



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

JUL - 2 2007

Honorable Mario Katosang
Minister of Education
Ministry of Education
Republic of Palau
Post Office Box 189
Koror, Palau 96940

Dear Minister Katosang:

This is to inform you that we have conditionally approved Palau's application for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2007 under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Our conditional approval is based on review of your application submitted by the Republic of Palau Ministry of Education to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) on May 1, 2007, including assurances provided in Section II and incorporated by reference to this letter as noted in Enclosure A. In addition, the State provided specific assurances that it will:

1. Operate consistent with the applicable Part B regulations; and
2. Make such changes to existing policies and procedures as are necessary to bring those policies and procedures into compliance with the requirements of Part B of the IDEA, as amended, as soon as possible, and not later than June 30, 2008. Section II of the State's application identifies the IDEA statutory sections for which the State needs to amend policies and procedures and the timelines by which the State will amend its policies and procedures in order to comply with Part B of the IDEA, as amended. Within Section II, the State has included the date by which it expects to complete necessary changes associated with any policies and procedures that are not yet in compliance with the requirements of Part B of the IDEA, as amended.

Enclosed are grant awards for funds currently available under the Department of Education FFY 2007 Appropriations Act for the Part B Section 611 (Grants to States). These funds are for use primarily in school year 2007-2008 and are available for obligation by States from July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2009.

Please note that as part of your application for FFY 2007, your State has made an assurance, pursuant to 34 CFR §80.11(c), that it will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding. Any changes made by the State, after OSEP approval, to information that is a part of a State's application, must meet the public participation requirements in 34 CFR §300.165.

The amount shown in your award for the Section 611 program is only part of the total funds that will be awarded to you for FFY 2007. Of the \$10,782,961,000 appropriated for Section 611 in FFY 2007, \$5,358,761,000 is available for awards on July 1, 2007, and \$5,424,200,000 will be available on October 1, 2007.

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Enclosure B provides a short description of how Section 611 funds were allocated and how those funds can be used. In addition, Table I in Enclosure B shows funding levels for distribution of Section 611 funds and the parameters for within-State allocations. Table II in Enclosure B shows your State-specific information for within-State distribution of 611 funds based on your State's application. If you disagree with the information in Enclosure B Table II, notify your State contact immediately.

The enclosed grant award for FFY 2007 is made with the continued understanding that this Office may, from time to time, require clarification of information within your application, if necessary. These inquiries are needed to allow us to appropriately carry out our administrative responsibilities related to Part B.

Section 606 provides that each recipient of assistance under IDEA make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in programs assisted under the IDEA. Therefore, by accepting this grant Palau is expressly agreeing as a condition of IDEA funding to ensuring that positive efforts are made to employ and advance employment of qualified individuals with disabilities in programs assisted under the IDEA.

We appreciate your ongoing commitment to the provision of quality educational services to children with disabilities.

Sincerely,



Patricia J. Guard
Acting Director
Office of Special Education Programs

Enclosures:

Enclosure A
Enclosure B

cc: State Director