



the **8(g)** guide

Understanding 8(g) funding programs  
to support quality education in Louisiana

# Introduction to BESE 8(g)



**8(g)** funds are administered by BESE through three primary grant programs. These funds are used for the support and enhancement of elementary and secondary education in all public schools, as well as approved nonpublic systems and schools.

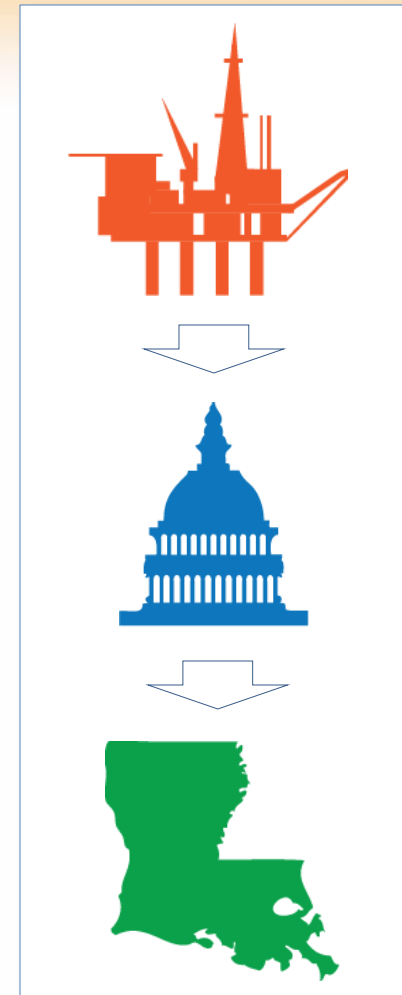
BESE awards these grants on an annual basis, focusing endowments on improving classroom teaching and student learning.

Local schools and school systems submit project proposals that are written according to published guidelines and evaluated through an extensive review process.

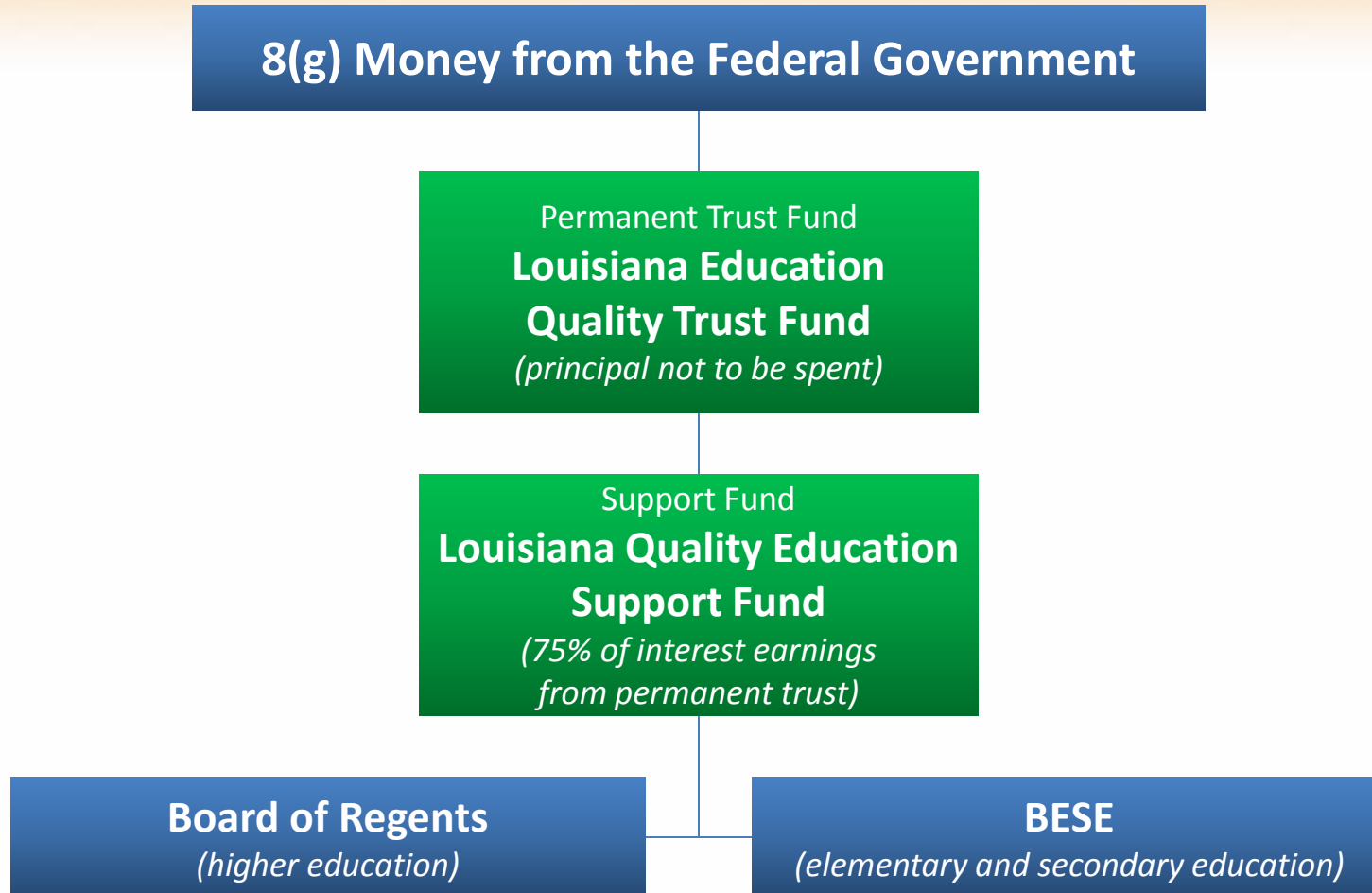


# What does “8(g)” mean?

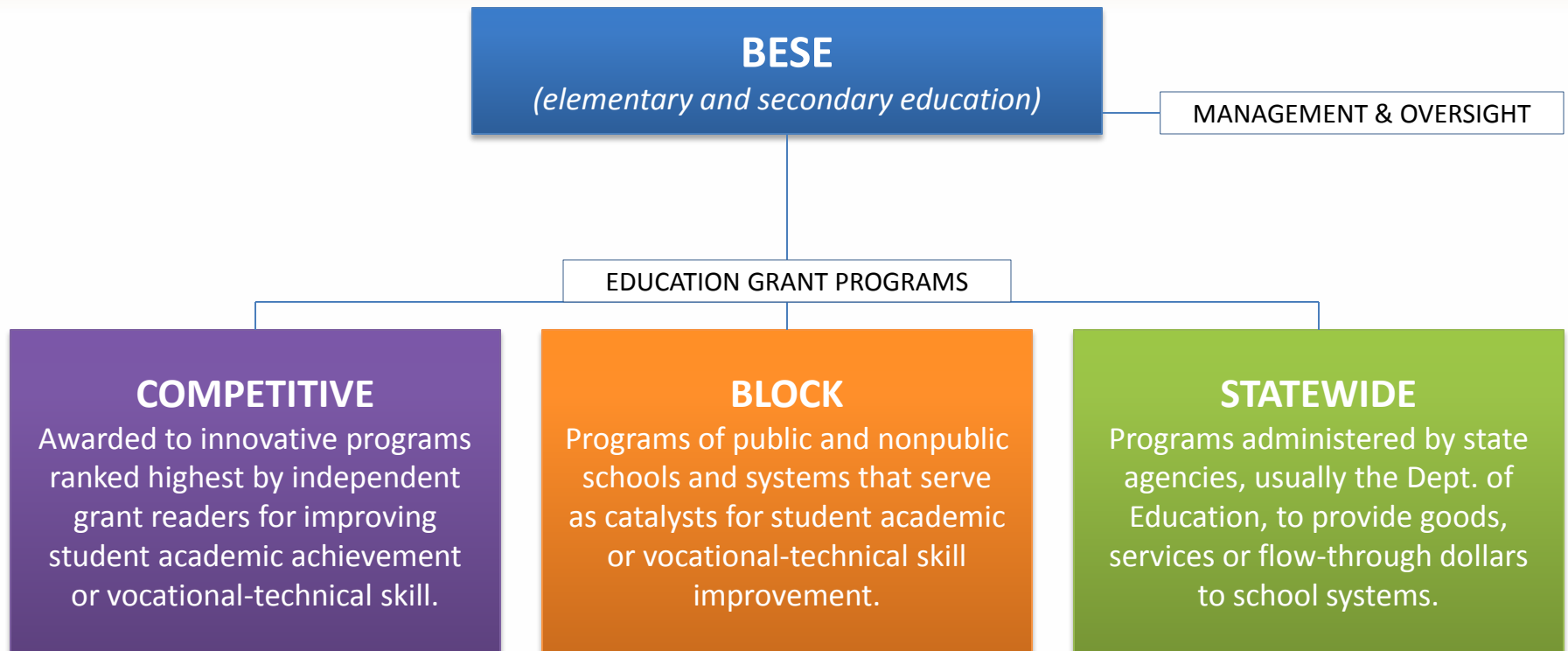
- “8(g)” refers to an amendment to the federal Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act which provides coastal states with a “fair and equitable” share of mineral revenues.
- In 1986, Louisiana voters dedicated these federally-awarded funds for the improvement of state education (the **Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund**).



# How 8(g) funds support education:



# How 8(g) funds support education:



# Constitutional Categories



*BESE is constitutionally mandated to allocate 8(g) funds for any or all of the following purposes:*

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- To provide compensation to city or parish school board professional instructional employees;
- To ensure an adequate supply of superior textbooks, library books, equipment, and other instructional materials;
- To fund exemplary programs in elementary or secondary schools designed to improve student academic or vocational-technical skill;
- To fund carefully defined research efforts, including pilot programs, designed to improve elementary and secondary student academic achievement;
- To fund school remediation programs and preschool programs;
- To fund the teaching of foreign languages in elementary and secondary schools; and
- To fund an adequate supply of teachers by providing scholarships or stipends to prospective teachers in academic or vocational-technical areas where there is a critical teacher shortage.

# Who is eligible to apply?

**BLOCK**

**&**

**COMPETITIVE**

- **Approved public elementary or secondary schools** located within Louisiana (including charter schools, university lab schools and state special schools).
- **Approved nonpublic elementary and secondary schools** meeting all of the following criteria:
  - Approved by BESE as meeting all applicable standards;
  - Approved to receive state funding under *Brumfield vs. Dodd*; and
  - Any school which is not a public agency of the State of Louisiana must complete and certify a questionnaire regarding its sectarian status.

**STATEWIDE**

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**COMPETITIVE**

- **Any agency or department of the State of Louisiana**

# Proposal eligibility factors:



**BLOCK**

**&**

**STATEWIDE**

- Project must address one or more 8(g) Constitutional Categories
- Project must address a BESE-defined Focus Area for the fiscal year
- Project must be designed to improve elementary or secondary student performance
- The project period must be concurrent with the fiscal year, with all goods and services received and rendered within that fiscal year
- Participants must be pre-K (4-year-olds), elementary and/or secondary students
- For Block Grant Program proposals, the project must be housed in an approved elementary or secondary school
- Agencies must certify that the project does not displace, replace or supplant appropriations from the general fund, including Minimum Foundation Program funds
- Block Grant Program funds should not be used for the same project in the same school at the same grade level for more than four consecutive years unless it is for a pre-K program
- Continuing projects with an evaluation rating below 100 must receive a satisfactory score on the next fiscal year's evaluation rating to be eligible for continued funding
- Project proposal must be received by BESE by the published deadline



# Proposal eligibility factors:

## COMPETITIVE

- Project must address one or more 8(g) Constitutional Categories
- Project must address a BESE-defined Focus Area for the fiscal year
- Project must be designed to improve academic achievement and/or vocational-technical skills
- For proposals with projects housed in schools, only those with approved public or nonpublic schools will be considered
- Project must not supplant, displace or replace appropriations from the state general fund, including Minimum Foundation Program funds
- Proposal must be signed by the agency head (e.g. superintendents, principals, chief administrators, charter operator board presidents)
- Proposal must be received by BESE by the published deadline

# Additional information:



BESE's 8(g) Annual Reports provide additional information on 8(g) history, funding methods and examples of funded programs, and can be viewed online at:

[http://bese.louisiana.gov/8\(g\)-grants/8\(g\)-annual-programs-reports](http://bese.louisiana.gov/8(g)-grants/8(g)-annual-programs-reports)



For additional information and assistance, please contact the BESE 8(g) team:

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