

Statement of Purpose - LSC Grant Assurances (Final - January 18, 2007)

The purpose of the LSC Grant Assurances is to delineate the rights and responsibilities of LSC and the recipient pursuant to the provisions of the grant.¹

As a grant making agency created by Congress, LSC has Grant Assurances that are intended to reiterate and/or clarify the responsibilities and obligations already applicable through existing law and regulations and/or obligate the recipient to comply with specific additional requirements in order to effectuate the purposes of the LSC Act and other applicable law.

LSC Grant Assurances must serve one or more of the following objectives:

- 1) Ensure or support compliance with applicable law
- 2) Protect the legal and financial interests of LSC as grantor
- 3) Enable LSC to administer its grants effectively and efficiently
- 4) Promote the effective delivery of high quality legal services to eligible clients in an efficient manner
- 5) Prevent disputes and promote the expeditious resolution of any disputes that do occur

In addition, if a potential Grant Assurance serves one or more of the objectives stated above, in order for it to be included, it must meet the following requirements:

- 1) It is reasonably related to the purpose of the grant
- 2) It is appropriate for uniform application to all recipients
- 3) It is not duplicative of another existing Grant Assurance

¹There are substantive distinctions between Grant Assurances and special grant conditions. Grant assurances apply to all grantees. Special grant conditions are specific in application to an individual grantee.

Further, a potential Grant Assurance which appears appropriate for inclusion because it fulfills the criteria set forth above should also:

- 4) be drafted in simple and straightforward terms, to the extent possible, and
- 5) the value of its objectives should outweigh any additional burden that the Grant Assurance imposes on grantees (does not apply to reiteration of statutory or regulatory requirements)

If a Grant Assurance reiterates a statutory or regulatory requirement, one or more of the following applies:

- 1) It clarifies the requirement in order to provide additional guidance
- 2) It provides specific notice of the requirement which might not be otherwise readily known to the grantee
- 3) LSC is required by statute or regulation to include the requirement in the Grant Assurances