

order relies on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

This document is intended to provide early notification of our specific plans and actions for this program.

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(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.144: (Migrant Education Coordination Program)

Dated: July 7, 2003.

Eugene W. Hickok,

Under Secretary of Education.

[FR Doc. 03-17532 Filed 7-10-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.358A]

Small, Rural School Achievement Program

AGENCY: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice announcing application deadline.

SUMMARY: Under the Small, Rural School Achievement Program (SRSA) Program, we will award grants on a formula basis to eligible local educational agencies (LEAs) to address the unique needs of rural school districts. An LEA that is eligible for fiscal year (FY) 2003 SRSA funding and that applied last year for FY 2002 SRSA funding does not have to submit another SRSA application in order to receive its FY 2003 grant award. An LEA that is

eligible for FY 2003 SRSA funding but did not apply last year for FY 2002 SRSA funding is required to submit a FY 2003 SRSA application in order to receive its FY 2003 SRSA grant award. In this notice, we establish the deadline for submission of the FY 2003 SRSA grant applications.

Application Deadline: July 23, 2003, 4:30 p.m. Eastern time. (**Note:** The e-application has been open since May 27, 2003).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An LEA is eligible for an award under the SRSA Program if—

(a) The total number of students in average daily attendance at all of the schools served by the LEA is fewer than 600; or each county in which a school served by the LEA is located has a total population density of fewer than 10 persons per square mile; and

(b) All of the schools served by the LEA are designated with a school locale code of 7 or 8 by the Department's National Center for Education Statistics; or the Secretary has determined, based on a demonstration by the LEA and concurrence of the SEA, that the LEA is located in an area defined as rural by a governmental agency of the State.

Under the regulations at 34 CFR 75.104(a), the Secretary makes grants only to an eligible party that submits an application. The Secretary wants to minimize the burden on small, rural school districts and does not believe that it is necessary for eligible LEAs that applied for FY 2002 SRSA funding to submit another application for FY 2003 funding. Instead of requiring new applications from these LEAs, the Department is including as a condition of their FY 2003 grant award a requirement that they comply with the assurances that they filed as part of their FY 2002 applications. Those eligible LEAs that did not apply for FY 2002 funding will have to submit a FY 2003 SRSA application in order to receive their FY 2003 SRSA grant award.

We have provided on the Department's Web site at <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/reap.html> a list of LEAs eligible for FY 2003 funds. The Web site also indicates which of these eligible LEAs must submit an application to receive their FY 2003 SRSA grant award, and which eligible LEAs do not have to re-apply for SRSA funding for FY 2003. Eligible LEAs that must submit an application in order to receive FY 2003 SRSA funding must do so electronically by the deadline established in this notice.

Electronic Submission of Applications: Unless it is listed on the Department's Web site as not required to

re-apply for an SRSA FY 2003 funding, an eligible LEA must submit an electronic application for FY 2003 SRSA funding by July 23, 2003, 4:30 pm Eastern time. Submission of an electronic application involves the use of the Electronic Grant Application System (e-APPLICATION) portion of the Grant Administration and Payment System (GAPS).

You can access the electronic application for the SRSA Program at: <http://e-grants.ed.gov>.

Once you access this site, you will receive specific instructions regarding the information to include in your application.

The regular hours of operation of the e-Grants Web site are 6 a.m. Monday until 7 p.m. Wednesday; and 6 a.m. Thursday until midnight, Saturday (Washington, DC time). Please note that the system is unavailable on Sundays, Federal holidays, and after 7 p.m. on Wednesday for maintenance (Washington, DC time).

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking: It is the Secretary's practice, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553) to offer interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed rules. Ordinarily, this practice would have applied to the rules in this notice. However, section 437(d)(2) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) exempts from this rulemaking requirement those rules where the Secretary determines it would cause extreme hardship to the intended beneficiaries of the program that would be affected. In accordance with section 437(d)(2) of the GEPA, the Secretary has decided to forgo public comment with respect to the rules in this notice in order to reduce burden on eligible rural LEAs to the extent possible.

For Further Information Contact: Ms. Milagros Lanauze. Telephone: (202) 401-0039 or via Internet: [http://reap@ed.gov](mailto:reap@ed.gov).

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Program Authority: Section 6212 of the ESEA, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Pub. L. 107-110).

Dated: July 7, 2003.

Eugene W. Hickok,

Under Secretary of Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No: 84.184D]

Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools—Demonstration Grants for Student Drug Testing—Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2003

Purpose of Program: This program awards grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) and public and private entities, to develop or enhance, implement, and evaluate school-based drug testing programs for students.

For FY 2003 the competition for new awards focuses on projects designed to meet the priorities we describe in the PRIORITIES section of this application notice.

Eligible Applicants: LEAs and public and private entities.

Applications Available: July 11, 2003.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: August 20, 2003.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: September 19, 2003.

Estimated Available Funds: The Department expects to make available \$2,000,000 for this program for FY 2003.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$200,000–\$400,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$300,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 7.

Note: 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, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99.

Other Requirements

Participation by Private School Children and Teachers

Entities receiving a grant under the Demonstration Grants for Student Drug Testing Program are required to provide for the equitable participation of private school children and their teachers or other educational personnel. In order to ensure that grant program activities address the needs of private school children, timely and meaningful consultation with appropriate private school officials must occur during the design and development of the program. Administrative direction and control over grant funds must remain with the grantee.

Maintenance of Effort

An LEA may receive a grant under the Demonstration Grants for Student Drug Testing Program only if the State educational agency finds that the combined fiscal efforts per student or the aggregate expenditures of the agency and the State with respect to the provisions of free public education by the agency for the preceding fiscal year was not less than 90 percent of the combined fiscal effort or aggregate expenditures for the second preceding fiscal year.

School-Based Programs

Applicants other than LEAs must demonstrate that they have established a partnership with one or more LEAs to carry out the program. This partnership must be demonstrated by submitting a partnership agreement signed by the superintendent or an authorized representative of the participating LEA. Letters of support for the proposed project are not sufficient to demonstrate the required partnership.

Assurance

Applicants must provide an assurance that legal counsel has reviewed the proposed program and advised that the program activities do not appear to violate established constitutional principles or State and Federal requirements related to implementing a student drug testing program.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additional Awards

Contingent upon the availability of funds, we may make additional awards in FY 2004 from the rank-ordered list of unfunded applications from this competition.

Participation of Faith-based Organizations

Faith-based organizations are eligible to apply for grants under this competition provided they meet all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Definition

Drug. The term drug includes controlled substances; the illegal use of alcohol and tobacco; and the harmful, abusive, or addictive use of substances, including inhalants and anabolic steroids.

Absolute Priority

We will award grants to LEAs and public and private entities to develop or enhance, implement, and evaluate school-based drug testing programs for students. Any random drug testing program conducted with funds awarded under this competition must be limited to one or more of the following: (1) Students who participate in the school's athletic program; (2) students who are engaged in competitive, extracurricular school-sponsored activities; and (3) students who, along with their parents or guardian, have consented or volunteered to participate in a random drug testing program.

In order to be eligible for an award, applicants must:

- (1) Identify a target population and demonstrate a significant need for drug testing within the target population;
- (2) Explain how the proposed drug testing program will be part of a comprehensive drug prevention program in the schools to be served;
- (3) Provide a comprehensive plan for referral to treatment or counseling of students identified as drug users through the testing program; and
- (4) Provide a plan to ensure the confidentiality of drug testing results.

For FY 2003, this priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), we will consider only applications that meet this priority.

Competitive Preference Priority

In order to determine whether the drug testing projects supported under this program produce meaningful effects on student drug use, we have established a competitive preference priority within the absolute priority for this competition. We will award up to 10 additional points to applicants that propose experimental or quasi-experimental evaluation of projects. These points are in addition to any points the application earns under the selection criteria. The total number of points available for this competition is 110.