



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

SEP 24 2013

Kelly Osborn  
Acting SILC Chair  
Alpha One  
127 Main St.  
South Portland, ME 04106

Elizabeth Hopkins  
Director  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
45 Commerce Drive  
150 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0150

John McMahon  
Director  
Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired  
150 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Ms. Osborn, Ms. Hopkins and Mr. McMahon:

The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) acknowledges the Maine submission through the RSA website of the FY 2014-2016 State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) in the form of the signed assurances (Part I) and the narratives (Part II) in compliance with Title VII, Section 704 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*, as amended (Rehabilitation Act). In addition, RSA approves the additional assurance, submitted to the RSA website which RSA has deemed necessary to ensure the state's compliance with the assurances in Part I, sections 1 through 8, as a condition for approval of this SPIL.

The SPIL was reviewed to ensure conformity with statutory provisions of the Rehabilitation Act, the implementing regulations and administrative requirements of RSA. RSA approves the Maine FY 2014-2016 SPIL based on the submitted assurances, narratives, and the additional assurance referenced above. Both the DSUs and the SILC are responsible for ensuring that the SPIL assurances and activities are implemented in accordance with federal requirements.

In accordance with this approval of the SPIL and the additional assurance, RSA is making available to Maine its Title VII, IL Part B grant award effective October 1, 2013. Please be advised that RSA will closely monitor the state's compliance with and implementation of the actions of the additional assurance. As a component of that monitoring, RSA may request that

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the designated State unit and the Statewide Independent Living Council provide periodic updates and status reports.

The approved FY 2014-2016 SPIL and additional assurance will be published by RSA and made available to the public on the RSA website by October 1, 2013. Independent living stakeholders, who wish to read the SPIL, may visit <http://rsa.ed.gov/>, select the appropriate state, search for "Independent Living State Grants Program" and select "SPIL."

If you and your staff have any questions related to this review or the approval of the FY 2014-2016 SPIL and assurance, please contact your IL Unit representative, Elizabeth Akinola, by telephone at (202) 245-7303 or electronically at [elizabeth.akinola@ed.gov](mailto:elizabeth.akinola@ed.gov).

We appreciate your continuing efforts to promote the independent living, empowerment and community integration of individuals with significant disabilities in your state.

Sincerely,

  
Janet LaBreck  
Commissioner

cc: Elizabeth Akinola  
James Billy  
Libby Stone-Sterling