

Topical Heading

School Improvement

Program Title

Parental Information and Resource Centers

Also Known as

PIRCs

CFDA # (or ED #)

84.310A

Administering Office

Office of Innovation and Improvement (OII)

Who May Apply (by category)

Nonprofit Organizations

Who May Apply (specifically)

Nonprofit organizations or consortia of nonprofit organizations and local education agencies (LEAs) may apply. In the case of an application submitted by a consortium that includes an LEA, the nonprofit organization must serve as the applicant agency.

Current Competitions

None. FY 2008 funds support continuations only.

Type of Assistance (by category)

Discretionary/Competitive Grants

Appropriations

Fiscal Year 2006 \$39,600,000

Fiscal Year 2007 \$39,600,000

Fiscal Year 2008 \$38,908,188

Fiscal Year 2008 Awards Information

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

Number of New Awards Anticipated: 0

Number of Continuation Awards: 62

Average Continuation Award: \$607,742

Range of Continuation Awards: \$406,294–\$843,386

Legislative Citation

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended, Title V, Part D, Subpart 16; 20 U.S.C. 7273 et seq.

Program Regulations

EDGAR

Program Description

Parent Information and Resource Centers (PIRCs) help implement parental involvement policies, programs, and activities that are intended to lead to improvements in student academic achievement and strengthen partnerships among parents, teachers, principals, administrators, and other school personnel in meeting the education needs of children. *ESEA*, Sec. 5563, requires the recipients of PIRC grants to: serve both rural and urban areas; use at least half their funds to serve areas with high concentrations of low-income children; and use at least 30 percent of the funds they receive for early childhood parent education programs.

Types of Projects

Centers must include activities that establish, expand, or operate early childhood parent education programs and typically engage in a variety of technical assistance activities designed to improve student academic achievement, including understanding the accountability systems in the state and school districts being served by a project. Specific activities often include helping parents to understand the data that accountability systems make available to parents and the significance of that data for such elements as opportunities for supplemental services and public school choice afforded to their children under Sec. 1116 of *ESEA*. Projects assist parents to communicate

effectively with teachers, principals, counselors, administrators, and other school personnel, and help parents become active participants in the development, implementation, and review of school improvement plans.

Additionally, projects generally develop resource materials and provide information about high-quality family involvement programs to families, schools, school districts, and others through conferences, workshops, and dissemination of materials. Projects generally include a focus on serving parents of low-income, minority, and limited English proficient (LEP) children enrolled in elementary and secondary schools.

Education Level (specifically)

The program is aimed at parents of preschool, elementary school and secondary school students.

Subject Index

Children, Family Involvement, Limited English Speaking, Low Income, Parents, Preschool Education

Contact Information

Name	Steven L. Brockhouse
E-mail Address	Steve.Brockhouse@ed.gov
Mailing Address	U.S. Department of Education, OII Parental Options and Information Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building 400 Maryland Ave. S.W., Rm. 4W229 Washington, DC 20202-5961
Telephone	202-260-2476
Toll-free	1-800-872-5327 or 1-800-USA-LEARN
Fax	202-205-5630

Links to Related Web Sites

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/pirc/index.html>