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Dated: February 21, 2012.

Alexa Posny,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 2012–4547 Filed 2–24–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; Training and Information for Parents of Children With Disabilities

AGENCY: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

Overview Information:

Training and Information for Parents of Children with Disabilities.

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2012.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers: 84.328C and 84.328M.

Note: This notice invites applications for two separate competitions. For key dates, contact person information, and funding information regarding each competition, see the table in Section II, *Award Information.*

DATES:

Applications Available: See table in Section II, *Award Information.*

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: See table in Section II, *Award Information.*

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: See table in Section II, *Award Information.*

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.

Priorities: In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(iv) and (v), these priorities are from allowable activities specified in the statute, or otherwise authorized in the statute (see sections 671, 672 and 681(d) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)). Each of the absolute priorities announced in this notice corresponds to a separate competition as follows:

Absolute priority	Competition CFDA No.
1. Community Parent Resource Centers	84.328C
2. Parent Training and Information Centers	84.328M

Absolute Priorities: For FY 2012 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applicants from these competitions, these priorities are absolute priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), for each competition, we consider only applications that meet the absolute priority for that competition.

The priorities are:

Absolute Priority 1—Community Parent Resource Centers (84.328C) and Absolute Priority 2—Parent Training and Information Centers (84.328M).

Background:

Almost 35 years of research and experience has demonstrated that the education of children with disabilities can be made more effective by strengthening the ability of parents to participate fully in the education of their children at school and at home (see section 601(c)(5)(B) of IDEA).

This notice announces two priorities that are designed to help ensure that parents of children with disabilities have the training and information they need to participate in the education of their children.

Absolute Priority 1 supports Community Parent Resource Centers (CPRCs) designed to meet the specific needs of parents who experience significant isolation from available sources of information and support in the geographically defined communities served by the centers. These parents include low-income parents, parents of limited English proficient children, and parents with disabilities—.

Absolute Priority 2 supports Parent Training and Information Centers (PTIs) designed to meet the needs of parents of children with disabilities living in the States, regions of the States, or territories served by the centers, particularly underserved parents and parents of children who may be inappropriately identified as having a disability. Under these priorities, CPRCs and PTIs will, consistent with sections 672 and 671 of IDEA, provide parents of children with disabilities with the training and information they need to enable them to participate cooperatively and effectively in helping their children to—

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

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

The following Web site provides further information on the work of previously funded CPRCs and PTIs: *www.parentcenternetwork.org.*

Absolute Priority 1—Community Parent Resource Centers (84.328C):

To be considered for funding under the CPRC absolute priority, applicants must meet the application requirements contained in the priority. All projects funded under the absolute priority also must meet the programmatic and administrative requirements specified in the priority.

Application Requirements. An applicant must include in its application—

(a) A plan to implement the activities described in the *Project Activities* section of this priority; and

(b) A budget for attendance at the following:

(1) The three-day Leadership Conference in Washington, DC during each year of the project period.

(2) The two-day Regional Technical Assistance for Parent Centers Conference in the region in which the CPRC is located during each year of the project period. Applicants should refer to *www.parentcenternetwork.org* for a list of regions.

Project Activities. To meet the requirements of this priority, the CPRC, at a minimum, must—

(a) Maintain a Web site that meets government or industry-recognized standards for accessibility;

(b) Provide training and information that meets the training and information needs of parents of children with disabilities within the proposed targeted community to be served by the CPRC, particularly underserved parents and parents of children who may be inappropriately identified as having a disability;

Note: For purposes of this priority, ''targeted community to be served'' refers to a geographically defined, local community whose members experience significant isolation from available sources of information and support as a result of cultural, economic, linguistic, or other circumstances deemed appropriate by the Secretary.

(c) Carry out the following activities required of parent training and information centers:

(1) 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.

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

(3) Assist parents to—

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

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

(iii) 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;

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

(A) Options, programs, services, technologies, practices, and interventions 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's) technical assistance and dissemination centers (*www.tadnet.org*) and through communities of practice (*www.tadnet.org/communities*);

(v) Understand the requirements of IDEA related to the provision of education and early intervention services to children with disabilities;

(vi) Participate in activities at the school level that benefit their children; and

(vii) Participate in school reform activities.

(4) In States where the State elects to contract with the CPRC, contract with the State educational agency (SEA) to provide, consistent with paragraphs (B) and (D) of section 615(e)(2) of IDEA, individuals to meet with parents and explain the mediation process.

(5) Assist parents in resolving disputes in the most expeditious and effective way possible, including encouraging the use of, and explaining the benefits of, alternative methods of dispute resolution such as the mediation process described in section 615(e) of IDEA.

(6) Assist parents and students with disabilities to understand their rights and responsibilities under IDEA, including those under section 615(m) of IDEA upon the student's reaching the age of majority (as appropriate under State law).

(7) Assist parents to understand the availability of, and how to effectively use, procedural safeguards provided under IDEA.

(8) Assist parents in understanding, preparing for, and participating in the resolution session described in section 615(f)(1)(B) of IDEA;

(d) Establish cooperative partnerships with any Parent Training and Information Centers (PTIs) and any other CPRCs funded in the State under sections 671 and 672 of IDEA, respectively;

(e) Be designed to meet the specific needs of families who experience significant isolation from available sources of information and support;

(f) Be familiar with the provision of special education, related services, and early intervention services in the CPRC's targeted community to be served to help ensure that children with disabilities are receiving appropriate services;

(g) Respond to requests from OSEP for information about the needs and experiences of parents served by the center to inform OSEP's analysis of State progress towards improving outcomes for children with disabilities;

(h) Annually report to the Department on—

(1) The number and demographics of parents to whom the CPRC provided information and training in the most recently concluded fiscal year, including additional information regarding the parents' unique needs and the levels of service provided to them; and

(2) The effectiveness of strategies used to reach and serve parents, including underserved parents of children with disabilities, by providing evidence of how those parents were served effectively;

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

(j) In collaboration with OSEP and the National PTAC, participate in an annual collection of program data for the PTIs and CPRCs funded under sections 671 and 672 of IDEA, respectively; and

(k) Maintain ongoing communication with the OSEP Project Officer through phone conversations and email communication.

In addition, the CPRC's board of directors must meet not less than once in each calendar quarter to review the activities for which the award was made and annually submit to the Secretary a written review of the CPRC's activities conducted during the preceding fiscal year.

Competitive Preference Priority: Within this absolute priority, we give competitive preference to applications that meet the following priority. For FY 2012 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition, this priority is a competitive preference priority.

Competitive Preference Priority: Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i) we award an additional 5 points to an application that meets this priority.

This priority is:

Applicants that propose to design a program with specific activities and services focused on meeting the unique needs of parents who have children enrolled in either high-poverty schools [1] or persistently lowest-achieving schools [2] within the area served by the CPRC.

[1] For the purpose of this notice, the term ''high-poverty school'' means a school in which at least 50 percent of students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act or in which at least 50 percent of students are from low-income families as determined using one of the criteria specified under section 1113(a)(5) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended. For middle and high schools, eligibility may be calculated on the basis of comparable data from feeder schools. Eligibility as a high-poverty school under this definition is determined on the basis of the most currently available data.

[2] For the purpose of this notice, the term ''persistently lowest-achieving schools means'', as determined by the State—(i) Any Title I school in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring that (a) Is among the lowest-achieving five percent of Title I schools in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring or the lowest-achieving five Title I schools in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring in the State, whichever number of schools is greater; or (b) Is a high school that has had a graduation rate as defined in 34 CFR 200.19(b) that is less than 60 percent over a number of years; and (ii) Any secondary school that is

Note: The 5 points an applicant can earn under this competitive preference priority are in addition to those points awarded under the selection criteria for this competition (see *Selection Criteria* in section V in this notice). That is, an applicant meeting the competitive preference priority could earn a maximum total of 105 points.

Absolute Priority 2—Parent Training and Information Centers (84.328M):

To be considered for funding under the PTIs absolute priority, applicants must meet the application requirements contained in the priority. All projects funded under the absolute priority also must meet the programmatic and administrative requirements specified in the priority.

Application Requirements. An applicant must include in its application—

(a) A logic model that depicts, at a minimum, the goals, activities, outputs, and outcomes of the proposed project. A logic model communicates how a project will achieve its outcomes and provides a framework for both the formative and summative evaluations of the project;

Note: The following Web site provides more information on logic models: *www.tadnet.org/model_and_performance*.

(b) A plan to implement the activities described in the *Project Activities* section of this priority;

(c) A plan, linked to the proposed project's logic model, for a formative evaluation of the proposed project's activities. The plan must describe how the formative evaluation will use clear performance objectives to ensure continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project, including objective measures of progress in implementing the project and ensuring the quality of products and services;

(d) A budget for attendance at the following:

(1) The three-day Leadership Conference in Washington, DC during each year of the project period.

(2) The two-day Regional Technical Assistance for Parent Centers Conference, in the region in which the PTI is located, during each year of the project period. Applicants should refer to *www.parentcenternetwork.org* for a list of regions; and

(e) A description specifying the special efforts the PTI 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, including parents of children attending high-poverty schools (as defined in footnote 1) and the State's persistently lowest-achieving schools (as defined in footnote 2), 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.

Project Activities. To meet the requirements of this priority, the PTI, at a minimum, must—

(a) Maintain a Web site that contains, at a minimum, a current calendar of upcoming events, free informational publications for families, and links to webinars or other online multimedia resources. The Web site must also meet government or industry-recognized standards for accessibility. Applicants can find more information regarding Web site accessibility at: *http://webaim.org;*

(b) Provide training and information that meets the training and information needs of parents of children with disabilities living in the area served by the PTI, particularly underserved parents and parents of children who may be inappropriately identified as having a disability and including parents of children attending high-poverty schools and the State's persistently lowest-achieving schools;

(c) 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;

(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—

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

(ii) Resources available to assist children with disabilities and their families in school and at home, including information available through OSEP's technical assistance and dissemination centers (*www.tadnet.org*) and through communities of practice (*www.tadnet.org/communities*);

(5) Understand the requirements of IDEA related to the provision of education and early intervention services to children with disabilities;

(6) Participate in activities at the school level that benefit their children; and

(7) Participate in school reform activities;

(f) In States where the State elects to contract with the PTIs, contract with the State educational agency (SEA) to provide, consistent with paragraphs (B) and (D) of section 615(e)(2) of IDEA, individuals to meet with parents and explain the mediation process;

(g) Assist parents in resolving disputes in the most expeditious and effective way possible, including encouraging the use of, and explaining the benefits of, alternative methods of dispute resolution such as the mediation process described in section 615(e) of IDEA;

(h) Assist parents and students with disabilities to understand their rights and responsibilities under IDEA, including those under section 615(m) of IDEA upon the student's reaching the age of majority (as appropriate under State law);

(i) Assist parents to understand the availability of, and how to effectively use, procedural safeguards provided under IDEA;

(j) Assist parents in understanding, preparing for, and participating in the resolution session described in section 615(f)(1)(B) of IDEA;

(k) Establish cooperative partnerships with any CPRCs and any other PTIs funded in the State under sections 672 and 671 of IDEA, respectively;

(l) Network with appropriate clearinghouses, including organizations conducting national dissemination activities under section 663 of IDEA and the Department's Institute of Education Sciences, and with other national, State, and local organizations and agencies such as protection and advocacy

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eligible for, but does not receive, Title I funds that—(a) Is among the lowest-achieving five percent of secondary schools or the lowest-achieving five secondary schools in the State that are eligible for, but do not receive, Title I funds, whichever number of schools is greater; or (b) Is a high school that has had a graduation rate as defined in 34 CFR 200.19(b) that is less than 60 percent over a number of years.

To identify the persistently lowest-achieving schools, a State must take into account both—(i) The academic achievement of the ''all students'' group in a school in terms of proficiency on the State's assessments under section 1111(b)(3) of the ESEA in reading/language arts and mathematics combined; and (ii) The school's lack of progress on those assessments over a number of years in the ''all students'' group.

agencies that serve parents and families of children with the full range of disabilities described in section 602(3) of IDEA;

(m) Respond to requests from OSEP for information about the needs and experiences of parents served by the center to inform OSEP's analysis of State progress towards improving outcomes for children with disabilities;

(n) Annually report to the Department on—

(1) The number and demographics of parents to whom the PTI provided information and training in the most recently concluded fiscal year, including additional information regarding the parents' unique needs and the levels of service provided to them; and

(2) The effectiveness of strategies used to reach and serve parents, including underserved parents of children with disabilities such as parents of children attending high-poverty schools and the State's persistently lowest achieving schools, by providing evidence of how those parents were served effectively;

(o) Respond to requests from the OSEP-funded National and Regional PTACs and use the technical assistance services of the National and Regional PTACs in order to serve the families of infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities as efficiently as possible. Regional PTACs are charged with assisting parent centers with administrative and programmatic issues;

(p) In collaboration with OSEP and the National PTAC, participate in an annual collection of program data for the PTIs and CPRCs funded under sections 671 and 672 of IDEA, respectively; and

(q) Maintain ongoing communication with the OSEP Project Officer through phone conversations and email communication.

In addition, the PTI's board of directors must meet not less than once in each calendar quarter to review the activities for which the award was made and annually submit to the Secretary a written review of the PTI's activities conducted during the preceding fiscal year.

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 and requirements. Section 681(d) of IDEA, however, makes the public comment requirements of the APA inapplicable to the priorities in this notice.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1471, 1472, and 1481.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations 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 Awards: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: $11,094,041. Contingent upon the availability of funds and the quality of applications, we may make additional awards in FY 2013 from the list of unfunded applicants from the competitions.

Please refer to the ''Estimated Available Funds'' column of the table in this section for the estimated dollar amounts for individual competitions. Information concerning funding amounts for individual States and target populations for the 84.328M competition is provided in the ''Maximum Award'' column.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: See table.

Maximum Award: See table.

Estimated Number of Awards: See table.

Project Period: See table.

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT TRAINING AND INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM APPLICATION NOTICE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012

CFDA No. and name	Applications available	Deadline for transmittal of applications	Deadline for intergovernmental review	Estimated available funds $ (See Note 2)	Estimated average size of awards (See Note 2)	Maximum award $ (See Notes 1, 3, and 4)	Estimated number of awards (See Note 2)	Project period	Page limit	Contact person
84.328C Community Parent Resource Centers.	February 27, 2012	April 27, 2012	June 26, 2012	$1,100,000	$100,000	$100,000	11	Up to 48 mos.	50	Carmen Sanchez (202) 245–6595 PCP–4057
84.328M Parent Training and Information Centers (See Note 3).	February 27, 2012	April 27, 2012	June 26, 2012	9,994,041	354,901		27	Up to 36 mos. (See Note 3)	70	Lisa Gorove (202) 245–7357 PCP–4048
Arkansas						258,634				
California										
Region 1						791,336				
Region 2						648,741				
Region 3						220,881				
Region 4						577,426				
Region 5						220,881				
Connecticut						276,016				
Georgia						664,791				
Illinois										
Region 1						548,612				
Region 2						281,878				
Kansas						292,033				
Michigan										
Region 1						239,170				
Region 2						403,970				
Montana						227,965				
Nebraska						224,894				
New Jersey						496,829				
New Mexico						277,918				
Ohio										
Region 1						241,824				
Region 2						468,392				
Oregon						283,548				
South Carolina						289,373				
Texas										
Region 1						667,779				
Region 2						667,779				
Region 3						377,223				
Utah						246,148				
Outlying Areas										
American Samoa						50,000				
Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas.						50,000				

Note 1: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding the maximum award for a single budget period of 12 months. The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the **Federal Register**.

Note 2: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Note 3: For the *Parent Training and Information Centers,* CFDA Number 84.328M competition:

Project Period: 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 Department is making awards to PTIs in three-year cycles for each State. In FY 2012, applications for three-year awards will be accepted for the following States and outlying areas: American Samoa, Arkansas, California, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, and Utah. These projects will be funded for a period up to 36 months.

Estimated Project Awards: Project award amounts are for a single budget period of 12 months. To ensure maximum coverage for this competition, the Department has established regional service areas within California, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and Texas and has identified corresponding maximum award amounts for each region. Applicants for these States must submit a separate application for each of the regions they propose to serve.

The Department took into consideration current funding levels, population distribution, poverty rates, and low-density enrollment when determining the award amounts for grants under this competition. In the following States, one award may be made for up to the amounts listed in the table to a qualified applicant for a PTI Center to serve the entire State.

Arkansas: $258,634.

Connecticut: $276,16.

Georgia: $664,791.

Kansas: $292,033.

Montana: $227,965.

Nebraska: $224,894.

New Jersey: $496,829.

New Mexico: $277,918.

Oregon: $283,548.

South Carolina: $289,373.

Utah: $246,148.

In California one award up to the amount listed will be made to a qualified applicant for a PTI Center to serve each identified region. A list of the counties that are included in each region follows.

Region 1 (Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Ventura): $791,336.

Region 2 (Imperial, Inyo, Mono, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego): $648,741.

Region 3 (Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, Stanislaus, San Benito, Tulare): $220,881.

Region 4 (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Solano, Sonoma, Yolo): 577,426.

Region 5 (Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tuolumne, Yuba): $220,881.

In Illinois, one award up to the amount listed will be made to a qualified applicant for a PTI Center to serve each identified region. A list of the counties that are included in each region follows.

Region 1 (Cook, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, Will): $548,612.

Region 2 (includes the remainder of the State): $281,878.

In Michigan, one award up to the amount listed will be made to a qualified applicant for a PTI Center to serve each identified region. A list of the counties that are included in each region follows.

Region 1 (Oakland, Macomb, Wayne): $239,170.

Region 2 (includes the remainder of the State): $403,970.

In Ohio one award will be made to a qualified applicant for a PTI Center to serve each identified region. A list of the counties that are included in each region follows.

Region 1 (Adams, Brown, Butler, Champaign, Clark, Clermont, Clinton, Darke, Fayette, Greene, Hamilton, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Logan, Miami, Montgomery, Pike, Preble, Ross, Scioto, Shelby, Warren): $241,824.

Region 2 (includes the remainder of the State): $468,392.

In Texas, one award up to the amount listed will be made to a qualified applicant for a PTI Center to serve each identified region. A list of the counties that are included in each region follows.

Region 1 (Anderson, Angelina, Archer, Austin, Bastrop, Baylor, Bell, Blanco, Bosque, Bowie, Brazos, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Camp, Casa, Cass, Cherokee, Clay, Collin, Comal, Cooke, Coryell, Dallas, Delta, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Falls, Fannin, Fayette, Foard, Franklin, Freestone, Gillespie, Gonzales, Grayson, Gregg, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hamilton, Hardeman, Hardin, Harrison, Hays, Henderson, Hill, Hood, Hopkins, Houston, Hunt, Jack, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Kaufman, Kendall, Knox, Marion, Madison, McLennan, Lamar, Lampass, Leon, Limestone, Llano, Lee, Madison, Marion, Milam, Mills, Montague, Montgomery, Morris, Nacogdoches, Navarro, Newton, Orange, Palo Pinto, Panola, Parker, Polk, Rains, Red River, Rockwall, Robertson, Rusk, Tarrant, Titus, Travis, Trinity, San Jacinto, Smith, Upshur, Shelby, San Augustine, Sabine, Smith, Somervell, Throckmorton, Tyler, Van Zandt, Walker, Washington, Wilbarger, Williamson, Wichita, Wise, Wood, Young): $667,779.

Region 2 (Aransas, Atascosa, Bandera, Bee, Bexar, Brooks, Calhoun, Cameron, Chambers, Colorado, DeWitt, Dimmit, Duval, Frio, Galveston, Goliad, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kenedy, Kerr, Kinney, Kleberg, La Salle, Lavaca, Liberty, Live Oak, Maverick, McMullen, Medina, Nueces, Real, San Patricio, Starr, Uvalde, Webb, Willacy, Wilson, Zapata, Zavala): $667,779.

Region 3 (Andrews, Armstrong, Bailey, Borden, Brewster, Briscoe, Brown, Callahan, Carson, Castro, Childress, Cochran, Coke, Coleman, Collingsworth, Concho, Cottle, Crane, Crockett, Crosby, Culberson, Dallam, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Donley, Eastland, Ector, Edwards, El Paso, Fisher, Floyd, Gaines, Garza, Glasscock, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Haskell, Hemphill, Hockley, Howard, Hudspeth, Hutchinson, Irion, Jeff Davis, Jones, Kent, Kimble, King, Lamb, Lipscomb, Loving, Lubbock, Lynn, Martin, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Midland, Mitchell, Moore, Motley, Nolan, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Pecos, Potter, Presidio, Randall, Reagan, Reeves, Roberts, Runnels, San Saba, Schleicher, Scurry, Shackelford, Sherman, Stephens, Sterling, Stonewall, Sutton, Swisher, Taylor, Terrell, Terry, Tom Green, Upton, Val Verde, Ward, Wheeler, Winkler, Yoakum): $377,223.

One award up to the amount listed may be made to a qualified applicant for a PTI center to serve the outlying areas as follows:

American Samoa: $50,000.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands: $50,000.

Note 4: 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.

III. Eligibility Information

1. *Eligible Applicants:*

Absolute priority	Eligible applicants
1. Community Parent Resource Centers (84.328C)	Local parent organizations.
2. Parent Training and Information Centers (84.328M)	Parent organizations.

Note: Under section 672(a)(2) of IDEA, a ''local parent organization'' is a parent organization (as that term is defined in section 671(a)(2) of IDEA) that—

(a) Has a board of directors, the majority of whom are parents of children with disabilities ages birth through 26 from the community to be served.

(b) Has as its mission serving parents of children with disabilities from that

community who (1) are ages birth through 26, and (2) have the full range of disabilities as defined in section 602(3) of IDEA.

Section 671(a)(2) of IDEA defines a ''parent organization'' as a private nonprofit organization (other than an institution of higher education) that—

(a) Has a board of directors—

(1) The majority of whom are parents of children with disabilities ages birth through 26;

(2) That includes—

(i) Individuals working in the fields of special education, related services, and early intervention;

(ii) Individuals with disabilities; and

(3) The parent and professional members of which are broadly representative of the population to be served, including low-income parents and parents of limited English proficient children; and

(b) Has as its mission serving families of children with disabilities who are ages birth through 26, and have the full range of disabilities described in section 602(3) of IDEA.

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

3. *Other: General Requirements*—(a) The projects funded under this program 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 program 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:* You can obtain an application package via the Internet, from the Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), or from the program office.

To obtain a copy via the Internet, use the following address: *www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/index.html.* To obtain a copy from ED Pubs, write, fax, or call the following: ED Pubs, U.S. Department of Education, P.O. Box 22207, Alexandria, VA 22304. Telephone, toll free: 1–877–433–7827. Fax: (703) 605–6794. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call, toll free: 1–877–576–7734.

You can contact ED Pubs at its Web site, also: *www.EDPubs.gov* or at its email address: *edpubs@inet.ed.gov.*

If you request an application package from ED Pubs, be sure to identify the competition to which you want to apply, as follows: CFDA Number 84.328C or 84.328M.

To obtain a copy from the program office, contact one of the persons listed in the chart under section II. *Award Information* of this notice.

Individuals with disabilities can obtain a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) by contacting the person or team listed under *Accessible Format* in section VIII 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 each 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 the number of pages listed under ''Page Limit'' for that competition in the chart under II. *Award Information,* using the following standards:

- A ''page'' is 8.5″ × 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.
- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).
- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial. An application submitted in any other font (including Times Roman or Arial Narrow) will not be accepted.

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; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, the references, or the letters of support. However, the page limit does apply to all of the application narrative section (Part III).

We will reject your application if you exceed the page limit; or if you apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

3. *Submission Dates and Times:*

Applications Available: See table in Section II, *Award Information.*

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: See table in Section II, *Award Information.*

Applications for grants under each 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 in paper format by mail or hand delivery, please refer to section IV. 7. *Other Submission Requirements* of this notice.

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

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice. If the Department provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability in connection with the application process, the individual's application remains subject to all other requirements and limitations in this notice.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: See chart.

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 each competition.

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

6. *Data Universal Numbering System Number, Taxpayer Identification Number, and Central Contractor Registry:* To do business with the Department of Education, you must—

a. Have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN);

b. Register both your DUNS number and TIN with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR), the Government's primary registrant database;

c. Provide your DUNS number and TIN on your application; and

d. Maintain an active CCR registration with current information while your application is under review by the Department and, if you are awarded a grant, during the project period.

You can obtain a DUNS number from Dun and Bradstreet. A DUNS number can be created within one business day.

If you are a corporate entity, agency, institution, or organization, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service. If you are an individual, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service or the Social Security Administration. If you need a new TIN,

please allow 2–5 weeks for your TIN to become active.

The CCR registration process may take five or more business days to complete. If you are currently registered with the CCR, you may not need to make any changes. However, please make certain that the TIN associated with your DUNS number is correct. Also note that you will need to update your CCR registration on an annual basis. This may take three or more business days to complete.

In addition, if you are submitting your application via Grants.gov, you must (1) be designated by your organization as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR); and (2) register yourself with Grants.gov as an AOR. Details on these steps are outlined at the following Grants.gov Web page: *www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp*.

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

a. *Electronic Submission of Applications.*

We are participating as a partner in the Governmentwide Grants.gov Apply site. The Training and Information for Parents of Children with Disabilities Program competitions, CFDA numbers 84.328C and 84.328M, are included in this project. We request your participation in Grants.gov.

If you choose to submit your application electronically, you must use the Governmentwide Grants.gov Apply site at *www.Grants.gov*. Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not email an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

You may access the electronic grant application for the Training and Information for Parents of Children with Disabilities Program competitions, CFDA numbers 84.328C and 84.328M at *www.Grants.gov*. You must search for the downloadable application package for this program by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.328, not 84.328M).

Please note the following:

- Your participation in Grants.gov is voluntary.
- When you enter the Grants.gov site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, as well as the hours of operation.
- Applications received by Grants.gov are date and time stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted and must be date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not accept your application if it is received—that is, date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system—after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements. When we retrieve your application from Grants.gov, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because it was date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.
- The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors, including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the submission process through Grants.gov.
- You should review and follow the Education Submission Procedures for submitting an application through Grants.gov that are included in the application package for this program to ensure that you submit your application in a timely manner to the Grants.gov system. You can also find the Education Submission Procedures pertaining to Grants.gov under News and Events on the Department's G5 system home page at *www.G5.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.
- If you submit your application electronically, you must submit all documents electronically, including all information you typically provide on the following forms: the 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.
- If you submit your application electronically, you must upload any narrative sections and all other attachments to your application as files in a .PDF (Portable Document) read-only, non-modifiable format. Do not upload an interactive or fillable .PDF file. If you upload a file type other than a read-only, non-modifiable .PDF or submit a password-protected file, we will not review that material. Additional, detailed information on how to attach files is in the application instructions.
- Your electronic application must comply with any page-limit requirements described in this notice.
- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. (This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only, not receipt by the Department.) The Department then will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send a second notification to you by email. This second notification indicates that the Department has received your application and has assigned your application 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 Technical Issues with the Grants.gov System: If you are experiencing problems submitting your application through Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov Support Desk, toll free, at 1–800–518–4726. You must obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number and must keep a record of it.

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 described elsewhere in this notice.

If you submit an application after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice and provide an explanation of the technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number. 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: The extensions to which we refer 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 application 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 following address:

U.S. Department of Education,
Application Control Center,
Attention: (CFDA Number 84.328C or 84.328M), LBJ Basement Level 1, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20202–4260.

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.

(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.

(2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

c. *Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.*

If you submit your application in paper format by hand delivery, you (or a courier service) must deliver the original and two copies of your application by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address:

U.S. Department of Education,
Application Control Center,
Attention: (CFDA Number 84.328C or 84.328M), 550 12th Street, SW., Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202–4260.

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications: If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department—

(1) You must indicate on the envelope and—if not provided by the Department—in Item 11 of the SF 424 the CFDA number, including suffix letter, if any, of the competition under which you are submitting your application; and

(2) The Application Control Center will mail to you a notification of receipt of your grant application. If you do not receive this notification within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245–6288.

V. Application Review Information

1. *Selection Criteria:* The selection criteria for this program are from 34 CFR 75.210 and are listed in the application package.

2. *Review and Selection Process:* We remind potential applicants that in reviewing applications in any discretionary grant competition, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.217(d)(3), the past performance of the applicant in carrying out a previous award, such as the applicant's use of funds, achievement of project objectives, and compliance with grant conditions. The Secretary may also consider whether the applicant failed to submit a timely performance report or submitted a report of unacceptable quality.

In addition, in making a competitive grant award, the Secretary also requires various assurances including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department of Education (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

3. *Additional Review and Selection Process Factors:* In the past, the Department has had difficulty finding peer reviewers for certain competitions because so many individuals who are eligible to serve as peer reviewers have conflicts of interest. The Standing Panel requirements under IDEA also have placed additional constraints on the availability of reviewers. Therefore, the Department has determined that, for some discretionary grant competitions, applications may be separated into two or more groups and ranked and selected for funding within specific groups. This procedure will make it easier for the Department to find peer reviewers, by ensuring that greater numbers of individuals who are eligible to serve as reviewers for any particular group of applicants will not have conflicts of interest. It also will increase the quality, independence, and fairness of the review process, while permitting panel members to review applications under discretionary grant competitions for which they also have submitted applications. However, if the Department decides to select an equal number of applications in each group for funding, this may result in different cut-off points for fundable applications in each group.

4. *Special Conditions:* Under 34 CFR 74.14 and 80.12, the Secretary may impose special conditions on a grant if the applicant or grantee is not financially stable; has a history of unsatisfactory performance; has a financial or other management system that does not meet the standards in 34 CFR parts 74 or 80, as applicable; has not fulfilled the conditions of a prior grant; or is otherwise not responsible.

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 notify you informally, also.

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:* (a) If you apply for a grant under this competition, you must ensure that you have in place the necessary processes and systems to comply with the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 170 should you receive funding under the competition. This does not apply if you have an exception under 2 CFR 170.110(b).

(b) 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 directed by the Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent

performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to *www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html.*

4. *Performance Measures:* Under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, the Department has established a set of performance measures, including long-term measures, that are designed to yield information on various aspects of the effectiveness and quality of the Training and Information for Parents of Children with Disabilities program. The measures 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 in annual reports submitted to the Department.

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

5. *Continuation Awards:* In making a continuation award, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.253, the extent to which a grantee has made ''substantial progress toward meeting the objectives in its approved application.'' This consideration includes the review of a grantee's progress in meeting the targets and projected outcomes in its approved application, and whether the grantee has expended funds in a manner that is consistent with its approved application and budget. In making a continuation award, the Secretary also considers whether the grantee is operating in compliance with the assurances in its approved application, including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

VII. Agency Contact

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: See the chart under section II. *Award Information* of this notice for the name, room number, and telephone number of the contact person for each competition. You can write to the contact person at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Potomac Center Plaza (PCP), Washington, DC 20202–2550.

If you use a TDD or a TTY, call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1–800–877–8339.

VIII. Other Information

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or computer disc) by contacting the Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., room 5075, PCP, Washington, DC 20202–2550. Telephone: (202) 245–7363. If you use a TDD or a TTY, call the FRS, toll free, at 1–800–877–8339.

Electronic Access to This Document: 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 via the Federal Digital System at: *www.gpo.gov/fdsys.* At this site you can 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). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: *www.federalregister.gov.* Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Dated: February 21, 2012.

Alexa Posny,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 2012–4551 Filed 2–24–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Advisory Council on Indian Education (NACIE)

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of an open teleconference meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of an upcoming teleconference meeting of the National Advisory Council on Indian Education (the Council) and is intended to notify the general public of the meeting. This notice also describes the functions of the Council. Notice of the Council's meetings is required under Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Date and time: March 12, 2012—1 p.m.–5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

Location: The meeting will be conducted via conference call with NACIE members. Up to 20 dial-in, listen-only phone lines will be made available to the public on a first come, first serve basis. The conference call number is 1.800.871.9060 and the participant code is 929296858#.

The public is also invited to attend the conference call meeting at the U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Street SW., Room 1W105/108, Washington, DC 20202–6400. Members of the public should report to the security desk and a form of federal I.D. will be required for security clearance and escorted access to the meeting room.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Advisory Council on Indian Education is authorized by Section 7141 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The Council is established within the Department of Education to advise the Secretary of Education on the funding and administration (including the development of regulations, and administrative policies and practices) of any program over which the Secretary has jurisdiction and includes Indian children or adults as participants or programs that may benefit Indian children or adults, including any program established under Title VII, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The Council submits to the Congress, not later than June 30 of each year, a report on the activities of the Council that includes recommendations the Council considers appropriate for the improvement of Federal education programs that include Indian children or adults as participants or that may benefit Indian children or adults, and recommendations concerning the funding of any such program. One of the Council's responsibilities is to develop and provide recommendations to the Secretary of Education on the funding and administration (including the development of regulations, and administrative policies and practices) of any program over which the Secretary has jurisdiction that can benefit Indian children or adults participating in any program which could benefit Indian children. The Council is convening this public meeting to review, advise, and discuss the following items: (1) Recommendations to the Secretary of Education concerning the funding and administration (including the development of regulations and administrative policies and practices) of programs; (2) review the Executive Order 13592 establishing the White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education (Initiative); (3) provide input on the