

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 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.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers: Research in Education of Individuals with Disabilities Program, 84.023; Media Research, Production, Distribution, and Training Program, 84.026; and Technology, Educational Media, and Materials for Individuals with Disabilities Program, 84.180)

Dated: January 14, 1997.

Katherine D. Seelman,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year 1997

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: This notice provides closing dates and other information regarding the transmittal of applications for fiscal year 1997 competitions under three programs authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. This notice supports the National Education Goals by improving understanding of how to enable children and youth with disabilities to reach higher levels of academic achievement.

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

Research in Education of Individuals With Disabilities Program

[CFDA No. 84.023]

Purpose of Program: To advance and improve the knowledge base and improve the practice of professionals, parents, and others providing early intervention, special education, and related services—including professionals who work with children with disabilities in regular education environments—to provide children with disabilities effective instruction and enable these children to learn successfully.

Eligible Applicants: State and local educational agencies; institutions of higher education; and other public

agencies and nonprofit private organizations.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR Part 324.

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

Absolute Priority—Initial Career Awards (84.023N)

The priority for Initial Career Awards in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications Available: February 10, 1997.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 28, 1997.

Estimated Number of Awards: 4.

Maximum Award: The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that proposes a budget exceeding \$75,000 for any single budget period of 12 months. However, because of budgetary considerations contingent upon congressional action, the Secretary may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.

Page Limits: Part III of the application, the Application Narrative, requires applicants to address the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. The applicant must limit the Part III—Application Narrative to no more than 30 double-spaced 8½×11" pages (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides). This page limitation applies to all material presented in the application narrative—including, for example, any charts, tables, figures, and graphs. The application narrative page limit does not apply to: Part I—the electronically scannable form; Part II—the budget section (including the narrative budget justification); and Part IV—the assurances and certifications. Also, the one-page abstract, resumes, bibliography, or letters of support, while considered part of the application, are not subject to the page limitation. Applicants should note that reviewers are not required to review any information provided in addition to the application information listed above. All sections of text in the application narrative must be double-spaced (no more than 3 lines per vertical inch). If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 14 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do

not use more than 12 characters to the inch. Double-spacing and font requirements do not apply within charts, tables, figures, and graphs, but the information presented in those formats should be easily readable. The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that does not adhere to these requirements.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

For Application Information Contact: For the priority under the Research in Education of Individuals with Disabilities Program contact the U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., room 3529, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2641. Telephone: (202) 205-9864. FAX: (202) 205-8105. Internet: Claudette_Carey@ed.gov.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8953.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1441.

Educational Media Research, Production, Distribution, and Training Program

[CFDA No. 84.026]

Purpose of Program: To promote the general welfare of individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and individuals with visual impairments, and to promote the educational advancement of individuals with disabilities.

Eligible Applicants: Profit and nonprofit public and private agencies, organizations, and institutions.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR Part 332.

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

(Note: If an applicant wishes to apply under more than one of these absolute priorities, the applicant must submit a separate application under each affected priority.)

Absolute Priority 1—Closed-Captioned Sports Programs (84.026A)

The priority for Closed-Captioned Sports Programs in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications Available: February 10, 1997.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 28, 1997.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 27, 1997.

Estimated Number of Awards: 4.

Maximum Award: The Secretary rejects and does not consider an

application that proposes a budget exceeding \$175,000 for any single budget period of 12 months. However, because of budgetary considerations contingent upon congressional action, the Secretary may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.

Page Limits: Part III of the application, the Application Narrative, requires applicants to address the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. The applicant must limit the Part III—Application Narrative to no more than 50 double-spaced 8½×11" pages (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides). This page limitation applies to all material presented in the application narrative—including, for example, any charts, tables, figures, and graphs. The application narrative page limit does not apply to: Part I—the electronically scannable form; Part II—the budget section (including the narrative budget justification); and Part IV—the assurances and certifications. Also, the one-page abstract, resumes, bibliography, or letters of support, while considered part of the application, are not subject to the page limitation. Applicants should note that reviewers are not required to review any information provided in addition to the application information listed above. All sections of text in the application narrative must be double-spaced (no more than 3 lines per vertical inch). If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 14 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters to the inch. Double-spacing and font requirements do not apply within charts, tables, figures, and graphs, but the information presented in those formats should be easily readable. The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that does not adhere to these requirements.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Absolute Priority 2—Video Description (84.026C)

The priority for Video Description in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications Available: February 10, 1997.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 28, 1997.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 27, 1997.

Estimated Number of Awards: 4.

Maximum Award: The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that proposes a budget exceeding \$200,000 for any single budget period of 12 months. However, because of budgetary considerations contingent upon congressional action, the Secretary may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.

Page Limits: Part III of the application, the Application Narrative, requires applicants to address the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. The applicant must limit the Part III—Application Narrative to no more than 50 double-spaced 8½×11" pages (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides). This page limitation applies to all material presented in the application narrative—including, for example, any charts, tables, figures, and graphs. The application narrative page limit does not apply to: Part I—the electronically scannable form; Part II—the budget section (including the narrative budget justification); and Part IV—the assurances and certifications. Also, the one-page abstract, resumes, bibliography, or letters of support, while considered part of the application, are not subject to the page limitation. Applicants should note that reviewers are not required to review any information provided in addition to the application information listed above. All sections of text in the application narrative must be double-spaced (no more than 3 lines per vertical inch). If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 14 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters to the inch. Double-spacing and font requirements do not apply within charts, tables, figures, and graphs, but the information presented in those formats should be easily readable. The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that does not adhere to these requirements.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Absolute Priority 3—Educational Video Selection and Captioning (84.026D)

The priority for Educational Video Selection and Captioning in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications Available: February 10, 1997.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 28, 1997.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 27, 1997.

Estimated Number of Awards: 1.

Maximum Award: The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that proposes a budget exceeding \$2,000,000 for any single budget period of 12 months. However, because of budgetary considerations contingent upon congressional action, the Secretary may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.

Page Limits: Part III of the application, the Application Narrative, requires applicants to address the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. The applicant must limit the Part III—Application Narrative to no more than 60 double-spaced 8½×11" pages (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides). This page limitation applies to all material presented in the application narrative—including, for example, any charts, tables, figures, and graphs. The application narrative page limit does not apply to: Part I—the electronically scannable form; Part II—the budget section (including the narrative budget justification); and Part IV—the assurances and certifications. Also, the one-page abstract, resumes, bibliography, or letters of support, while considered part of the application, are not subject to the page limitation. Applicants should note that reviewers are not required to review any information provided in addition to the application information listed above. All sections of text in the application narrative must be double-spaced (no more than 3 lines per vertical inch). If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 14 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters to the inch. Double-spacing and font requirements do not apply within charts, tables, figures, and graphs, but the information presented in those formats should be easily readable. The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that does not adhere to these requirements.

Project Period: Up to 48 months.

Absolute Priority 4—Research on Educational Captioning (84.026R)

The priority for Research on Educational Captioning in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications Available: February 10, 1997.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 28, 1997.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 27, 1997.

Estimated Number of Awards: 2.

Maximum Award: The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that proposes a budget exceeding \$120,000 for any single budget period of 12 months. However, because of budgetary considerations contingent upon congressional action, the Secretary may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.

Page Limits: Part III of the application, the Application Narrative, requires applicants to address the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. The applicant must limit the Part III—Application Narrative to no more than 50 double-spaced 8½×11" pages (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides). This page limitation applies to all material presented in the application narrative—including, for example, any charts, tables, figures, and graphs. The application narrative page limit does not apply to: Part I—the electronically scannable form; Part II—the budget section (including the narrative budget justification); and Part IV—the assurances and certifications. Also, the one-page abstract, resumes, bibliography, or letters of support, while considered part of the application, are not subject to the page limitation. Applicants should note that reviewers are not required to review any information provided in addition to the application information listed above. All sections of text in the application narrative must be double-spaced (no more than 3 lines per vertical inch). If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 14 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters to the inch. Double-spacing and font requirements do not apply within charts, tables, figures, and graphs, but the information presented in those formats should be easily readable. The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that does not adhere to these requirements.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

For Application Information Contact: For the priorities under the Educational Media Research, Production, Distribution, and Training Program contact the U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., room 4627, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2734. Telephone: (202) 205-8894. FAX: (202)

205-8971. Internet: Jeffrey—Payne@ed.gov.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8169.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1451, 1452.

Technology, Educational Media, and Materials for Individuals With Disabilities Program

[CFDA No. 84.180]

Purpose of Program: To support projects and centers for advancing the availability, quality, use, and effectiveness of technology, educational media, and materials in the education of children and youth with disabilities and the provision of related services and early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education; State educational agencies; local educational agencies; public agencies; and nonprofit or for-profit private organizations.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) the regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 333.

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

Absolute Priority—Technology, Educational Media, and Materials Projects That Create Innovative Tools for Students With Disabilities (84.180T)

The priority for Technology, Educational Media, and Materials Projects That Create Innovative Tools for Students With Disabilities in the notice of final priority for this program, published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, applies to this competition.

Applications Available: February 10, 1997.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 14, 1997.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 13, 1997.

Estimated Number of Awards: 5.

Maximum Award: The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that proposes a budget exceeding \$200,000 for any single budget period of 12 months. However, because of budgetary considerations contingent upon congressional action, the Secretary may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.

Page Limits: Part III of the application, the Application Narrative, requires applicants to address the selection

criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. The applicant must limit the Part III—Application Narrative to no more than 50 double-spaced 8½×11" pages (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides). This page limitation applies to all material presented in the application narrative—including, for example, any charts, tables, figures, and graphs. The application narrative page limit does not apply to: Part I—the electronically scannable form; Part II—the budget section (including the narrative budget justification); and Part IV—the assurances and certifications. Also, the one-page abstract, resumes, bibliography, or letters of support, while considered part of the application, are not subject to the page limitation. Applicants should note that reviewers are not required to review any information provided in addition to the application information listed above. All sections of text in the application narrative must be double-spaced (no more than 3 lines per vertical inch). If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 14 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters to the inch. Double-spacing and font requirements do not apply within charts, tables, figures, and graphs, but the information presented in those formats should be easily readable. The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that does not adhere to these requirements.

Project Period: Up to 24 months.

For Application Information Contact: For the priority under the Technology, Educational Media, and Materials for Individuals with Disabilities Program contact the U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., room 4617, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2734. Telephone: (202) 205-9884. FAX: (202) 205-8971. Internet: Robin—Murphy@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number: (202) 205-8169.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1461.

Information about the Department's funding opportunities, including copies of application notices for discretionary grant competitions, can be viewed on the Department's electronic bulletin board (ED Board), telephone (202) 260-9950; on the Internet Gopher Server (at gopher://gcs.ed.gov); or on the World Wide Web (at http://gcs.ed.gov). In addition, information on downloading application packages from the World

Wide Web can be obtained at the Office of Special Education Programs homepage (at <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/OSEP>). However, the official application notice for a discretionary grant competition is the notice published in the Federal Register. Application packages are

available in an alternate format upon request.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers: Research in Education of Individuals with Disabilities Program, 84.023; Educational Media Research, Production, Distribution, and Training Program, 84.026; and Technology, Educational Media, and Materials for

Individuals with Disabilities Program, 84.180)

Dated: January 14, 1997.

Katherine D. Seelman,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

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