



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

JUL - 1 2009

Honorable Nidel Lorak
Minister of Education
Republic of the Marshall Islands
P.O. Box 3
Majuro, MH 96960

Dear Minister Lorak:

This is to inform you that we have conditionally approved the Republic of the Marshall Islands' (RMI's) application for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2009 funds under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Our conditional approval is based on our review of the application submitted by the Ministry of Education (MOE) to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), on May 7, 2009 and May 13, 2009, including the assurances provided in Section II and incorporated by reference to this letter as noted in Enclosure A. In addition, RMI provided specific assurances that it will:

1. Operate consistent with Part B and applicable regulations; and
2. Make such changes to existing policies and procedures as are necessary to bring those policies and procedures into compliance with the requirements of Part B of the IDEA and applicable regulations as soon as possible, and not later than June 30, 2010. Section II of the RMI's application identifies the IDEA requirements for which RMI needs to amend policies and procedures and the timelines by which RMI will amend its policies and procedures in order to comply with Part B and applicable regulations. Within Section II, RMI has included for each assurance it cannot meet at this time the date by which it expects to complete necessary changes to any policies and procedures that are not yet in compliance with the requirements of Part B and applicable regulations.

Please note that as part of your application for FFY 2009, RMI has made an assurance, in 34 CFR §80.11(c), that it will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the FFY 2009 grant period. Any changes made by RMI after OSEP approval, to information that is a part of a State's application, must meet the public participation requirements in 34 CFR §300.165.

Enclosed is RMI's grant award for funds currently available under the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009 for the Part B Section 611 (Grants to States) program. These funds are for use primarily in school year 2009-2010 and are available for obligation by States from July 1, 2009 through September 30, 2011 in accordance with 34 CFR §76.709.

The amount shown in your award for the Section 611 program is only part of the total funds that will be awarded to you for FFY 2009. Of the \$11,505,211,000 appropriated for Section 611 in FFY 2009, \$2,912,828,004 is available for awards on July 1, 2009, and \$8,592,382,996 will be available on October 1, 2009.

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Enclosure B provides a short description of how Section 611 funds were allocated and how those funds can be used. In addition, Table I in Enclosure B shows funding levels for distribution of Section 611 funds and the parameters for within-State allocations.

The enclosed grant award for FFY 2009 is made with the continued understanding that this Office may, from time to time, require clarification of information within your application, if necessary. These inquiries are needed to allow us to appropriately carry out our administrative responsibilities related to Part B.

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

Sincerely,



Patricia J. Guard
Acting Director
Office of Special Education Programs

Enclosures

Enclosure A
Enclosure B

cc: Director of Special Education