

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.328C]

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; Special Education—Training and Information for Parents of Children with Disabilities—Community Parent Resource Centers

ACTION: Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2004; correction and re-opening.

SUMMARY: On March 10, 2004, we published in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 11400) a notice inviting applications and providing other information for the Community Parent Resource Centers FY 2004 grant competition authorized under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, as amended (IDEA).

On page 11401, first column, under paragraph (b) of the Competitive Preference Priorities section, the references to Empowerment Zones or Enterprise Communities are corrected to read "Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities or Renewal Communities".

In order to provide an opportunity for an applicant from a Renewal Community to submit its application, this notice also reopens the Community Parent Resource Centers FY 2004 grant competition and invites additional applications from any eligible applicant.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 3, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Gorove, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 4630, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 205-5045.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TTD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) on request by contacting the following office: 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) 205-8207.

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Dated: April 21, 2004.

Troy R. Justesen,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; Overview Information; Centers for Independent Living; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004**

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.132A.

Applications Available: April 27, 2004.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 26, 2004.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 26, 2004.

Eligible Applicants: To be eligible to apply, an applicant must—

(a) be a consumer-controlled, community-based, cross-disability, nonresidential, private nonprofit agency;

(b) have the power and authority to—

(1) carry out the purpose of part C of title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (the Act) and perform the functions listed in section 725(b) and (c) of the Act and subparts F and G of 34 CFR part 366 within a community located within a State or in a bordering State; and

(2) receive and administer—

(i) funds under 34 CFR part 366;

(ii) funds and contributions from private or public sources that may be used in support of a center for independent living (center); and

(iii) funds from other public and private programs;

(c) be able to plan, conduct, administer, and evaluate a center consistent with the standards and assurances in section 725(b) and (c) of the Act and subparts F and G of 34 CFR part 366;

(d) either—

(1) not currently be receiving funds under part C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act; or

(2) propose the expansion of an existing center through the establishment of a separate and complete center (except that the governing board of the existing center may serve as the governing board of the new center) at a different geographical location;

(e) propose to serve one or more of the geographic areas that are identified as unserved or underserved by the States and territories listed under *Estimated Number of Awards*; and

(f) submit appropriate documentation demonstrating that the establishment of a new center is consistent with the design for establishing a statewide network of centers in the State plan of the State or territory whose geographic area or areas the applicant proposes to serve.

Estimated Available Funds: \$343,215.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$13,844 to \$154,046.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$38,135.

Estimated Number of Awards: 9, distributed in the following manner:

States and territories	Estimated available funds	Estimated number of awards
American Samoa	\$154,046	1
Kansas	27,630	1
New Jersey	69,222	5
South Dakota	27,630	1
Virginia	64,687	1

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

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

Full Text of Announcement**I. Funding Opportunity Description**

Purpose of Program: This program provides support for planning, conducting, administering, and evaluating centers that comply with the standards and assurances in section 725 of the Act, consistent with the design included in the State plan for establishing a statewide network of centers.

Program Authority: 29 U.S.C. 796f-1.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, and 97. (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR parts 364 and 366.

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.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: \$343,215.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$13,844 to \$154,046.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$38,135.

Estimated Number of Awards: 9, distributed in the following manner:

States and territories	Estimated available funds	Estimated number of awards
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Kansas	27,630	1
New Jersey	69,222	5
South Dakota	27,630	1
Virginia	64,687	1

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

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

III. Eligibility Information

1. *Eligible Applicants:* To be eligible to apply, an applicant must—

(a) be a consumer-controlled, community-based, cross-disability, nonresidential, private nonprofit agency;

(b) have the power and authority to—
(1) carry out the purpose of part C of title VII of the Act and perform the functions listed in section 725(b) and (c) of the Act and subparts F and G of 34 CFR part 366 within a community located within a State or in a bordering State; and

(2) receive and administer—

(i) funds under 34 CFR part 366;

(ii) funds and contributions from private or public sources that may be used in support of a center; and

(iii) funds from other public and private programs;

(c) be able to plan, conduct, administer, and evaluate a center consistent with the standards and assurances in section 725(b) and (c) of the Act and subparts F and G of 34 CFR part 366;

(d) either—

(1) not currently be receiving funds under part C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act; or

(2) propose the expansion of an existing center through the establishment of a separate and complete center (except that the governing board of the existing center may serve as the governing board of the new center) at a different geographical location;

(e) propose to serve one or more of the geographic areas that are identified as unserved or underserved by the States and territories listed under *Estimated Number of Awards*; and

(f) submit appropriate documentation demonstrating that the establishment of a new center is consistent with the design for establishing a statewide network of centers in the State plan of the State or territory whose geographic area or areas the applicant proposes to serve.

2. *Cost Sharing or Matching:* This program does not involve cost sharing or matching.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. *Address to Request Application Package:* 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 telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call (toll free): 1-877-576-7734.

You may also contact ED Pubs at its Web site: <http://www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html> or you may contact ED Pubs at 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 84.132A.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) 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) 205-8207. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

2. *Content and Form of Application Submission:* Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for this program.

3. *Submission Dates and Times:*
Applications Available: April 27, 2004.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 26, 2004. The dates and times for the transmittal of applications by mail or by hand (including a courier service or commercial carrier) are in the application package for this program. The application package also specifies the hours of operation of the e-Application Web site.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 26, 2004.

4. *Intergovernmental Review:* This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for this program.

5. *Funding Restrictions:* We reference regulations outlining funding restrictions in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

6. *Other Submission Requirements:* Instructions and requirements for the transmittal of applications by mail or by hand (including a courier service or commercial carrier) are in the application package for this program.

Application Procedures:

Note: Some of the procedures in these instructions for transmitting applications differ from those in 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: We are continuing to expand our pilot project for electronic submission of applications to include additional formula grant programs and additional discretionary grant competitions. The Centers for Independent Living program—CFDA Number 84.132A is one of the programs included in the pilot project. If you are an applicant under the Centers for Independent Living program, you may submit your application to us in either electronic or paper format.

The pilot project involves the use of the Electronic Grant Application System (e-Application). If you use e-Application, you will be entering data online while completing your application. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us. If you participate in this voluntary pilot project by submitting an application electronically, the data you enter online will be saved into a database. We request your participation in e-Application. We shall continue to evaluate its success and solicit suggestions for its improvement.

If you participate in e-Application, please note the following:

- Your participation is voluntary.

- When you enter the e-Application system, you will find information about its hours of operation. We strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to initiate an e-Application package.

- You will not receive any additional point value because you submit a grant application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you submit an application in paper format.

- You may submit all documents electronically, including the Application for Federal Education Assistance (ED 424), Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.

- Your e-Application must comply with any page limit requirements described in this notice.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgement, which will include a PR/Award number (an identifying number unique to your application).

- Within three working days after submitting your electronic application, fax a signed copy of the Application for Federal Education Assistance (ED 424) to the Application Control Center after following these steps:

1. Print ED 424 from e-Application.
2. The applicant's Authorizing Representative must sign this form.
3. Place the PR/Award number in the upper right hand corner of the hard copy signature page of the ED 424.
4. Fax the signed ED 424 to the Application Control Center at (202) 260-1349.

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

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of System Unavailability: If you elect to participate in the e-Application pilot for the Centers for Independent Living program and you are prevented from submitting your application on the application deadline date because the e-Application system is unavailable, we will grant you an extension of one business day in order to transmit your application electronically, by mail, or by hand delivery. We will grant this extension if—

1. You are a registered user of e-Application, and you have initiated an e-Application for this competition; and
2. (a) The e-Application system is unavailable for 60 minutes or more between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date; or

- (b) The e-Application system is unavailable for any period of time during the last hour of operation (that is,

for any period of time between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time) on the application deadline date.

We must acknowledge and confirm these periods of unavailability before granting you an extension. To request this extension or to confirm our acknowledgement of any system unavailability, you may contact either (1) the person listed elsewhere in this notice under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** (see VII. Agency Contact) or (2) the e-GRANTS help desk at 1-888-336-8930.

You may access the electronic grant application for the Centers for Independent Living program at: <http://e-grants.ed.gov>.

V. Application Review Information

1. *Selection Criteria:* The selection criteria for this program are in 34 CFR 366.27.

2. *Review and Selection Process:* An additional factor we consider in selecting an application for an award is comments regarding the application, if any, by the State Independent Living Council in the State in which the applicant is located.

VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN). We may also notify you informally.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Reporting:* At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as specified by the Secretary in 34 CFR 75.118.

4. *Performance Measures:* Under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), one measure has been developed for evaluating the

effectiveness of this program: the number of individuals who leave nursing homes and other institutions for community-based housing due to independent living services provided by a center.

All grantees will be expected to submit an annual performance report documenting their success in addressing this performance measure, as well as the standards and assurances in section 725 of the Act.

VII. Agency Contact

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James Billy, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 3326, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2740. Telephone: (202) 205-9362 or by e-mail: james.billy@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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VIII. Other Information

Electronic Access to This Document: You may view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>.

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

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Dated: April 20, 2004.

Troy R. Justesen,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 04-9447 Filed 4-23-04; 8:45 am]

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