### Federal Requirements Referenced in the Illinois State Board of Education State Fiscal Stabilization Fund - Application and Assurances

**April 13, 2009** 

## I. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 - Excerpts Applicable to LEA Use of State Fiscal Stabilization Funds

#### § 14003. Uses of Funds by Local Educational Agencies.

(a) <u>In General.</u> A local educational agency that receives funds under this title may use the funds for any activity authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) ("ESEA"), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) ("IDEA"), the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 9201 et seq.), or the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.) ("the Perkins Act") or for modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities, including modernization, renovation, and repairs that are consistent with a recognized green building rating system.

[ISBE Note: Guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Education clarifies the activities that are permissible under the above-referenced statutes. Please see pages 18-25 of the following document: http://www.ed.gov/programs/statestabilization/guidance.pdf]

- (b) <u>Prohibition</u>. A local educational agency may not use funds received under this title for—
  - (1) payment of maintenance costs;
- (2) stadiums or other facilities primarily used for athletic contests or exhibitions or other events for which admission is charged to the general public;
  - (3) purchase or upgrade of vehicles; or
- (4) improvement of stand-alone facilities whose purpose is not the education of children, including central office administration or operations or logistical support facilities.
- (c) <u>Rule of Construction</u>. Nothing in this section shall allow a local educational agency to engage in school modernization, renovation, or repair that is inconsistent with State law.

#### § 14011. Prohibition on Provision of Certain Assistance.

No recipient of funds under this title shall use such funds to provide financial assistance to students to attend private elementary or secondary schools, unless such funds are used to provide special education and related services to children with disabilities, as authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.).

#### § 1604. Limit on Funds.

None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used by any State or local government, or any private entity, for any casino or other gambling establishment, aquarium, zoo, golf course, or swimming pool.

#### § 1605. Buy American.

Use of American Iron, Steel, and Manufactured Goods, (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used for a project for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of a public building or public work unless all of the iron, steel, and manufactured goods used in the project are produced in the United States.

- (b) Subsection (a) shall not apply in any case or category of cases in which the head of the Federal department or agency involved finds that
  - applying subsection (a) would be inconsistent with the public interest;
  - iron, steel, and the relevant manufactured goods are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities and of a satisfactory quality; or
  - inclusion of iron, steel, and manufactured goods produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.
- (c) If the head of a Federal department or agency determines that it is necessary to waive the application of subsection (a) based on a finding under subsection (b), the head of the department or agency shall publish in the Federal Register a detailed written justification as to why the provision is being waived.
- (d) This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with United States obligations under international agreements.

#### § 1606. Wage Rate Requirements.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law and in a manner consistent with other provisions in this Act, all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors on projects funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by and through the Federal Government pursuant to this Act shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on projects of a character similar in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code. With respect to the labor standards specified in this section, the Secretary of Labor shall have the authority and functions set forth in Reorganization Plan Numbered 14 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1267; 5 U.S.C. App.) and section 3145 of title 40, United States Code.

## II. General Record-keeping and Compliance Requirements (referenced in Paragraphs (3) and (4) of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund Application and Assurances)

EDGAR Regulations: http://www.ed.gov/policy/fund/reg/edgarReg/edgar.html

OMB Circular A-87: http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a087/a087-all.html

OMB Circular A-102: http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a102/a102.html

OMB Circular A-133: http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a133/a133.html

20 U.S.C.A § 1232f

#### (a) Records kept by recipient; full disclosure; maintenance period

Each recipient of Federal funds under any applicable program through any grant, subgrant, cooperative agreement, loan, or other arrangement shall keep records which fully disclose the amount and disposition by the recipient of those funds, the total cost of the activity for which the funds are used, the share of that cost provided from other sources, and such other records as will facilitate an effective financial or programmatic audit. The recipient shall maintain such records for three years after the completion of the activity for which the funds are used.

#### (b) Audit examination

The Secretary and the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives, shall have access, for the purpose of audit examination, to any records maintained by a recipient that may be related, or pertinent to, grants, subgrants, cooperative agreements, loans, or other arrangements to which reference is made in subsection (a) of this section, or which may relate to the compliance of the recipient with any requirement of an applicable program.

# III. Accessibility Standards for Individuals With Disabilities (referenced in Paragraph (7) of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund Application and Assurances)

Please see the U.S. Department of Education regulations regarding accessibility: http://www.ed.gov/policy/rights/reg/ocr/34cfr104.pdf

### IV. <u>False Claims Act (31 U.S.C.A § 3729 - 3733) (referenced in Paragraph (14) of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund Application and Assurances)</u>

31 U.S.C.A § 3729. False claims

(a) Liability for Certain Acts.— Any person who—

- (1) knowingly presents, or causes to be presented, to an officer or employee of the United States Government or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States a false or fraudulent claim for payment or approval;
- (2) knowingly makes, uses, or causes to be made or used, a false record or statement to get a false or fraudulent claim paid or approved by the Government;
- (3) conspires to defraud the Government by getting a false or fraudulent claim allowed or paid;
- (4) has possession, custody, or control of property or money used, or to be used, by the Government and, intending to defraud the Government or willfully to conceal the property, delivers, or causes to be delivered, less property than the amount for which the person receives a certificate or receipt;
- (5) authorized to make or deliver a document certifying receipt of property used, or to be used, by the Government and, intending to defraud the Government, makes or delivers the receipt without completely knowing that the information on the receipt is true;
- (6) knowingly buys, or receives as a pledge of an obligation or debt, public property from an officer or employee of the Government, or a member of the Armed Forces, who lawfully may not sell or pledge the property; or
- (7) knowingly makes, uses, or causes to be made or used, a false record or statement to conceal, avoid, or decrease an obligation to pay or transmit money or property to the Government,
- is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not less than \$5,000 and not more than \$10,000, plus 3 times the amount of damages which the Government sustains because of the act of that person, except that if the court finds that—
- (A) the person committing the violation of this subsection furnished officials of the United States responsible for investigating false claims violations with all information known to such person about the violation within 30 days after the date on which the defendant first obtained the information;
- **(B)** such person fully cooperated with any Government investigation of such violation; and
- (C) at the time such person furnished the United States with the information about the violation, no criminal prosecution, civil action, or administrative action had commenced under this title with respect to such violation, and the person did not have actual knowledge of the existence of an investigation into such violation;
- the court may assess not less than 2 times the amount of damages which the Government sustains because of the act of the person. A person violating this subsection shall also be liable to the United States Government for the costs of a civil action brought to recover any such penalty or damages.
- **(b) Knowing and Knowingly Defined.** For purposes of this section, the terms "knowing" and "knowingly" mean that a person, with respect to information—
  - (1) has actual knowledge of the information;
  - (2) acts in deliberate ignorance of the truth or falsity of the information; or
- (3) acts in reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the information, and no proof of specific intent to defraud is required.

- (c) Claim Defined.— For purposes of this section, "claim" includes any request or demand, whether under a contract or otherwise, for money or property which is made to a contractor, grantee, or other recipient if the United States Government provides any portion of the money or property which is requested or demanded, or if the Government will reimburse such contractor, grantee, or other recipient for any portion of the money or property which is requested or demanded.
- (d) Exemption From Disclosure.— Any information furnished pursuant to subparagraphs (A) through (C) of subsection (a) shall be exempt from disclosure under section 552 of title 5.
- **(e) Exclusion.** This section does not apply to claims, records, or statements made under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

The remainder of the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C.A § 3730 - 3733, is available for viewing at the following site:

 $http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/31/usc\_sup\_01\_31\_08\_III\_10\_37\_20\_III.html$ 

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