



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

July 1, 2013

Honorable Chris Nicastro  
Commissioner of Education  
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
P.O. Box 480  
205 Jefferson Street  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0480

Dear Commissioner Nicastro:

We have conditionally approved Missouri's application for Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2013 funds under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA Part C). Our conditional approval is based on our review of the IDEA Part C application, submitted by Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), on April 12, June 3, and June 28, 2013.

Our conditional approval of the State's FFY 2013 IDEA Part C grant is also based on the State's policies, procedures, methods, descriptions, assurances, and certifications identified in Section II.A., II.B, and II.C., which is incorporated by reference to this grant award letter as Enclosure A. Our approval is also based on the State's certification in Section II.D of its FFY 2013 IDEA Part C application, in which section the State certifies under 34 CFR §76.104 that it will:

1. Operate throughout the period of the FFY 2013 grant award consistently with the requirements of the IDEA as found in 20 U.S.C. §§1431 through 1443 and the final regulations in 34 CFR Part 303 (as published on September 28, 2011); and
2. Make such changes to existing policies, procedures, methods, and descriptions as are necessary to bring those policies, procedures, methods and descriptions into compliance with the requirements of IDEA Part C, as soon as possible, and not later than the earlier of the date indicated by the State in Section II.A or B of its application or June 30, 2014.

The conditional approval for Missouri's FFY 2013 IDEA Part C grant is also based on the State's assurance, dated June 28, 2013 from DESE in which the State specifically assured that it shall:

1. Make all changes necessary to the Missouri State Plan, and complete all actions as specified in OSEP's memorandum, dated June 25, 2013, to comply with the IDEA Part C requirement in 34 CFR §303.521(a)(4)(iv) (as published on September 28, 2011), and submit to OSEP the section of the revised State Plan that is required to be submitted under Section II.A.3a of the IDEA Part C grant application, as soon as it is finalized, but no later than June 30, 2014;
2. Ensure that, throughout the period, the State uses its IDEA Part C FFY 2013 grant funds, all early intervention service (EIS) programs and providers in the State will comply with all requirements of IDEA Part C, including 34 CFR §303.521(a)(4)(iv), and specifically interpret the provisions in Missouri Revised Statute 160.920 to be consistent with the

requirement to charge one schedule of fees to all parents (including those with or without insurance and those who do not consent to use their insurance);

3. Provide OSEP, by August 1, 2013, a copy of the memorandum notifying all staff that are part of the State's IDEA Part C early intervention system, and responsible for administering the system of payments policy, of the changes described in 2 above that affect the provision of early intervention services under IDEA Part C, in 34 CFR §303.521(a)(4)(iv); and,
4. Ensure that the statewide system of early intervention required by IDEA Part C, in 20 U.S.C. §§1431 through 1444 and final regulations in 34 CFR Part 303, will be in effect throughout the FFY 2013 grant period.

OSEP's conditional approval of the State's FFY 2013 application is also based on our approval of the State's policies, procedures, agreements and descriptions submitted under Sections II.A.2 (Services), 3b (Methods), 4a (Evaluations and Assessments), 9 (Public Participation), 10 (Transition Policies and Intra-Agency Agreement), and 12 (Equitable Participation) of the IDEA Part C grant application, which were referenced in OSEP's June 25, 2013 memo to the State.

As part of your State's application for FFY 2013, your State has made an assurance, under Section II.C.2 of its FFY 2013 application and pursuant to 34 CFR §80.11(c), that it will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect during the FFY 2013 grant period.

Before adopting a new or revised IDEA Part C policy or procedure that is required under Part C of the IDEA or under the final regulations in 34 CFR Part 303, the State must subject those policies and procedures to the public participation requirements in 34 CFR §303.208 and, for those policies and procedures specifically referenced in 34 CFR §303.101(c), receive OSEP approval prior to their implementation.

Enclosed is the State's FFY 2013 grant award for funds currently available under the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 -- P.L. 113-6 for the IDEA Part C program. These funds are available for obligation by States from July 1, 2013 through September 30, 2015 in accordance with 34 CFR §76.709.

Section 604 of the IDEA provides that "[a] State shall not be immune under the 11<sup>th</sup> amendment to the Constitution of the United States from suit in Federal court for a violation of this [Act]." Section 606 provides that each recipient of assistance under IDEA make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in programs assisted under the IDEA. Therefore, by accepting this grant, your State is expressly agreeing as a condition of IDEA funding to a waiver of Eleventh Amendment immunity and to ensuring that positive efforts are made to employ and advance employment of qualified individuals with disabilities in programs assisted under the IDEA.

The enclosed grant award of FFY 2013 funds 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 may be necessary to allow us to appropriately carry out our administrative responsibilities related to IDEA Part C.

As a reminder, all prime recipients of IDEA (Part B or Part C) funds, must report subaward information as required by the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006

(FFATA), as amended in 2008. First-tier subaward information must be reported by the end of the following month from when the award was made or obligated. FFATA guidance is found at <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/rms-web-conferences.html>. Please contact your State's Fiscal Accountability Facilitators if you have further questions.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melody Musgrove Ed.D." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Melody Musgrove, Ed.D.  
Director  
Office of Special Education Programs

Enclosure

Enclosure A

cc: Part C Coordinator