of IDEA when Part B funds are used, and (2) with Part C even if no IDEA Part B or C funds are used for that child as long as the State receives any Part C funds.

Part D: National Activities to Improve Education of children with Disabilities

Subpart 2—Coordinated Research, Personnel Preparation, Technical Assistance, Support, and Dissemination of Information

Section 682—Parent Training and Information Centers

Topic Addressed: Definition of Parent Organization

• Letter dated April 15, 1999 to National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems Executive Director Curtis L. Decker, regarding the statutory definition of ''parent organization'' and explaining that a protection and advocacy entity that otherwise meets section 682 statutory criteria would be eligible to compete for funding as a parent training and information center (PTI).

Other Letters Relevant to the Administration of IDEA Programs

Topic Addressed: Freedom of Information Act

• Letter dated May 20, 1999 to individual, (personally identifiable information redacted), regarding an appeal of a partial denial of a request for agency records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and stating that FOIA exemption (b)(6), which protects from public disclosure information that would constitute a clear invasion of personal privacy, authorizes the Department not to release to the public personal information, such as home addresses and telephone numbers, of attendees contained in a register maintained by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) of public meetings conducted in connection with OSEP's State educational agency monitoring.

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(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.027, Assistance to States for Education of Children with Disabilities)

Dated: March 14, 2000.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 00–6648 Filed 3–16–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; List of Correspondence

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: List of correspondence from July 1, 1999 through September 30, 1999.

SUMMARY: The Secretary is publishing the following list pursuant to section 607(d) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Under section 607(d) of IDEA, the Secretary is required, on a quarterly basis, to publish in the **Federal Register** a list of correspondence from the Department of Education received by individuals during the previous quarter that describes the interpretations of the Department of Education of IDEA or the regulations that implement IDEA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JoLeta Reynolds or Rhonda Weiss. Telephone: (202) 205–5507. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call (202) 205–5465 or the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm, Eastern time, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of this notice in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to Katie Mincey, Director of the Alternate Formats Center. Telephone: (202) 205–8113.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following list identifies correspondence from the Department issued between July 1, 1999 and September 30, 1999.

Included on the list are those letters that contain interpretations of the requirements of IDEA and its implementing regulations, as well as letters and other documents that the Department believes will assist the public in understanding the requirements of the law and its regulations. The date and topic addressed by a letter are identified, and summary information is also provided, as appropriate. To protect the privacy interests of the individual or individuals involved, personally identifiable information has been deleted, as appropriate.

Part A: General Provisions

Section 602—Definitions

Topic Addressed: Child With a Disability

• Letter dated September 14, 1999 to School Psychologist Anthony W. Coe, regarding criteria for establishing eligibility of children with pervasive developmental delay for services under Part B of IDEA, including any applicable State diagnostic criteria, and clarifying that the categories or conditions identified in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM)–IV, are not synonymous with criteria for determining whether a child is a ''child with a disability'' under Part B of IDEA.

Topic Addressed: Related Services

• Letter dated August 2, 1999 to individual, (personally identifiable information redacted), regarding the U.S. Supreme Court's 1999 decision in *Cedar Rapids Community School District* v.*Garret F.*, which clarifies that required nursing services provided during school hours can be an eligible ''school health service,'' the Department's views regarding the impact of the decision, and provisions in IDEA that are designed to assist States and school districts in financing the costs of required school health services.

• Letter dated August 11, 1999 to U.S. Congressman David Camp, regarding the impact on school districts of the U.S. Supreme Court's 1999 decision in *Cedar Rapids Community School District* v. *Garret F.*, and an explanation of the impact of fully funding IDEA at 40 percent of the average per pupil expenditures in public elementary and secondary schools in the United States.

• Letter dated September 21, 1999 to individual, (personally identifiable information redacted), regarding the impact on school districts of the U.S. Supreme Court's 1999 decision in *Cedar Rapids Community School District* v. *Garrett F.* and clarifying that the number of disabled students requiring the one-on-one nursing services required by the Garrett F. decision is limited.

Part B: Assistance for Education of All Children with Disabilities

Section 611—Authorization; Allotment; Use of Funds; Authorization of Appropriations

Topic Addressed: Distribution of Part B Funds

• Letter dated September 20, 1999 to Walnut Creek School District Superintendent Michael De Sa, and letter dated September 20, 1999 to individual, (personally identifiable information redacted), regarding provisions in the IDEA Amendments of 1997 that revise the formula for distribution of funds awarded under Part B of IDEA and describing increases in Federal funding levels for special education programs in the past several years, despite funding reductions in other Federal programs.

Topic Addressed: Use of Part B Funds

• Letter dated August 5, 1999 to Louisiana Department of Education Director Virginia C. Beridon regarding criteria for determining whether use of Part B funds for international travel is an allowable cost.

Section 612—State Eligibility

Topic Addressed: Free Appropriate Public Education

• Letter dated August 6, 1999 to Attorney Brian J. Bocketti, regarding State flexibility under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (section 504) in determining nonresident tuition rates for students with disabilities in public school choice programs as long as appropriate educational services are made available and funded.

• Letter dated September 14, 1999 to Colorado Department of Education Federal Complaints Officer Charles M. Masner, regarding the responsibility of the State educational agency or public agency to appoint a hearing officer or to resolve a State complaint if a parent alleges either that the award of a regular high school diploma to their child was appropriate or that the award of a regular high school diploma to their child was not appropriate.

• Letter dated September 29, 1999 to individual, (personally identifiable information redacted), regarding a State's right to establish proficiency standards for high school graduation and clarifying that such State standards may not be established or implemented in a nondiscriminatory manner in violation of section 504 and Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act, and the responsibility of the individualized education program (IEP) team under Part B of IDEA to determine if eligible students with disabilities require modifications to participate in State assessments.

Topic Addressed: Least Restrictive Environment

• Letter dated September 21, 1999 to individual, (personally identifiable information redacted), regarding the need to place certain disabled students in special schools or residential schools, and clarifying that the Part B regulatory requirement for a continuum of alternative placements does not compel a State to create an appropriate residential placement within a State if an appropriate residential placement for the child is otherwise available.

Topic Addressed: State Educational Agency General Supervisory Responsibility

• Letter dated August 5, 1999 to individual, (personally identifiable information redacted), and letter dated August 5, 1999 to Florida Department of Education Bureau of Instructional Support and Community Services Chief Shan Goff, regarding a State's obligation to resolve a complaint against a school district where a child's parents no longer reside, including: (1) Requiring appropriate corrective action by that district; and (2) using the State complaint procedures as a means of addressing both systemic and child-specific violations of Part B of IDEA.

• Letter dated August 19, 1999 to California Department of Education Superintendent of Public Instruction Delaine Eastin and Youth and Adult Correctional Agency Secretary Robert Presley, informing California of its receipt of IDEA sections 611 and 619 Part B funds for Federal Fiscal Year 1999 and its status as a high risk grantee, as well as the special conditions imposed on its receipt of these grant awards.

Topic Addressed: Information Required for State Program Grants

• Letter dated August 12, 1999 to Native American Protection & Advocacy Project, Inc. Attorneys Sarah J. Somers and Therese E. Yanan regarding the obligations of all States, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), to submit final policies and procedures that comply with the requirements of the IDEA Amendments of 1997 as a condition for receipt of their Federal Fiscal Year 2000 Part B of IDEA grant awards, the difficulties experienced by children with disabilities attending schools funded by the BIA in obtaining appropriate educational services and in resolving disagreements with schools, and the obligations of the BIA to implement a due process system that meets the requirements of section 615 of IDEA and to ensure the availability of the State complaint procedures.

Section 614—Evaluations, Eligibility Determinations, Individualized Education Programs, and Educational placements

Topic Addressed: Individualized Education Programs

• Letter dated August 5, 1999 to Ohio Protection and Advocacy Association member Suzanne Faustini regarding the absence of a requirement in Part B of IDEA that recommendations of parents or other team members not adopted by the IEP team be included in the IEP, clarifying that the IEP is developed by consensus rather than by majority vote and that the public agency must give parents prior written notice explaining why the recommendations were not adopted.

• Letter dated September 14, 1999 to Attorney Gary D. Lander regarding whether a school board member may be a member of an IEP team, at the request of a parent or a public agency.

Section 615—Procedural Safeguards

Topic Addressed: Mediation

• Letter dated August 26, 1999 to individual, (personally identifiable information redacted), regarding the mediation confidentiality requirements of the IDEA Amendments of 1997 and the Department's regulations that prohibit the use of mediation discussions as evidence in a due process hearing or civil proceeding, but clarifying congressional intent that this requirement not be used to supersede any discovery rights in such proceedings or any parental access rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.

Topic Addressed: Discipline Procedures

• Letter dated July 27, 1999 to U.S. Congressman Rush Holt regarding obligations of school districts to take prompt and appropriate steps whenever a student with or without a disability threatens school safety and explaining the options available to school authorities in disciplining a disabled student who threatens school safety.

• Letter dated September 20, 1999 to individual, (personally identifiable information redacted), regarding options available to school authorities in disciplining students with disabilities, particularly the use of proactive measures, including appropriate behavioral interventions, and information about some of the programs that the Department funds regarding the

use of appropriate behavioral interventions.

Section 619—Preschool Grants

Topic Addressed: Procedures for Allocating Subgrants to Eligible Entities

• Letter dated July 9, 1999 to Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction Lisa Graham Keegan regarding the formula for the Preschool Grants program and how State educational agencies allocate subgrants to local educational agencies, procedures for calculating base payments and population and poverty payments, and clarifying that there are no provisions in Part B of IDEA authorizing waivers of these requirements.

Part D: National Activities To Improve Education of Children With Disabilities

Subpart 1—State Program Improvement Grants for Children With Disabilities

Section 653—Applications

Topic Addressed: Information About State Program Improvement Grants

• OSEP memorandum 99–14 dated July 30, 1999, to interested parties providing guidance related to State program improvement grants.

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(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.027, Assistance to States for Education of Children with Disabilities)

Dated: March 14, 2000.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 00–6649 Filed 3–16–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–U

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 00–13; Medical Applications Program

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Biological and Environmental Research (OBER) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), hereby announces its interest in receiving grant applications to support one specific research area within the Medical Applications Program: *Imaging Gene Expression in Health and Disease.* The specific goals include development of nuclear medicine driven technologies to image mRNA transcripts in real time in tissue culture and whole animals. Special consideration will be given to applications arising from a well integrated, multidisciplinary team effort of scientists with skills to address the needs, issues and importance of nucleic acid biochemistry, radioligand synthesis and macromolecular interactions; functional consequences of gene expression by targeting and perturbing the activity of a particular gene; and biological applications of optical and radionuclide imaging devices; contributing to the goal of imaging specific gene expression in real time in animals to humans. The access to, or availability of specialized molecular radioligands, transgenic animal models of human disease, and biological imaging devices for real time imaging in animals to humans, will be important factors for funding considerations. Methodological approaches that are applicable to any mRNA species are encouraged.

DATES: Before preparing a formal application, potential applicants are encouraged to submit a brief preapplication. All preapplications referencing Program Notice 00–13, should be received by DOE by 4:30 pm, EDT., April 14, 2000. A response encouraging or discouraging the submission of a formal application will be communicated by electronic mail by April 21, 2000.

Formal applications submitted in response to this notice must be received by 4:30 p.m., E.D.T., May 30, 2000, to be accepted for merit review and consideration for award in Fiscal Years 2000 and 2001.

ADDRESSES: Preapplications referencing Program Notice 00–13, must be sent by E-mail to sharon.betson@science.doe.gov. Preapplications will also be accepted if mailed to the following address: Ms. Sharon Betson, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, SC–73, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290.

Formal applications referencing Program Notice 00–13, should be forwarded to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Grants and Contracts Division, SC–64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290, ATTN: Program Notice 00–13. This address must also be used when submitting applications by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail or any other commercial overnight delivery service, or hand-carried by the applicant. An original and seven copies of the application must be submitted.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Prem C. Srivastava, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, Medical Sciences Division (SC–73), U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290, telephone: (301) 903–4071, FAX: (301) 903–0567, E-mail: prem.srivastava@science.doe.gov. The full text of Program Notice 00–13 is available via the Internet using the following web site address: http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Medical Applications Program supports directed nuclear medicine research through radiopharmaceutical development, molecular nuclear medicine and medical imaging instrumentation program activities to study uses of radioisotopes for non-invasive diagnosis and internal molecular radiotherapy. Molecules directing or affected by homeostatic controls always interact and, thus, are targets for specific molecular substrates. The substrate molecules can be tailored to fulfil a specific need and labeled with appropriate radioisotopes to become measurable in real time in the body on their way to, and in interaction with their targets allowing the analysis of molecular function in homeostatic control in health and disease. The function of radiopharmaceuticals at various sites in the body is imaged by nuclear medical instruments, such as, gamma cameras and positron emission tomographs (PET). This type of imaging refines diagnostic differentiation at molecular/metabolic levels between health and disease, and among various diseases such as of the heart, brain and cancer, often leading to more effective therapy. If labeled with high energy-emitting radioisotopes, the substrate molecules, carrying the radiation dose