

September 30, 2003

Honorable Sili K. Sataua  
Director of Education  
American Samoa Department of Education  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Dear Director Sataua:

We have determined that American Samoa's application for Fiscal Year (FY) 2003, under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (Part B), can be approved and is subject to the special conditions specifically identified in the Department's September 17, 2003 letter to American Samoa regarding the Single Audit Act (copy enclosed). The approval is based upon American Samoa's Eligibility Document Submission for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2003 under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) submitted by American Samoa to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) on April 29, 2003, and American Samoa's eligibility documentation that OSEP approved on February 11, 2003. Your grant award is enclosed.

Please note that as part of your Eligibility Document Submission for FFY 2003, American Samoa has made an assurance, under 34 CFR §80.11(c), that it will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding. Any changes made by American Samoa, after OSEP approval, to information that is a part of a State's eligibility documentation, must meet the public participation requirements of the IDEA and must be approved by OSEP before implementation.

Enclosed is a grant award for funds currently available under the Department of Education FFY 2003 Appropriations Act for the Part B Section 611 (Grants to States). These funds are for use primarily in school year 2003-2004 and are available for obligation by States from July 1, 2003 through September 30, 2005.

The funding formula for the Section 611 program is the same as was implemented for FFY 2000. Subject to certain maximum and minimum funding requirements, State allocations are based on the amount that each State received from FFY 1999 funds, the general population in the age range for which each State ensures a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to all children with disabilities, and the number of children living in poverty in the age range for which each State ensures FAPE to all children with disabilities.

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Enclosure A provides a short description of how Section 611 funds were allocated and how those funds can be used. In addition, Table I in Enclosure A shows funding levels for distribution of Section 611 funds.

We appreciate your ongoing commitment to the provision of quality educational services to children with disabilities.

Sincerely,

/s/Patricia J. Guard

Stephanie Smith Lee  
Director  
Office of Special Education Programs

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Moeolo Va'atausili