



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

July 1, 2019

Honorable Tony L. Dearman
Director
Bureau of Indian Education
1849 C Street, N.W.
MS-4657-MIB
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Director Dearman:

Please find enclosed the U.S. Department of Interior's (DOI) Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2019 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 the 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 who reside on reservations 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 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) and 34 CFR §303.731(e)(1) and (2) regarding the identification of, and provision of early intervention services to, infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The BIE submitted its last Biennial Report on January 10, 2019, the Biennial Report regarding the summary of Tribes or Tribal Organizations Part B 619 and Part C funds from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2018. As a reminder, the BIE must submit its next biennial report by December 31, 2020.

These funds are also issued with the understanding that the BIE will continue to submit the required annual report under the IDEA Part C regulations in 34 CFR §303.731(e)(3) regarding payments made by the BIE to tribal entities. For the annual report, the BIE must provide to the Secretary of Education a report on the payments distributed under the IDEA Part C including the name of the tribal entity that received a payment, and the date and amount of each payment. On December 20, 2018, the BIE submitted on its FFY 2017 annual report regarding payments made by the BIE to tribal entities and identifying the payment and allocation dates. The December 20, 2018 submission fulfills the BIE's obligation to submit an annual report under 34 CFR §303.731(e)(3). The FFY 2018 annual report is due on December 31, 2019.

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The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparedness for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

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Enclosed is the BIE's FFY 2019 grant award for funds currently available under the Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2018, Title III of Division H, P.L. 115-141 for the IDEA Part C program. These funds are available for obligation by IDEA grant recipients from July 1, 2019 through September 30, 2021 in accordance with 34 CFR §76.709.

The enclosed FFY 2019 BIE funds are awarded with the continued understanding that the Office of Special Education Programs may, from time to time, require additional information. These inquiries may be necessary to allow us to appropriately carry out our administrative responsibilities under Part C of the IDEA.

As a reminder, all prime recipients of IDEA 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 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,

/S/

Laurie VanderPloeg
Director,
Office of Special Education Programs

cc: A. Sue Bement, Family and Child Education, Early Childhood Director