

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education—School Improvement Programs—Native Hawaiian Curriculum Development, Teacher Training and Recruitment Program

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of final funding priorities for fiscal year (FY) 2001.

SUMMARY: The Secretary announces final funding priorities for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2001 grant competition under the Native Hawaiian Curriculum Development, Teacher Training and Recruitment Program. After funding continuation awards, the Secretary will use the remaining funds available under the program to support new grants that meet either of the following absolute priorities as described in this notice:

Absolute Priority 1—The project focuses entirely on activities in one or more of the following areas: (a) aquaculture, (b) prisoner education initiatives, (c) waste management innovation, (d) computer literacy, (e) Big Island astronomy, and (f) indigenous health programs; or

Absolute Priority 2—The project focuses entirely on Native Hawaiian language revitalization activities, including K–12 language immersion programs, preservice and in-service teacher training programs, and programs designed to increase the number of Native Hawaiian teachers.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 24, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lynn Thomas, (202) 260–1541. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339. Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

Note: This notice of final priority does not solicit applications. A notice inviting applications under this competition is published elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register**. The notice inviting applications will specify the deadline date which applications for an award must be mailed or hand-delivered to the Department.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Secretary published a notice of proposed priorities for this competition in the **Federal Register** on June 11, 2001 (66 FR 31216–31218). This notice announces the final priorities for the competition.

In response to the notice of proposed priorities, the Secretary received comments from three organizations. One

commenter strongly supported aquaculture as an area for Absolute Priority 1 and recommended no changes to the priority. A summary of the other comments, responses to the comments, and any changes to the priorities is provided below.

Analysis of Comments and Changes

Comment: One commenter expressed concern that the amount of funding that would be available to support activities under Absolute Priority 1, and prisoner education in particular, was too limited.

Response: After funding continuation awards and supporting activities in the significant area of Native Hawaiian language revitalization, the Secretary anticipates that there will be approximately \$900,000 to support activities under Absolute Priority 1. The actual amount of funding to be awarded between the two absolute priorities and among the categories in Absolute Priority 1 will be determined on the basis on the quality of the applications received. Additional resources under this program are not available.

Changes: None.

Comments: A second commenter suggested that all grantees seeking funds under the first proposed absolute priority be required to include as part of their projects preservice and in-service teacher training.

Response: While preservice and in-service teacher training are allowable activities under the program, the Secretary believes that applicants should have the flexibility to seek funds to support any one or more of the four statutory purposes—curricula development, preservice teacher training, in-service teacher training, or teacher recruitment.

Changes: None.

Comment: The second commenter also proposed some editorial revisions to portions of the first proposed absolute priority to clarify the intent of the priority.

Response: The proposed editorial revisions clarify the intent of the first proposed absolute priority but do not substantively change the priority. The suggested changes are reflected in the final priority.

Changes: Minor editorial revisions are reflected in the aquaculture, Big Island astronomy, and indigenous health sections of Absolute Priority 1.

Comment: The second commenter also suggested that the second proposed absolute priority specifically state that the Native Hawaiian language revitalization activities include native speaker programs, the use of media to provide enrichment and community

participation, and other specific activities.

Response: The Secretary believes that it is important to give applicants flexibility in developing Native Hawaiian language revitalization proposals. The specific activities suggested by the commenter may be included in a proposal that addresses the second absolute priority, but are not required.

Changes: None.

Absolute Priorities: Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) and the Native Hawaiian Education Act, the Secretary gives an absolute preference to applicants that meet either of the following absolute priorities, and funds under this competition only those applications that meet either of these priorities:

Absolute Priority 1—The project focuses entirely on activities in one or more of the following six areas:

(a) *Aquaculture*—to support programs that concentrate on aquaculture, the science of the cultivation of marine life and its connections to Native Hawaiian traditions. A comprehensive aquaculture program will assist Native Hawaiian students in reaching challenging standards in science and mathematics in an intellectually stimulating environment and give them a greater understanding and appreciation of their Native Hawaiian culture.

(b) *Prisoner education initiatives*—to support programs that target juvenile offenders or youth at risk of becoming juvenile offenders and that involve comprehensive and culturally sensitive strategies for reaching the target population through family counseling, basic education/jobs skills training, and the involvement of community elders as mentors.

(c) *Waste management innovation*—to study and document traditional Hawaiian practices of sustainable waste management and to prepare teaching materials for educational purposes and for demonstration of the use of Native Hawaiian plants and animals for waste treatment and environmental remediation.

(d) *Computer literacy*—to support curriculum development, teacher training and model programs designed to increase computer literacy and access for Native Hawaiian elementary and secondary school students;

(e) *Big Island astronomy*—to support the development of educational programs in Big Island astronomy for Native Hawaiian elementary and secondary school students to assist them in reaching challenging science and mathematics standards and to encourage them to enter the field of astronomy

with a firm base in Native Hawaiian traditions. A comprehensive Big Island astronomy program will assist Native Hawaiian students in reaching challenging standards in science and mathematics in an intellectually stimulating environment and give them a greater understanding and appreciation of their Native Hawaiian culture; and

(f) *Indigenous health programs*—to support curriculum development, teacher training, and instruction activities that will foster a better understanding and knowledge of Native Hawaiian traditional medicine and preventative health practices, particularly among Native Hawaiian elementary and secondary students.

Absolute Priority 2—The project focuses entirely on Native Hawaiian language revitalization activities, including K–12 language immersion programs, preservice and in-service teacher training programs, and programs designed to increase the number of Native Hawaiian teachers.

Program Authority: Section 9209 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. 7909).

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Dated: July 20, 2001.

Thomas M. Corwin,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No: 84.297]

The Native Hawaiian Curriculum Development, Teacher Training and Recruitment Program

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2001.

Purpose of Program: The Native Hawaiian Curriculum Development, Teacher Training and Recruitment Program supports—

(1) *Curricula Development*—the development of curricula to address the needs of Native Hawaiian students, particularly elementary and secondary students, which may include programs of instruction conducted in the Native Hawaiian language and mathematics and science curricula incorporating the relevant application of Native Hawaiian culture and traditions;

(2) *Preteacher Training*—the development and implementation of preservice teacher training to ensure that student teachers within the State, particularly those who are likely to be employed in schools with a high concentration of Native Hawaiian students, are prepared to better address the unique needs of Native Hawaiian students within the context of Native Hawaiian culture, language, and traditions;

(3) *Inservice Teacher Training*—the development and implementation of inservice teacher training to ensure that teachers, particularly those employed in schools with a high concentration of Native Hawaiian students, are prepared to better address the unique needs of Native Hawaiian students within the context of Native Hawaiian culture, language, and traditions; and

(4) *Teacher Recruitment*—the development and implementation of teacher recruitment programs to enhance teacher recruitment within communities with a high concentration of Native Hawaiian students and to increase the numbers of teachers who are of Native Hawaiian ancestry.

Consistent with these statutory purposes, the Secretary has established absolute priorities that will govern the distribution of funds under the program.

Eligible Applicants: Native Hawaiian educational organizations or educational entities with experience in developing or operating Native Hawaiian programs or programs of instruction conducted in the Native Hawaiian language.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: August 24, 2001.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: August 6, 2001.

Available Funds: Approximately \$1,400,000. Of this amount, approximately \$900,000 will be used to award grants that meet Absolute Priority 1 (aquaculture, prisoner education initiatives, waste management innovation, computer literacy, Big

Island astronomy, or indigenous health programs); approximately \$500,000 will be used to award a grant that meets Absolute Priority 2 (Native Hawaiian language revitalization).

Estimated Number of Awards: Three awards under Absolute Priority 1 and one award under Absolute Priority 2.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: Approximately \$300,000 for the awards granted under Absolute Priority 1; approximately \$500,000 for the award granted under Absolute Priority 2.

Note: These estimates are projections for the guidance of potential applicants. The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 81, 82, 85, 86 97, 98, and 99.

Absolute Priorities: The Secretary has published elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register** a notice of final priorities, which establishes absolute priorities in the following areas under the Curriculum Development, Teacher Training and Recruitment Program:

Absolute priority 1—The project focuses entirely on activities in one or more of the following areas—(a) aquaculture, (b) prisoner education initiatives, (c) waste management innovation, (d) computer literacy, (e) Big Island astronomy, and (f) indigenous health programs.

Absolute priority 2—The project focuses entirely on Native Hawaiian language revitalization activities, including K–12 language immersion programs, preservice and inservice teacher training programs, and programs designed to increase the number of Native Hawaiian teachers.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) and the Native Hawaiian Education Act, the Secretary will fund under this competition only applicants that meet either of the absolute priorities.

Statutory Priorities: In accordance with section 9209(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Secretary gives priority to awarding grants for activities that —

(1) Focus on the needs of at-risk youth; or

(2) Employ a program of instruction conducted in the Native Hawaiian language.

These statutory priorities are embedded in the selection criteria for this competition.

Selection Criteria: The Secretary will use the following selection criteria in 34 CFR 75.210 to evaluate applications under this competition. (The specific selection criteria and factors that will be