

points); (2) The relationship of the research to the literature on the topic and to major theoretical issues in the field, and the project's originality and importance in terms of the concerns of the discipline (10 points); (3) The preliminary research already completed in the United States and overseas or plans for such research prior to going overseas, and the kinds, quality and availability of data for the research in the host country or countries (10 points); (4) The justification for overseas field research and preparations to establish appropriate and sufficient research contacts and affiliations abroad (10 points); (5) The applicant's plans to share the results of the research in progress and a copy of the dissertation with scholars and officials of the host country or countries (10 points); and (6) The guidance and supervision of the dissertation advisor or committee at all stages of the project, including guidance in developing the project, understanding research conditions abroad, and acquainting the applicant with research in the field (10 points).

Qualifications of the applicant (40 points): In determining the qualifications of the applicant, the Secretary considers (1) The overall strength of the applicant's graduate academic record (10 points); (2) The extent to which the applicant's academic record demonstrates a strength in area studies relevant to the proposed project (10 points); (3) The applicant's proficiency in one or more of the languages (other than English and the applicant's native language) of the country or countries of research, and the specific measures to be taken to overcome any anticipated language barriers (15 points); and (4) The applicant's ability to conduct research in a foreign cultural context, as evidenced by the applicant's references or previous overseas experience, or both (5 points).

VI. Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices: If a student application is successful, we notify the IHE's U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send the IHE a Grant Award Notification (GAN). We may also notify the IHE informally.

If a student application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify the IHE.

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 its approved application as part of its binding commitments under the grant.

3. Reporting: At the end of the project period, the IHE must submit a final performance report, including the final reports of all of the IHE's fellows, and financial information, as directed by the Secretary. The IHE and fellows are required to use the electronic reporting system Evaluation of Exchange, Language, International and Area Studies (EELIAS) to complete the final report.

4. Performance Measures: The objective of the Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program is to maintain a U.S. higher education system able to produce experts in less commonly taught languages and area studies who are capable of contributing to the needs of the U.S. government, academic, and business institutions.

The following performance measure has been developed to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the DDRA program—The improvement of language proficiency of fellows. All grantees will be expected to provide documentation of the improved language proficiency of the fellows through the EELIAS system. Reporting screens for institutions and fellows may be viewed at: <http://www.eelias.org/pdfs/ddra/ddradirectorcombined.pdf>, <http://www.eelias.org/pdfs/ddra/ddrafellowcombined.pdf>.

VII. Agency Contact

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carla White, International Education Programs Service, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., suite 6000, Washington, DC 20006-8521. Telephone: (202) 502-7700 or via the Internet: ddra@ed.gov.

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

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact person listed in this section.

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.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the *Federal Register*. Free

Estimated Number of Awards: 28.

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

Project Period: With the exception of projects in the States of Alabama, Oklahoma, and Region 3 of Florida, projects will be funded for a period up to 60 months. Projects in Alabama and Florida—Region 3 will be funded for a period up to 48 months; projects in Oklahoma will be funded for a period up to 36 months.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The purpose of this program is to ensure that parents of children with disabilities receive training and information to help improve results for their children.

Priority: In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(iv) and (v), this priority is from allowable activities specified in the statute, or otherwise authorized in the statute (see sections 671 and 681(d) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)).

Absolute Priority: For FY 2007 this priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), we consider only applications that meet this priority.

This priority is:

Parent Training and Information Centers (PTI Centers) Background: This priority supports parent training and information centers that will provide parents of children with disabilities, including low-income parents, parents of limited English proficient children, and parents with disabilities, with the training and information they need to enable them to participate effectively in helping their children with disabilities to—

(a) Meet developmental and functional goals, and challenging academic achievement goals that have been established for all children; and

(b) Be prepared to lead productive, independent adult lives, to the maximum extent possible.

In addition, a purpose of this priority is to ensure that children with disabilities and their parents receive training and information on their rights, responsibilities, and protections under IDEA in order to develop the skills necessary to cooperatively and effectively participate in planning and decision making relating to early intervention, educational, and transitional services.

Text of Priority: Each Parent Training and Information Center (PTI Center) assisted under this program shall—

(a) Provide training and information that meets the needs of parents of children with disabilities living in the

area served by the PTI Center, particularly underserved parents and parents of children who may be inappropriately identified as having a disability when they may not have one, to enable their children with disabilities to—

(1) Meet developmental and functional goals and challenging academic achievement goals established for all children; and

(2) Be prepared to lead productive independent adult lives, to the maximum extent possible;

(b) Serve the parents of infants, toddlers, and children, from ages birth through 26, with the full range of disabilities described in section 602(3) of IDEA;

(c) Familiarize themselves with the provision of special education, related services, and early intervention services in the areas they serve to help ensure that children with disabilities are receiving appropriate services;

(d) Ensure that the training and information provided meets the needs of low-income parents and parents of limited English proficient children;

(e) Assist parents to—

(1) Better understand the nature of their children's disabilities and their educational, developmental, and transitional needs;

(2) Communicate effectively and work collaboratively with personnel responsible for providing special education, early intervention services, transition services, and related services;

(3) Participate in decision making processes, including those regarding participation in State and local assessments, and the development of individualized education programs under part B of IDEA and individualized family service plans under part C of IDEA;

(4) Obtain appropriate information about the range, type and quality of—

(A) options, programs, services, technologies, practices and interventions that are based on scientifically based research, to the extent practicable; and

(B) resources available to assist children with disabilities and their families in school and at home, including information available through the Office of Special Education Programs' (OSEP) technical assistance network and Communities of Practice;

(5) Understand the provisions of IDEA for the education of, and the provision of early intervention services to, children with disabilities;

(3) The number of parents served who have resolved disputes through alternative methods of dispute resolution.

(n) Respond to requests from the National Technical Assistance Center (NTAC) and Regional Parent Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs) and use the technical assistance services of the NTAC and PTACs in order to serve the families of infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities as efficiently as possible. PTACs are charged with assisting parent centers with administrative and programmatic issues;

(o) Budget for a two-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, DC during each year of the project. In addition, a project's budget must include funds for the center's project director to attend a Regional Project Directors' meeting to be held each year of the project;

(p) If the PTI Center maintains a Web site, include relevant information and documents in a format that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility;

(q) Prior to developing any new product, whether paper or electronic, submit for approval a proposal describing the content and purpose of the product to the document review board of OSEP's Dissemination Center;

(r) In collaboration with OSEP and the NTAC, participate in an annual collection of program data for PTI Centers and CPRCs; and

(s) Identify with specificity in its application the special efforts it will make to—

(1) Ensure that the needs for training and information of underserved parents of children with disabilities in the area to be served are effectively met; and

(2) Work with community based organizations, including those that work with low-income parents and parents of limited English proficient children.

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking: Under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553) the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed priorities. However, section 681(d) of IDEA makes the public comment requirements in the APA inapplicable to the priority in this notice.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1471.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 85, 97, 98, and 99.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian tribes.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration has requested \$25,704,000 for the Training and Information for Parents of Children with Disabilities program for FY 2007, of which we intend to use an estimated \$8,957,406 for the Parent Training and Information Centers competition. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Information concerning funding amounts for individual States is provided elsewhere in this section of this notice.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$319,907.

Estimated Number of Awards: 28.

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

Project Period: With the exception of projects in the States of Alabama, Oklahoma, and Region 3 of Florida, projects will be funded for a period up to 60 months. Projects in Alabama and Florida—Region 3 will be funded for a period up to 48 months; projects in Oklahoma will be funded for a period up to 36 months. As explained elsewhere in this notice, the Assistant Secretary makes awards to groups of States in five-year cycles. We are proposing shorter project periods for Alabama, Oklahoma, and Florida—Region 3 in order to align the funding cycle for these areas with those of other States in their groups. Alabama, Oklahoma, and Florida—Region 3 did not receive awards with their groups in previous competitions.

In order to allocate resources equitably, create a unified system of service delivery, and provide the broadest coverage for the parents and families in every State, the Assistant Secretary is making awards in five-year cycles for each State. In FY 2007, applications for 5-year awards will be accepted for the following States: Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, and Utah. Exceptions to the 5-year awards will be in the States of Alabama, Oklahoma and Region 3 of Florida. Applications for projects in Alabama and Florida—Region 3 will be accepted for 4-year awards and applications for projects in Oklahoma will be accepted for a 3-year award. Awards also may be made to eligible applicants in Guam, the

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the freely associated States.

Region 1	220,569
Region 2	427,224
Texas:	
Region 1	421,347
Region 2	421,347
Region 3	238,015

Consistent with 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year.

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT APPLICATION NOTICE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007

CFDA number and name	Maximum award (per year)**
84.328M Parent Training and Information Centers:*	
Alabama	\$273,959
Arkansas	258,634
Connecticut	276,016
Georgia	469,482
Kansas	292,033
Montana	227,965
New Jersey	454,176
New Mexico	277,918
Oregon	283,548
South Carolina	288,215
Utah	246,148
Oklahoma	249,215
California:	
Region 1	633,165
Region 2	519,072
Region 3	176,732
Region 4	462,011
Region 5	176,732
Florida:	
Region 3	190,154
Illinois:	
Region 1	548,708
Region 2	281,878
Michigan:	
Region 1	239,170
Region 2	403,970
Ohio:	
Region 1	220,569
Region 2	427,224
Texas:	
Region 1	421,347
Region 2	421,347
Region 3	238,015

Listing of States/Regions/Countries

California Regions

Region 1 includes the following counties: Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo.

Region 2 includes the following counties: Mono, Inyo, San Bernadino, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, Imperial.

Region 3 includes the following counties: Madera, Stanislaus, Mercer, Mariposa, San Benito, Monterey, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, Kern.

Region 4 includes the following counties: Sonoma, Napa, Yolo, Solano, Marin, Contra Costa, San Joaquin,

Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Francisco.

Region 5 includes the following counties: Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Sisklyou, Trinity, Shasta, Modoc, Lassen, Tehama, Lake, Glenn, Colusa, Butte, Sutter, Yuba, Sacramento, Nevada, Plumas, Sierra, Placer, El Dorado, Amador, Calavaras, Alpine, Tuolumne.

Florida Region

Region 3 includes the following counties: Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Monroe, Collier, Lee, Hendry, Martin, Glades.

Illinois Regions

Region 1 includes the following counties: Cook, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, Will.

Region 2 includes the remainder of the State.

Ohio Regions</

3. *Other: General Requirements*—(a) The projects funded under this competition must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities (see section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this competition must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities ages birth through 26 in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see section 682(a)(1)(A) of IDEA).

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 84.328M.

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 listed under *For Further Information Contact* in section VII of this notice.

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 competition.

Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 60 pages, using the following standards:

- A “page” is 8.5” x 11”, on one side only, with 1” margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) 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.
- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, the references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject your application if—

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

3. *Submission Dates and Times*: Applications Available: September 26, 2006. Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: November 13, 2006.

Applications for grants under this competition may be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site (Grants.gov), or in paper format by mail or hand delivery. For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically, or by mail or hand delivery, please refer to section IV.6. *Other Submission Requirements* in this notice.

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

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: January 9, 2007.

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 competition.

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

6. *Other Submission Requirements*: Applications for grants under this competition may be submitted electronically or in paper format by mail or hand delivery.

a. *Electronic Submission of Applications*.

We have been accepting applications electronically through the Department’s e-Application system since FY 2000. In order to expand on those efforts and comply with the President’s Management Agenda, we are continuing to participate as a partner in the new government wide Grants.gov Apply site in FY 2007. Parent Training and Information Centers—CFDA Number 84.328M is one of the competitions included in this project. We request your participation

process (see http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp). These steps include (1) Registering your organization, (2) registering yourself as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR), and (3) getting authorized as an AOR by your organization. Details on these steps are outlined in the Grants.gov 3-Step Registration Guide (see <http://www.grants.gov/section910/Grants.govRegistrationBrochure.pdf>). You also must provide on your application the same D-U-N-S Number used with this registration. Please note that the registration process may take five or more business days to complete, and you must have completed all registration steps to allow you to successfully submit an application via Grants.gov.

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

- You may submit all documents electronically, including all information typically included on the following forms: Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications. Please note that two of these forms—the SF 424 and the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424—have replaced the ED 424 (Application for Federal Education Assistance). If you choose to submit your application electronically, you must attach any narrative sections of your application as files in a .DOC (document), .RTF (rich text), or .PDF (portable document) format. If you upload a file type other than the three file types specified above or submit a password protected file, we will not review that material.

- Your electronic application must comply with any page limit requirements described in this notice.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgment from Grants.gov that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. The Department will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send you a second confirmation by e-mail that will include a PR/Award number (an ED-specified identifying number unique to your application).

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

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of System Unavailability

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because of technical problems with the Grants.gov system, we will grant you an extension until 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, the following business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically, or by hand delivery. You also may mail your application by following the mailing instructions as described elsewhere in this notice. If you submit an application after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the deadline date, please contact the person listed elsewhere in this notice under *For Further Information Contact*, and provide an explanation of the technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number (if available). We will accept your application if we can confirm that a technical problem occurred with the Grants.gov system and that that problem affected your ability to submit your application by 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. The Department will contact you after a determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

Note: Extensions referred to in this section apply only to the unavailability of or technical problems with the Grants.gov system. We will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the *grants.gov* system.

b. Submission of Paper Applications by Mail.

If you submit your application in paper format by mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier), you must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the applicable following address: By mail through the U.S. Postal Service: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.328M), 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202–4260, or

By mail through a commercial carrier: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center—Stop 4260, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.328M), 7100 Old Landover Road, Landover, MD 20785–1506.

Regardless of which address you use, you must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark,

- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service,

- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier, or

- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark, or

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 of 1993 (GPRA), the Department has developed measures that will yield information on various aspects of the quality of the Training and Information for Parents of Children with Disabilities program. The measures will focus on: the extent to which projects provide high quality materials, the relevance of project products and services to educational and early intervention policy and practice, and the usefulness of products and services to improve educational and early intervention policy and practice.

Grantees will be required to provide information related to these measures.

Grantees also will be required to report information on their projects' performance in annual reports to the Department (34 CFR 75.590).

VII. Agency Contact

For Further Information Contact: Lisa Gorove, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4056, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 245-7357.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) 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., Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 245-7363.

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.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Dated: September 20, 2006.

John H. Hager,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. E6-15762 Filed 9-25-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; Overview Information; National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)—Research Fellowships Program Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.133F.

Dates: