

following standards: (1) A "page" is 8 1/2" x 11" (one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom and sides).

(2) 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, must be double-spaced (no more than three 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 18 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters to the inch.

The page limit does not apply to the cover sheet; the budget section (including the narrative budget justification); the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, appendices, resumes, bibliography, and letters of support. However, all of the application narrative addressing the selection criteria must be included in the narrative section. If, in order to meet the page limit, you use print size, spacing, or margins smaller than the standards specified in this notice, your application will not be reviewed or considered for funding.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 97, 98, and 99.

Priorities

Invitational Priorities

While applicants may propose any project within the scope of section 9121 of Title IX of the Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965, as amended (the Act), the Secretary is particularly interested in applications that meet the following invitational priorities. However, an application that meets one or more of the invitational priorities does not receive competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

Invitational Priority 1—School readiness projects that provide age appropriate educational programs and language skills to three- and four-year old Indian students to prepare them for successful entry into school at the kindergarten school level.

Invitational Priority 2—Early childhood and kindergarten programs, including family-based preschool programs, that emphasize school readiness and parental skills.

Competitive Preference

(1) In making multiyear grants under this program, the Secretary will award five (5) additional points to applications

that present a plan for combining two or more of the activities described in Section 9121(c) of the Act over a period of more than one year.

Authority: Section 9121 of the Act; 20 U.S.C. 7831(d)(1)(B).

(2) In making grants under this program, the Secretary will award five (5) additional points to applications submitted by Indian tribes, Indian organizations, and Indian institutions of higher education, including a consortium of any of these entities with other eligible entities. An application from a consortium of eligible entities that meet the requirements of 34 CFR 75.127 through 75.129 and includes an Indian tribe, Indian organization, or Indian institution of higher education shall be considered eligible to receive the five (5) additional priority points. The written consortium agreement must be submitted with the application. The agreement must be signed or the applicant must submit other evidence that all the members of the consortium agree to the contents of the agreement. Letters of support do *not* meet the consortium requirements. The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that does not meet these requirements.

Authority: Section 9153 of the Act; 20 U.S.C. 7873.

Selection Criteria

The selection criteria are included in full in the application package for this competition. These selection criteria were established based on the regulations for evaluating discretionary grants found in 34 CFR 75.200 through 75.210.

For Applications Contact: Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794-1398. Telephone (toll free): 1-877-433-7827. FAX (301) 470-1244. If you use a telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD), you may call (toll free): 1-877-576-7734. You may also contact ED Pubs via its Web site (<http://www.ed.gov/edpubs.html>) or its E-mail address (edpubs@inet.ed.gov). If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this competition as follows: CFDA number 84.299A.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format by contacting the Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 3317, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 205-8351. Individuals who use a telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD), may call the Federal Information Relay Services (FIRS) at 1-

800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternative format the standards forms included in the application package.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cathie Martin, Office of Indian Education, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 3W115, Washington, DC 20202-6335. Telephone: (202) 260-1683. Internet address: Cathie_Martin@ed.gov.

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To use the PDF you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program with Search, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have questions about using the PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office toll free at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7831.

Dated: March 19, 2001.

Thomas M. Corwin,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 01-7291 Filed 3-2-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA 84.060A]

Indian Education Formula Grants to Local Educational Agencies

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

ACTION: Notice inviting applications for new and continuation awards for fiscal year (FY) 2001, Indian Education Formula Grants to Local Educational Agencies.

SUMMARY:

Purpose: The Indian Education Formula Grant program provides grants to support local educational agencies in their efforts to reform elementary and secondary school programs that serve Indian students. The programs funded are to be based on challenging State content standards and State student performance standards used for all students, and be designed to assist Indian students to meet those standards.

Eligible Applicants: Local educational agencies (LEAs) and certain schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Indian tribes under certain conditions.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 21, 2001.

Applications not meeting the deadline will not be considered for funding in the initial allocation of awards. However, if funds become available after the initial allocation of funds, applications not meeting the deadline *may* be considered for funding if the Secretary determines under section 9117(d) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, that reallocation of those funds to late applicants would best assist in advancing the purposes of the program. However, the amount and date of an individual award, if any is made under this provision, *may* be less than the applicant would have received had the application been submitted on time.

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

The U.S. Department of Education is expanding its pilot project of electronic submission of applications to include certain formula grant programs, as well as additional discretionary grant competitions. The Indian Education Formula Grants to Local Educational Agencies, CFDA 84.060A, is one of the programs included in the pilot project. If you are an applicant under the Indian Education Formula Grants to Educational Agencies, you may submit your application to us in either electronic or paper format.

Note: Due to the Department's process for making awards to the Bureau of Indian

Affairs (BIA), e-APPLICATION is not able to accept applications from schools directly operated by the BIA at this time. The Department hopes that in the future the software will be enhanced to accommodate BIA-operated schools. For more information on application procedures for BIA-operated schools, please contact the Office of Indian Education at 202-260-3774.

The pilot project involves the use of the Electronic Grant Application System (e-APPLICATION, formerly e-GAPS) portion of the Grant Administration and Payment System (GAPS). We request your participation in this pilot project. We shall continue to evaluate its success and solicit suggestions for improvement.

If you participate in this e-APPLICATION pilot, please note the following:

- Your participation is voluntary.
- You will not receive any additional point value or penalty because you submit a grant application in electronic or paper format.
- You can submit all documents electronically, including the Application for Federal Assistance (ED 424), Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.

• Fax a signed copy of the Application for Federal Assistance (ED 424), a completed Indian Student Count—LEA Total form, and a signed Parent Committee Approval form after following these steps:

1. Print the ED 424, Indian Student Count—LEA Total form, and Parent Committee Approval form from the e-APPLICATION system.
2. Make sure that the institution's Authorizing Representative signs the ED 424 and Indian Student Count—LEA Total form.
3. Obtain the signature(s) of the Parent Committee on the Parent Committee Approval form. (Note: Schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Tribal applicants are not required to complete the Parent Committee Approval form.)

4. Before faxing these forms, submit your electronic application via the e-APPLICATION system. You will receive an automatic acknowledgement, which will include a PR/Award number (an identifying number unique to your application).

5. Place the PR/Award number in the upper right hand corner of ED 424.

6. Fax the ED 424, Indian Student Count—LEA Total form, and Parent Committee Approval form (if applicable) to Cathie Martin, Office of Indian Education at (202) 260-7779 within three working days of submitting your electronic application.

• We may request that you give us original signatures on all other forms at a later date.

You may access the electronic grant application for the Indian Education Formula Grants to Local Educational Agencies at: <http://e-grants.ed.gov>.

We have included additional information about the e-APPLICATION pilot project (see Parity Guidelines between Paper and Electronic Applications and Transmittal Instructions) in the application.

Note: Your e-APPLICATION must be submitted through the Internet using the software provided on the e-Grants Web Site (<http://e-grants.ed.gov>) by 4:30 p.m. (Washington, DC time) on the deadline date. All e-APPLICATION submissions that are attempted after that time on the closing date will not be accepted. Applicants that miss the e-APPLICATION submission time must print out their entire application (an original and two copies) and transmit hard copies of the application, following the transmittal procedures for mail or hand delivery, not later than midnight of the closing date. As no late e-APPLICATIONS are accepted, please note that the policy for possible funding of late applications (discussed elsewhere in this Notice) applies solely to hard copy applications.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 23, 2001.

Applications Available: April 4, 2001.

Available Funds: The appropriation for this program for fiscal year 2001 is \$92,765,000, which should be sufficient to fund all eligible applicants.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$3,000 to \$1,900,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$68,715.

Estimated Number of Awards: 1,275.

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

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

Budget Requirement: All projects with budgets of \$125,000 or more must plan and budget for one person to attend a two day Project Directors' meeting to be held in Washington, DC in September or October 2001. Other projects not meeting the level of funding specified may attend at their discretion.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99.

For Applications or Information Contact: Cathie Martin, Office of Indian Education, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 3W115, Washington, DC 20202-6335. Telephone: (202) 260-3774. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information

Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7811.

Dated: March 19, 2001.

Thomas M. Corwin,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.245]

Office of Vocational and Adult Education Tribally Controlled Postsecondary Vocational and Technical Institutions Program

ACTION: Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2001.

NOTICE OF APPLICANTS: This notice is a complete application package. Together with the statute authorizing the program and the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), the notice contains all of the information, application forms, and instructions needed to apply for a grant under this competition.

SUMMARY: The Secretary invites applications for new awards for FY 2001 under the Tribally Controlled Postsecondary Vocational and Technical Institutions Program (TCPVTIP or the program) authority of section 117 of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 (the Act or the 1998 amendments) (20 U.S.C. 2327) and announces deadline dates for the transmittal of applications for funding under the program.

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM: Section 117 of the Act authorizes the Secretary to make grants to tribally controlled postsecondary vocational and technical institutions to provide basic support for the education and training of Indian students in vocational and technical education programs.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: A tribally controlled postsecondary vocational and technical institution is eligible to receive a grant under this program if it is an institution of higher education (as defined section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and in the "DEFINITIONS" section of this notice) that—

(a) Is formally controlled, or has been formally sanctioned or chartered, by the governing body of an Indian tribe or tribes;

(b) Offers a technical degree or certificate granting program;

(c) Is governed by a board of directors or trustees, a majority of whom are Indians;

(d) Demonstrates adherence to stated goals, a philosophy, or a plan of operation, that fosters individual Indian economic and self-sufficiency opportunity, including programs that are appropriate to stated tribal goals of developing individual entrepreneurships and self-sustaining economic infrastructures on reservations;

(e) Has been in operation for at least 3 years;

(f) Holds accreditation with or is a candidate for accreditation by a nationally recognized accrediting authority for postsecondary vocational and technical education; and

(g) Enrolls the full-time equivalent of not less than 100 students, of whom a majority are Indians.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications

Available Funds: \$5,600,000 for the first 12 months of the 36-month project period. Funding for the second and third 12-month periods of the project is subject to the availability of funds and to a grantee meeting the requirements of 34 CFR 75.253.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 for the first 12 months.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$700,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 8.

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

Project Period: 3 years.

Applicable Statute and Regulations:

(a) The relevant provisions of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998, 20 U.S.C. 2301 *et seq.*, in particular sections 117(a)-(f) and (h) of the Act, 20 U.S.C. 2327(a)-(f) and (h).

(b) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) as follows:

(1) 34 CFR part 74 (Administration of Grants and Agreements to Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Nonprofit Organizations).

(2) 34 CFR part 75 (Direct Grant Programs).

(3) 34 CFR part 77 (Definitions that Apply to Department Regulations).

(4) 34 CFR part 81 (General Education Provisions Act—Enforcement).

(5) 34 CFR part 82 (New Restrictions on Lobbying).

(6) 34 CFR part 85 (Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)).

(7) 34 CFR part 86 (Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention).

(8) 34 CFR part 97 (Protection of Human Subjects).

(9) 34 CFR part 98 (Student Rights In Research, Experimental Programs and Testing).

(10) 34 CFR part 99 (Family Educational Rights and Privacy).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

General

This notice implements section 117 of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-332), enacted October 31, 1998.

Section 117 authorizes the Secretary to award grants to tribally controlled postsecondary vocational and technical institutions to operate vocational and technical education programs.

The 1998 amendments to the Perkins Act changed many of the requirements applicable to the TCPVTIP. Former grant recipients under the Tribally Controlled Postsecondary Vocational Institutions Program will find that the changes brought about by the 1998 amendments are likely to have a noticeable impact on how tribal postsecondary institutions must now operate projects.

The following summary is intended to help potential applicants to become