

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR Part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

Program authority: 20 U.S.C. 1425.

Program for Children and Youth With Serious Emotional Disturbance

Purpose of program: To support projects designed to improve special education and related services to children and youth with serious emotional disturbance. Types of projects that may be supported under the program include, but are not limited to, research, development, and demonstration projects. Funds may also be used to develop and demonstrate approaches to assist and prevent children with emotional and behavioral problems from developing serious emotional disturbance.

Priority

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) the Secretary gives an absolute preference to applications that meet the following priority. The Secretary funds under this competition only applications that meet this absolute priority:

Absolute Priority—Developing Effective Secondary School-Based Practices for Youth With Serious Emotional Disturbance

Background: Recent nationwide research on secondary school experiences and post-school outcomes for students with disabilities finds that youth with serious emotional disturbance (SED) are at particularly high risk for school failure and for poor post-school outcomes. While the majority of secondary age students with SED attend regular high schools, most of these students receive special education and related services outside the regular classroom for a substantial part, or all, of their school day. SED students attending regular secondary schools tend, as a group: to display erratic school attendance patterns; to achieve low levels of academic success despite generally normal-and-above ability levels; to be minimally involved in the social milieu of their schools; and to drop out of school at alarming rates. Fifty percent drop out of school, most by the tenth grade.

Poor adjustment and behavioral concerns are common during and beyond high school among these students. Data from the National Longitudinal Transition Study show that only one in ten students with serious emotional disturbance have behavior management plans. They tend to be under- or un-employed, are rarely involved in post-secondary education, and are at high risk for engaging in

activities and behaviors outside the bounds of the law.

While fairly substantial recent and current efforts are focusing on improving results for younger students with SED, little attention is being directed toward their secondary-age counterparts. This priority is intended to address this critical need.

Priority: The Secretary establishes an absolute priority for projects to develop, implement, test the efficacy of, and disseminate practices for improving academic, vocational, personal, social, and behavioral results for students with SED in regular high schools, including consideration of the most appropriate and least restrictive placements.

Under this priority, projects must—

- (1) Develop practices with sound conceptual bases that are designed to improve critical academic, vocational, personal, social, and behavioral outcomes for SED students;
- (2) Apply rigorous research standards in testing the efficacy of practices developed;
- (3) Develop products that include clear, comprehensive descriptions of tested practices, test site contexts, and target student characteristics, and disseminate these products to appropriate research institutes, clearinghouses, and technical assistance providers.

A project must budget for two trips annually to Washington, D.C. for: (1) A two-day Research Project Directors' meeting; and (2) another meeting to meet and collaborate with the OSEP project officer and with other relevant OSEP funded projects.

For further information contact: Helen Thornton, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 3520, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641.

Telephone: (202) 205-5910. FAX: (202) 205-8105. Internet:

Helen____Thornton@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8953.

Applicable regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR Part 328.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR Part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

Program authority: 20 U.S.C. 1423.

Intergovernmental Review

All programs included in this notice are subject to the requirements of

Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR Part 79. The objective of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism by relying on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

In accordance with the order, this document is intended to provide early notification of the Department's specific plans and actions for these programs.

Dated: January 29, 1996.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers: Early Education Program for Children with Disabilities, 84.024; Media Research, Production, Distribution, and Training Program, 84.026; Postsecondary Education Program for Individuals with Disabilities Program, 84.078; Program for Children with Severe Disabilities, 84.086; Secondary Education and Transitional Services Program for Youth with Disabilities, 84.158; and Program for Children and Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance, 84.237)

[FR Doc. 96-2199 Filed 2-1-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; Individuals With Disabilities; Notice Inviting Applications

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year 1996.

SUMMARY: This notice provides closing dates and other information regarding the transmittal of applications for fiscal year 1996 competitions under six programs authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. This notice supports the National Education Goals by improving understanding of how to enable children and youth with disabilities to reach higher levels of academic achievement.

[CFDA No. 84.024]

Early Education Program for Children With Disabilities Program

Purpose of Program: To support activities that are designed (a) to address the special needs of children with disabilities, birth through age eight, and their families; and (b) to assist State and local entities in expanding and improving programs and services for these children and their families.

Eligible Applicants: Public agencies and private nonprofit organizations.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General

Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 309.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

Priorities

Absolute Priority 1—National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (84.024A). The priority for National Technical Assistance Center in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications available: February 16, 1996.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 31, 1996.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 30, 1996.

Estimated Average Size of Award: \$4,000,000.

Estimated number of awards: One.

Project period: 60 months.

Available funds: \$4,000,000.

Absolute Priority 2—Model

Demonstration Projects for Young Children with Disabilities (84.024B).

The priority for Model Demonstration Projects for Young Children with Disabilities in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications available: February 16, 1996.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 10, 1996.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 9, 1996.

Estimated Average Size of Award: \$137,000.

Estimated Number of awards: Eight.

Project Period: 60 months.

Available Funds: \$1,100,000.

Absolute Priority 3—Outreach

Projects for Young Children with Disabilities (84.024D). The priority for Outreach Projects for Young Children with Disabilities in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Competitive Priority

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2) the Secretary gives a competitive preference to applications that are otherwise eligible for funding under this priority and that meet the following competitive priority:

Propose to provide services to one or more Empowerment Zones or Enterprise Communities that are designated within the areas served by the projects. To meet this priority an applicant must indicate that it will:

- Design a program that includes special activities focused on the unique needs of one or more Empowerment Zones or Enterprises Communities; or
- Devote a substantial portion of program resources to providing services within, or meeting the needs of residents of these zones and communities.

As appropriate, the proposed project under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act must contribute to the strategic plan of the Empowerment Zones or Enterprise Communities and be made an integral component of the Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Community activities.

The Secretary awards 5 points to an application that meets the competitive priority relating to Empowerment Zones and Enterprises Communities published in the Federal Register on November 7, 1994 (59 FR 55534). These points are in addition to any points the application earns under the selection criteria for the program.

A listing of areas that have been selected as Empowerment Zones or Enterprises Communities is included in an appendix to a notice published in the Federal Register on December 6, 1995 (60 FR 62699).

Applications Available: February 16, 1996.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 12, 1996.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 11, 1996.

Estimated Average Size of Award: \$133,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 15.

Project Period: 36 months.

Available Funds: \$2,000,000.

Absolute Priority 4—Early Childhood

Research Institutes (84.024S). The priority for Early Childhood Research Institutes in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications Available: February 16, 1996.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 10, 1996.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 9, 1996.

Estimated Average Size of Award: \$833,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: Three .

Project Period: 60 months.

Available Funds: Approximately \$2,500,000 is expected to be available for this competition. The anticipated award is \$1,000,000 for the Institute on Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services; \$750,000 for the Institute on Increasing Learning Opportunities for Children through Families; and \$750,000 for the Institute on Program Performance Measures.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND GENERAL

INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia Wright, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4623, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-9377. Fax: (202) 205-8971. Internet: Patricia_Wright@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8169.

FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

For the National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (84.024A): Peggy Cvach, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4609, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-9807. Fax: (202) 205-8971. Internet: Peggy_Cvach@ed.gov

For Model Demonstration Projects for Young Children with Disabilities (84.024B): Gail Houle, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4613, Switzer Building, Washington D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-9045. Fax: (202) 205-8971. Internet: Gail_Houle@ed.gov

For Outreach Projects for Young Children with Disabilities (84.024D): Lee Coleman, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4615, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-8166. Fax: (202) 205-8971. Internet: Lee_Coleman@ed.gov

For Early Childhood Research Institutes (84.024S): Gail Houle, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4613, Switzer Building, Washington D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-9045. Fax: (202) 205-8971. Internet: Gail_Houle@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8169.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1423.

[CFDA No. 84.026]

Educational Media Research, Production, Distribution, and Training Program

Purpose of Program: To promote the general welfare of deaf and hearing-impaired individuals and individuals with visual impairments, and to promote the educational advancement of individuals with disabilities.

Eligible Applicants: Profit and nonprofit public and private agencies, organizations, and institutions.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General

Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR parts 330, 331, and 332.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

Priority

Absolute Priority—Closed-Captioned Television Programs (84.026U). The priority for Closed-Captioned Television Programs in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications Available: February 16, 1996.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 1, 1996.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 31, 1996.

Estimated Average Size of Award: \$605,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 10.

Project Period: 36 months.

Available Funds: \$6,050,000.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND INFORMATION

CONTACT: JoAnn McCann, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Room 4629, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-8475. Fax: (202) 205-8971. Internet: JoAnn_McCann@Ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8169.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1451, 1452. [CFDA No. 84.078]

Postsecondary Education Programs for Individuals With Disabilities Program

Purpose of Program: To provide assistance for the development, operation, and dissemination of specially designed model programs of postsecondary, vocational, technical, continuing, or adult education for individuals with disabilities.

Eligible Applicants: State educational agencies, institutions of higher education; junior and community colleges, vocational and technical institutions, and other appropriate nonprofit educational agencies.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 338.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

Priority

Absolute Priority—Model Demonstration Projects to Improve the Delivery and Outcomes of Secondary Education for Individuals with Disabilities (84.078C). The priority for Model Demonstration Projects to Improve the Delivery and Outcomes of Secondary Education for Individuals with Disabilities in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications Available: February 16, 1996.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 5, 1996.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 4, 1996.

Estimated Average Size of Award: \$110,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 14.

Project Period: 36 months.

Available Funds: \$1,540,000.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND GENERAL

INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia Wright, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4623, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-9377. Fax: (202) 205-8971. Internet: Patricia_Wright@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8169.

FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Ward, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4624, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-8163. Fax: (202) 205-8971. Internet: Michael_Ward@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8169.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1424a.

[CFDA No. 84.086]

Program for Children With Severe Disabilities

Purpose of Program: To provide Federal assistance to address the special needs of infants, toddlers, children, and youth with severe disabilities, including children with deaf-blindness and their families.

Eligible Applicants: Public or nonprofit private organizations and institutions.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 315.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

Priority

Absolute Priority—Outreach Projects: Serving Children with Severe Disabilities in General Education and Community Settings (84.086U). The priority for Outreach Projects: Serving Children with Severe Disabilities in General Education and Community Settings in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications Available: February 16, 1996.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 24, 1996.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 23, 1996.

Estimated Average Size of Award: \$148,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 9.

Project Period: 36 months.

Available Funds: \$1,330,000.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND GENERAL

INFORMATION CONTACT: Robin Murphy, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4617, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-9884. Fax: (202) 205-8971. Internet: Robin_Murphy@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8169.

FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Anne Smith, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4621, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-8888. Fax: (202) 205-8971. Internet: Anne_Smith@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8169.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1424.

[CFDA No. 84.158]

Secondary Education and Transitional Services for Youth With Disabilities Program

Purpose of Program: To (1) assist youth with disabilities in the transition from secondary school to postsecondary environments, such as competitive or supported employment, and (2) ensure that secondary special education and transitional services result in competitive or supported employment for youth with disabilities.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education, State educational

agencies, local educational agencies, and other public and nonprofit private institutions or agencies (including the State job training coordinating councils and service delivery area administrative entities established under the Job Training Partnership Act).

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 326.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

Priorities

Absolute Priority 1—Outreach Projects for Services for Youth with Disabilities (84.158Q). The priority for Outreach Projects for Services for Youth with Disabilities in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition. **Applications Available:** February 16, 1996.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 1, 1996.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 31, 1996.

Estimated Average Size of Award: \$110,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: Nine.

Project Period: 36 months.

Available Funds: \$1,000,000.

Absolute Priority 2—Model Demonstration Projects to Improve the Delivery and Outcomes of Secondary Education Services for Students with Disabilities (84.158V). The priority for Model Demonstration Projects to Improve the Delivery and Outcomes of Secondary Education Services for Students with Disabilities in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications Available: February 16, 1996.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 1, 1996.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 30, 1996.

Estimated Average Size of Award: \$130,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: Eight.

Project Period: 36 months.

Available Funds: \$1,040,000.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND GENERAL

INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia Wright, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4623, Switzer Building, Washington,

D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-9377. Fax: (202) 205-8971. Internet: Patricia___Wright@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8169.

FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Ward, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4624, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641.

Telephone: (202) 205-8163. Fax: (202) 205-8971. Internet:

Michael___Ward@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8169.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1425.

[CFDA No. 84.237H]

Program for Children and Youth With Serious Emotional Disturbance

Purpose of Program: To support projects designed to improve special education and related services to children and youth with serious emotional disturbance. Types of projects that may be supported under the program include, but are not limited to, research, development, and demonstration projects. Funds may also be used to develop and demonstrate approaches to assist and prevent children with emotional and behavioral problems from developing serious emotional disturbance.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education, State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and other appropriate public and nonprofit private institutions or agencies.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR Part 328.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR Part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

Priority

Absolute Priority—Developing Effective Secondary School-Based Practices for Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance (84.237H). The priority Developing Effective Secondary School-Based Practices for Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications Available: February 16, 1996.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 30, 1996.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 29, 1996.

Estimated Average Size of Award: \$167,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: Three

Project Period: Up to 48 months.

Available Funds: In fiscal year 1996, approximately \$500,000 will be available to support an estimated 3 projects. The estimated average size of award is \$167,000 for the first 12 months of the project. Multi-year projects will be level funded unless there are increases in costs attributable to significant changes in activity level.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND GENERAL

INFORMATION CONTACT: Claudette Carey, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., room 3525, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-9864. Fax: (202) 20508105. Internet: Claudette___Carey@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8953.

FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Helen Thornton, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW., room 3520, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-5910. Fax: (202) 205-8105. Internet: Helen___Thornton@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8953.

Information about the Department's funding opportunities, including copies of application notices for discretionary grant competitions, can be viewed on the Department's electronic bulletin board (ED Board), telephone (202) 260-9950; or on the Internet Gopher Server at GOPHER.ED.GOV (under Announcements, Bulletins and Press Releases). However, the official application notice for a discretionary grant competition is the notice published in the Federal Register.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1426.

Dated: January 29, 1996.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

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