

(3) Assessing current needs of the State.

(c) Develop and implement procedures to evaluate the impact of program activities on services and outcomes for children and young adults with deaf-blindness and their families by:

(1) Evaluating the effectiveness of strategies in achieving program goals and objectives;

(2) Including measures of change in outcomes for children; and

(3) Consulting with the project's advisory committee regarding the development of the evaluation procedures.

(d) Coordinate, and collaborate with State educational agencies, and other relevant agencies and organizations, including other projects serving children who are deaf-blind under IDEA. This includes specific collaboration activities with the National Clearinghouse on Deaf-Blindness (DB-LINK) and the Technical Assistance Consortium with Children and Young Adults with Deaf-Blindness (NTAC).

(e) Disseminate effective practices and relevant information to families, service providers, LEAs, and agencies.

(f) Prior to developing any new product, whether paper or electronic, submit for approval a proposal describing the content and purpose of the product to the document review board of OSEP's Dissemination Center, which OSEP plans to fund this year.

(g) Provide OSEP-specified technical assistance to States. This effort may include: (1) Participation in collaborative Web-based technical assistance activities, or (2) coordination of and participation in State-to-State communities of practice.

(h) Establish and maintain an advisory committee to assist in promoting project activities. Each committee must include at least one adult with deaf-blindness and one student with deaf-blindness, a parent of a child with deaf-blindness, a representative of each State educational agency and each State lead agency under Part C of IDEA in the State (or States) served by the project, and a limited number of professionals with training and experience in serving children with deaf-blindness.

(i) Budget for a three-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, DC during each year of the project.

In making awards under this priority, the Secretary shall consider the proposed availability of services for children with deaf-blindness in all areas of the country. Funds awarded under this priority may not be used for direct

early intervention, special education, or related services provided under Parts B and C of IDEA.

During year two, each project must conduct a comprehensive self-evaluation. The self-evaluation must include a review of the degree to which the project is meeting the proposed objectives and goals and an evaluation of the outcome data. Costs associated with this on site evaluation are estimated to be \$6,500 and should be included in the project's second year budget. In addition, the Department of Education intends to conduct a limited number of on-site evaluations based on a stratified randomized sample of sites.

Project Awards

The following award amounts are for a single budget period of 12 months:

2003 FUNDING LEVELS FOR CFDA NO. 84.326C

State	Funding Level
AK	\$106,971
AL	185,095
AR	118,534
AZ	175,338
CA	575,000
CO	154,079
CT	104,751
MA	126,661
ME	65,000
NH	65,807
DE	83,362
FL	362,027
GA	305,978
HI	77,491
IA	97,054
ID	85,303
IL	335,444
IN	210,093
KS	128,122
KY	165,145
LA	145,840
MD	164,366
MI	256,289
MN	171,335
MO	197,129
MS	133,605
MT	106,123
NC	313,649
ND	65,000
NE	78,471
NJ	268,086
NM	100,912
NY	575,000
NV	112,563
OH	259,320
WI	173,484
OK	131,374
OR	121,286
PA	371,952
PR	65,000
RI	79,368
SC	154,204
SD	101,746
TN	238,451
TX	575,000
UT	92,039

2003 FUNDING LEVELS FOR CFDA NO. 84.326C—Continued

State	Funding Level
VA	234,082
VT	114,301
WA	195,750
WV	125,020
WY	65,000
DC	65,000
Pacific **	92,000
VI	30,000

**Entities include outlying areas and the Freely Associated States (FAS).

We will reject an application for a State project that proposes a budget exceeding the funding level for any single budget period of 12 months. In the event an applicant proposes a Multi-State project, the budget may not exceed the sum for individual participating States.

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking

It is generally our practice to offer interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed priorities. However, section 661(e)(2) of IDEA makes the public comment requirements in the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553) inapplicable to the priority in this notice.

Application Procedures

Note: Some of the procedures in these instructions for transmitting applications differ from those in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) (34 CFR 75.102). Under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553) the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed regulations. However, these amendments make procedural changes only and do not establish new substantive policy. Therefore, under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A), the Secretary has determined that proposed rulemaking is not required.

Pilot Project for Electronic Submission of Applications

In Fiscal Year 2003, the U.S. Department of Education is continuing to expand its pilot project for electronic submission of applications to include additional formula grant programs and additional discretionary grant competitions. Special Education—Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities Program “—CFDA #84.326C is one of the programs included in the pilot project. If you are an applicant under the Special Education—Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities