July 1, 2014

Dr. Charles M. Roessel
Acting Director Bureau of Indian Education
1849 C Street, N.W.
MS-3609 MIB
Washington, D.C.  20240

Dear Director Roessel:

Please find enclosed the U.S. Department of Interior’s (DOI) Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2014 funds under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). These funds are to be distributed under IDEA section 643(b) to those tribes and tribal organizations (as defined by Section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act), or consortia of those tribal entities on reservations that are served by elementary and secondary schools for Indian children operated or funded by the DOI, the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE).

Under IDEA section 643(b)(4), tribes, tribal organizations, or their consortia (all of which are referred to in this letter as tribal entities) must use these funds to assist State lead agencies under Part C of the IDEA in child find, screening, and other procedures for the early identification of children under three years of age who may be eligible for early intervention services under Part C of the IDEA as well as to provide parent training for, or early intervention services to, infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families who reside on reservations. These funds are also issued with the understanding that the BIE will continue to submit the required biennial report under IDEA sections 618(a)(1)(B) and (C) and 643(b)(5) the identification of, and provision of early intervention services to, infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families, and the annual report under the IDEA Part C regulations in 34 CFR §303.731(e) regarding payments made by the BIE to tribal entities. The BIE submitted its biennial report on December 31, 2012 for the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012. The BIE submitted its FFY 2012 annual report on December 18, 2012 identifying the payment and allocation dates and must submit as soon as possible in FFY 2014 its FFYs 2013 and 2014 annual reports and its biennial report.

Enclosed are the BIE’s funds currently available under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 – P.L. 113-76 for the IDEA Part C program. These funds are available for obligation from July 1, 2014 through September 30, 2016 in accordance with 34 CFR §76.709. The enclosed grant award of FFY 2014 funds is made with the continued understanding that this Office may, from time to time, require additional information. 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 Facilitator if you have further questions.
We appreciate the BIE’s ongoing commitment to the identification of, and provision of early intervention services to, infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families residing on reservations.

Sincerely,

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

cc: Supervisor, BIE Early Childhood Education