

FY 2003 and made 74 new grants. Because such a large number of high-quality applications were received, many applications that were awarded high scores by peer reviewers did not receive funding last year.

Limited funding is available for new awards under this program in FY 2004. In order to conserve funding that would have been required for a peer review of new applications submitted under the program, we intend to select grantees in FY 2004 from the existing slate of applicants. This slate was developed during the FY 2003 competition using the selection criteria, competitive preference priorities, and application requirements included in the May 9, 2003 notice. No changes to selection criteria, competitive preference priorities, or application requirements will be required by this action.

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7259-7259b.

Dated: April 1, 2004.

Marina Tse,

Principal Associate Deputy Under Secretary, Office of English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement for Limited English Proficient Students.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA 84.060A]

Indian Education Formula Grants Program

AGENCY: Office of Indian Education, Education.

ACTION: Indian education formula grants to local education agencies—notice

inviting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2004.

Purpose: The Indian Education Formula Grant Program provides grants to support local educational agencies (LEAs) and other eligible entities (described elsewhere in this notice) in their efforts to reform and improve elementary and secondary school programs that serve Indian students. The programs funded are to be based on challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards used for all students, and be designed to assist Indian students to meet those standards. Section 7116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA) also authorizes, upon the Secretary's receipt of an acceptable plan for the integration of education and related services, the consolidation of funds for any Federal program exclusively serving Indian children, or the funds reserved under any Federal program to exclusively serve Indian children, that are awarded under a statutory or administrative formula, for the purposes of providing education and related services that would be used to serve Indian students. Instructions for submitting an integration of services plan are included in the application package.

Eligible Applicants: LEAs, certain schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian tribes under certain conditions, as prescribed by section 7112(c) of the ESEA.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 10, 2004. 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 7118(d) of the ESEA, that reallocation of those funds to applicants filing after the deadline would best assist in advancing the purposes of the program. However, the amount and date of an individual award, if any, may be less than the applicant would have received had the application been submitted on time.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 9, 2004.

Application Available: April 8, 2004.

Available Funds: The appropriation for this program for fiscal year 2004 is approximately \$95,932,638.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$4,000 to \$2,215,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$80,144.

Estimated Number of Awards: 1,197.

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

Project Period: Up to 36 months for new applications.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99.

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

For Applications or Information Contact: Cathie Martin, Office of Indian Education, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 3W11, Washington, DC. 20202-6335. Telephone: (202) 260-3774. An electronic version of the application is available at: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ous/oie/index.html>.

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Individuals with disabilities also may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format by contacting the person listed in this paragraph.

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7421.

Dated: April 1, 2004.

Victoria Vasques,

Deputy Under Secretary and Director for Indian Education.

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