

toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities;

(2) Organize, synthesize, interpret, integrate, and facilitate dissemination of information needed for program improvement using already existing information resources and communication networks;

(3) Analyze emerging policy or program issues regarding the administration of special education, early intervention, and related services at the Federal, State and local levels; and

(4) Facilitate the use of information at Federal, State and local levels for program improvement for infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities.

The project must organize, coordinate, and maintain a data base of laws, policies, and regulations that govern special education within the States and other jurisdictions; communicate, on a regular basis, with State educational agencies to identify emerging policy issues; obtain, analyze and synthesize information relative to the emerging issues; and convene experts, special education administrators, and others to review, plan, and provide leadership in recommending multi-level actions that respond to the emerging issues. The project must communicate regularly with the Office of Special Education Programs to ensure the continuing flow and development of information that may be required at the Federal level to facilitate the improvement and efficiency of administration of IDEA by the U.S. Department of Education.

Upon request of the OSEP project officer, the project should meet with other funded projects of OSEP for purposes of cross-project collaboration and information exchange. The project must also 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.

For Further Information Contact: Jane C. Williams, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue S.W., Room 3529, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-9039. FAX: (202) 205-8105. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf

(TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8125. Internet: Jane Williams@ed.gov *Applicable Program Regulations:* 34 CFR part 327.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1418.
Dated: April 26, 1996.

Howard R. Moses,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.159, Special Studies Program)

[FR Doc. 96-11223 Filed 5-3-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

[CFDA No.: 84.159H]

Special Studies Program; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 1996

Purpose of Program: To support studies to evaluate the impact of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), including efforts to provide a free appropriate public education to children and youth with disabilities, and early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities.

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.

Eligible Applicants: Public or private agencies, institutions, organizations, and other appropriate parties.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR Part 327.

Priority:

Absolute Priority—Testing the Use of An Instrument to Measure Student Progress (84.159H)

The priority Testing the Use of An Instrument to Measure Student Progress in the notice of final priorities for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

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

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: June 24, 1996.

Applications Available: May 7, 1996.

Estimated Number of Awards: 1.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Available Funds: In fiscal year 1996, the Department proposes to allocate approximately \$300,000 to support one award for the first twelve months of the project. In years two and three, the project will be level funded unless there are increases in costs attributable to significant changes in activity level.

Note: The Department of Education is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

For Applications and General Information Contact: Claudette Carey, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Switzer Building, Room 3525, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone (202) 205-9864. FAX: (202) 205-8105. Internet: Claudette_Carey@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8953. Applications are available in alternative formats upon request.

For Technical Information Contact: Susan Sanchez, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Switzer Building, Room 3528, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-8998. FAX: (202) 205-8105. Internet: Susan Sanchez@ed.gov

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; on the Internet Gopher Server at GOPHER.ED.GOV (under Announcements, Bulletins, and Press Releases); or on the World Wide Web at <http://www.ed.gov/money.html>. However, the official application notice for a discretionary grant competition is the notice published in the Federal Register.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1418.

Dated: April 26, 1996.

Howard R. Moses,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 96-11290 Filed 5-3-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M