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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1125.

Dated: August 21, 2003.

Sally L. Stroup,

Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.129C, 84.129E, 84.129F, 84.129Q, 84.129R]

Rehabilitation Training: Rehabilitation Long-Term Training; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

Purpose of Program: The Rehabilitation Long-Term Training program provides financial assistance for—

(1) Projects that provide basic or advanced training leading to an academic degree in areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation as identified by the Assistant Secretary;

(2) Projects that provide a specified series of courses or program of study leading to award of a certificate in areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation as identified by the Assistant Secretary; and

(3) Projects that provide support for medical residents enrolled in residency training programs in the specialty of physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Eligible Applicants: State agencies and other public or nonprofit agencies and organizations, including Indian tribes and institutions of higher education, are eligible for assistance under the Rehabilitation Long-Term Training program.

Applications Available: August 27, 2003.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: October 27, 2003.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: December 26, 2003.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration has requested \$42,629,000 for the Rehabilitation Training program for FY 2004, of which an estimated \$1,100,000 would be allocated for this competition. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Note: This competition is being conducted in FY 2003 for grants that will be awarded using FY 2004 funds.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$75,000 to \$100,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$100,000.

Estimated Total Number of Awards: 11.

Maximum Number of Awards, Maximum Awards, and Absolute Priorities: The maximum number of awards to be made are listed in parentheses following each priority area. We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding the amount listed under *Maximum Award* in any project year.

CFDA number	Priority area (maximum number of awards in parentheses)	Maximum award
84.129C	Rehabilitation Administration (4)	\$100,000
84.129E	Rehabilitation Technology (2)	\$100,000
84.129F	Vocational Evaluation and Work Adjustment (3)	\$100,000
84.129Q	Rehabilitation of Individuals Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (4)	\$100,000
84.129R	Job Development and Job Placement Services to Individuals With Disabilities (3)	\$100,000

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

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

Page Limit: Part III of the application, the application narrative, is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit part III to the equivalent of no more than 35 pages, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11," on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.

- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.

- Use a font that is either 12-point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

The page limit does not apply to part I, the cover sheet; part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in part III. You may include brief appendices, but be advised that peer reviewers are not required to review appendix material.

We will reject your application if—

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in

34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, and 99. (b) The regulations in 34 CFR parts 385 and 386.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian tribes.

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

Selection Criteria: In evaluating an application for a new grant under this competition, we use the selection criteria in 34 CFR 385.31 and 386.20. The selection criteria to be used for this competition will be provided in the application package for this competition.

Priorities: This competition focuses on projects designed to meet the priorities in the regulations for this program (34 CFR 386.1). The priority