

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.029J]

Training Personnel for the Education of Individuals With Disabilities—Grants for Personnel Training; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 1996

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM: The Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) recommends that the Secretary develop and implement a plan for providing outreach services to minority entities and underrepresented populations to assist them in participating more fully in the discretionary programs under the Act (section 610(j)(2)(C)).

This final priority 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: Eligible applicants are institutions of higher education, State agencies, and other appropriate nonprofit agencies.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86.

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

Priority—Absolute Priority—Outreach Services to Minority Entities To Expand Research Capacity (84.029J)

The priority Outreach Services to Minority Entities to Expand Research Capacity in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

SELECTION CRITERIA: In evaluating applications for grants under this program, the Secretary uses the EDGAR selection criteria in 34 CFR 75.210.

Applications Available: May 31, 1996.
Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: July 16, 1996.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: September 16, 1996.

Estimated Number of Awards: 1.
Project Period: Up to 36 months.
Available Funds: In FY 1996, approximately \$996,000 will be available to support 1 project (cooperative agreement) under this absolute priority (competition). A multi-year project will be level funded unless there is an increase in costs attributable to significant changes in activity level, and funds are available.

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

FOR APPLICATIONS AND GENERAL

INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for applications and general information should be addressed to: Claudette Carey, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW., Switzer Building, Room 3525, Washington, DC. 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 at (202) 205-8953.

FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

Scott Brown, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 3522, Switzer Building, Washington, DC. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-5509. FAX: (202) 205-8117. Internet: Scott_Brown@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. 1431.

Dated: May 23, 1996.

Howard R. Moses,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Training Personnel for the Education of Individuals With Disabilities—Grants for Personnel Training**

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of Final Priority.

SUMMARY: The Secretary announces a final priority for the Training Personnel for the Education of Individuals with Disabilities—Grants for Personnel Training program administered by the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The Secretary may use this priority in Fiscal Year 1996 and subsequent years. The Secretary takes this action to focus Federal assistance on identified needs to improve

outcomes for children with disabilities. This final priority is intended to ensure wide and effective use of program funds.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This priority takes effect on June 28, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Scott Brown, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue SW., Room 3522, Switzer Building, Washington, DC. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-8117. FAX: (202) 205-8105. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number at (202) 205-8953. Internet: Scott_Brown@ed.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) directs the Secretary to develop and implement a plan for providing outreach services to minority entities and underrepresented populations to assist them in participating more fully in the discretionary programs under the Act (section 610(j)(2)(C)).

On March 26, 1996, the Secretary published a notice of proposed priority for this program in the Federal Register (61 FR 13376-13377).

This final priority supports the National Education Goals by improving understanding of how to enable children and youth with disabilities to reach higher levels of academic achievement.

The publication of this priority does not preclude the Secretary from proposing additional priorities, nor does it limit the Secretary to funding only this priority, subject to meeting applicable rulemaking requirements. Funding of particular projects depends on the availability of funds, and the quality of the applications received. Further, FY 1996 priorities could be affected by enactment of legislation reauthorizing these programs.

Note: This notice of final priority does not solicit applications. A notice inviting applications under this competition is published in a separate notice in this issue of the Federal Register.

Analysis of Comments and Changes

In response to the Secretary's invitation in the notice of proposed priority, five parties submitted comments. An analysis of the comments and of the changes in the proposed priority follows. Technical and other minor changes—as well as suggested changes the Secretary is not legally authorized to make under the applicable statutory authority—are not addressed.