

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84-297A]

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education; The Native Hawaiian Curriculum Development, Teacher Training, and Recruitment Program

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of Final Priorities.

SUMMARY: The Secretary announces final priorities for fiscal year (FY) 1998 under the Native Hawaiian Curriculum Development, Teacher Training, and Recruitment Program. The priorities are intended to focus activities in one of three major areas in which there is a need for additional support: (1) waste management innovation; (2) Native Hawaiian language revitalization curricula and teacher training and recruitment activities; and (3) prisoner education programs.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 4, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beth Baggett, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW, Portals 4500, Washington, D.C. 20202-6140. Telephone (202) 260-2502. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 6, 1998, the Secretary published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 11329-11330) a notice of proposed funding priorities announcing that the Secretary intended to use \$2 million of the FY 1998 funds available under this program to fund one or two projects in each of the three priority categories: (1) waste management innovation; (2) Native Hawaiian language revitalization curricula and teacher training and recruitment; and (3) prisoner education programs that target juvenile offenders and/or youth at risk of becoming juvenile offenders.

In response to the Secretary's notice of proposed funding priorities, eight parties submitted comments. Five of the comments specifically addressed the proposed funding priorities, and were generally supportive of the priorities. Included in these comments were recommendations for specific program design elements. The Secretary believes that many of these recommendations, which form the basis for the additional

program design information provided in the notice inviting applications for new awards published elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register**, can be incorporated into applications as part of the proposed projects.

Three commenters requested the Secretary to reinstate aquaculture education as a funding priority. Aquaculture education remains a very significant part of the Native Hawaiian Curriculum Development, Teacher Training, and Recruitment Program. The Department is currently funding three aquaculture education projects and, as discussed in the notice of proposed funding priorities, has reserved funds to continue these projects. The remaining funds available for this program will be used to support projects in the new priority areas.

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

Absolute Priorities

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), the Secretary gives an absolute preference to applications that focus entirely on activities in one of the following three areas:

(1) 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;

(2) Native Hawaiian language revitalization curricula and teacher training and recruitment activities, including K-12 language immersion programs, preservice and inservice teacher training programs, and programs designed to increase the number of Native Hawaiian teachers; or

(3) Prisoner education programs that target juvenile offenders and/or youth at risk of becoming juvenile offenders. Comprehensive and culturally sensitive strategies for reaching the target population will include family counseling, basic education/job skills training, and the involvement of community elders as mentors.

The Secretary funds under the FY 1998 competition under this program only applicants that meet one of these absolute priorities.

Intergovernmental Review

This program is 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 this program.

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7909.

Dated: May 1, 1998.

Gerald N. Tirozzi,

Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

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Office of Elementary and Secondary Education; 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) 1998.

Purpose of Program:

To award grants to 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 for: (1) The development of curricula to address the needs of Native Hawaiian 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) preservice teacher