

July 1, 2002

Honorable Thomas D. Watkins, Jr.
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Michigan Department of Education
P.O. Box 30008
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Superintendent Watkins:

We have determined that your State's application for Fiscal Year (FY) 2002, under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (Part C), can be conditionally approved. Therefore, I am enclosing your State's Part C grant award.

The conditional approval is based on our review and acceptance of the Michigan Department of Education (DOE) Part C application for FY 2002, including:

1. those portions of the State's existing Part C application on file with the Secretary that remain in effect;
2. the assurance from DOE that the statewide system of early intervention services required by Part C and its implementing regulations is in effect; and
3. the June 25, 2002 letter from DOE to the Office of Special Education Programs, in which DOE assures that it will take steps necessary to complete revisions to its application to conform it to the requirements of Part C, specifically to revise the description of the use of Part C funds for direct services to comply with 34 CFR 303.145(d)(2).

Our records indicate that, for the last four Part C grants for which the obligation and liquidation period has ended (grants from Federal fiscal years 1996-1999), your State has failed to spend its entire grant amount. In several of those years, substantial amounts have remained unexpended, and were in effect returned to the U.S. Treasury. These funds could have been used by your State to better serve all infants and toddlers with disabilities in your State; alternatively, if the State had, on a timely basis, elected not to receive its entire grant award, the Department could have reallocated those funds to the other States for Part C early intervention services. If, by July 1, 2003, you anticipate being unable to obligate all of the funds from the Part C 2002 grant award within the obligation period, please notify us immediately of the amount you will not be using to carry out the Part C program, so that the amount can be reallocated to other States. If you are unable to obligate

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any funds from the part C 2001 grant award, please notify us as soon as possible so we can reallocate those funds to other States by September 30, 2002.

The enclosed grant award for FY 2002 is made with the continued understanding that this Office may, from time to time, require clarification of information within your application and appendices, if necessary. These inquiries are needed to allow us to appropriately carry out our administrative responsibilities related to Part C.

We appreciate your ongoing commitment to the provision of quality early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

Sincerely,

Stephanie S. Lee
Director
Office of Special Education Programs

Enclosure

cc: Vanessa Winborne
Part C Coordinator