Each statement of interest will be evaluated by taking

into account the submission requirements listed above.

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can

obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g.,

braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on

request to the contact person listed under FOR FURTHER

INFORMATION CONTACT.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version

of this document is the document published in the *Federal*

Register. Free internet access to the official edition of

the *Federal Register* and the Code of Federal Regulations is

available via the Federal Digital System at:

www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can view this

document, as well as all other documents of this Department

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Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe

Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the *Federal Register* by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department. Dated: November 28, 2017.

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Joe Conaty,
Office of the Secretary, Acting
Director for the Office of
Educational Technology.

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