

following priority. The Secretary will fund under this competition only applications that meet this priority.

Priority: Leadership Training

Introduction

Chapter Two of NIDRR's proposed LRP (63 FR 57194-57198) describes the increased rate of disability in racial and ethnic minorities. Disability services providers, including providers of vocational rehabilitation services, are studying ways to improve access to, and the provision of, services to minority populations. There is a need for new training approaches in order to increase the number of leaders with disabilities, including those from minority backgrounds, to become effective advocates for all persons with disabilities.

Section 21 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, requires that NIDRR reserve a portion of its appropriated funds for a fiscal year to carry out certain activities. Section 21(b)(2)(A) authorizes NIDRR to make awards to minority entities and Indian tribes to carry out activities authorized under Title II of the Act. Minority entities are defined as a historically Black college or university (a Part B institution, as defined in Section 322(2) of the Higher Education Act of 1965), a Hispanic-serving institution of higher education, an American Indian tribal college or university, or another institution of higher education whose minority student enrollment is at least 50 percent. Consistent with Section 21(b)(2)(A), eligibility to apply for this grant will be limited to minority entities and Indian tribes.

Priority: The Secretary will establish a DRRP to increase the leadership competencies of individuals with disabilities, including those from minority backgrounds, who work for, or with, or are served by community-based organizations, whose purpose is to improve the educational, employment, and socio-economic status of diverse communities of people. The purpose is to enable these trained individuals to maximize the full inclusion and integration of individuals of disabilities of all ages into society, employment, independent living, family support, and economic and social self-sufficiency. The DRRP must:

(a) Identify national, State, and local disability-related education, service, civil rights, and policy entities to participate in the development of leadership training activities and strategies; and

(b) In cooperation with the entities identified under paragraph (a), train

individuals with disabilities who have demonstrated leadership potential, including those from minority backgrounds, who work for, or with, or are served by community-based organizations whose purpose is to improve the educational, employment, and socio-economic status of diverse communities of people. Areas of training may include: service delivery, disability civil rights history and advocacy, management, policy and financial analysis, and establishment of policies and direction for rehabilitation programs.

In carrying out these purposes, the project must:

- Address issues of equal access of minority individuals with significant disabilities to rehabilitation services; and
- Provide training on the philosophy of disability-related self-determination and self-advocacy, development of peer relationships, inclusion, independent living, and peer role models.

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Applicable Program Regulations: 34 CFR Part 350.

Program Authority: 29 U.S.C. 760-762. (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.133A, Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects)

Dated: May 20, 1999.

Judith E. Heumann,
Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.133A-14]

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research; Inviting Applications for a New Disability and Rehabilitation Research Project for Fiscal Year 1999

SUMMARY: This notice provides closing dates and other information regarding the transmittal of applications for fiscal year 1999 competition under the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research—Disability and Rehabilitation Research Project. The purpose of the Disability and Rehabilitation Research Project and Centers Program is to improve the effectiveness of services authorized under the Act. Section 21 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, requires that NIDRR reserve a portion of its appropriated funds for a fiscal year to carry out certain activities. Section 21(b)(2)(A) authorizes NIDRR to make awards to minority entities and Indian tribes to carry out activities authorized under Title II of the Act.

This notice supports the National Education Goal that calls for every adult American to possess the skills necessary to compete in a global economy.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: July 16, 1999.

Application Available: June 1, 1999.

Maximum Award Amount Per Year: \$175,000.

Note: The Secretary will reject without consideration or evaluation any application that proposes a project funding level that exceeds the stated maximum award amount per year (See 34 CFR 75.104(b)).

Estimated Number of Awards: 1.

Note: The estimate of funding level and awards in this notice do not bind the Department of Education to a specific level of funding or number of grants.

Project Period: 60 months.

Eligible Applicants: Parties eligible to apply for grants under this program are minority entities and Indian tribes. Minority entities are defined as a historically Black college or university (a Part B institution, as defined in Section 322(2) of the Higher Education Act of 1965), a Hispanic-serving institution of higher education, an American Indian tribal college or university, or another institution of higher education whose minority student enrollment is at least 50 percent.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR),

34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; (b) Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects and Centers—34 CFR Part 350, particularly Subpart B; and (c) the notice of final funding priority on Leadership Training published elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register**.

For Applications Contact: The Grants and Contracts Service Team (GCST), Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Switzer Building, 3317, Washington, D.C. 20202, or call (202) 205-8207. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number at (202) 205-9860. The preferred method for requesting information is to FAX your request to (202) 205-8717.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternate format by contacting the GCST. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternate format the standard forms included in the application package.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donna Nangle, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., room 3418, Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2645. Telephone: (202) 205-5880. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number at (202) 205-2742. Internet: Donna_Nangle@ed.gov

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

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Program Authority: 29 U.S.C. 760-762.

Dated: May 26, 1999.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

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