UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

SEP 16 2011

Pearl Van Zandt, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Suite 100
4600 Valley Road
Lincoln, NE 68510-4844

Dear Dr. Van Zandt:

The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) acknowledges your electronic submission via RSA's management information system (MIS) of the State Plan for the Title I Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services Program and Supplement for the Title VI-B Supported Employment (SE) Services Program in the form of a preprint of affirmative assurances and required attachments on behalf of the Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (NCBVI) in compliance with Sections 101(a) and 625 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*, as amended (the act).

The State Plan, in the form of a preprint of affirmative assurances and required attachments, was reviewed to ensure conformity with statutory provisions of the act, implementing regulations and the administrative requirements of RSA. Based on this review, the State Plan is approved. In accordance with the approval of the State Plan materials, RSA is making available to Nebraska its fiscal year (FY) 2012 Title I, Part B, and Title VI, Part B, grant awards.

The approved FY 2012 NCBVI State Plan will be published by RSA and available to the general public on RSA's MIS by Monday, October 3, 2011. Individuals, who wish to read the State Plan at that time, may visit http://rsamis.ed.gov/view_info.cfm, select the appropriate state, search for "VR State Plan" and select "View the VR State Plan."

During this year's review, RSA learned that the results of NCBVI's annual statewide needs assessment reported in Attachment 4.11(a) have been consistent with those obtained through the assessment conducted in FY 2007 and have not changed since that time. We encourage NCBVI to determine if the methodology being used for the conduct of the assessment captures new or emerging needs within the state, thereby ensuring the agency's goals, strategies and policies continue to be strong and current in supporting individuals with disabilities.

If you or your staff have questions related to this review or the approval of the FY 2012 State Plan, please contact your state liaison, Tim Beatty, at (202) 245-6156 or timothy.beatty@ed.gov.

We appreciate your timely submission of this information and your continuing efforts to assist individuals with disabilities to achieve high-quality employment outcomes.

Sincerely,

Lynnae M. Ruttledge
Commissioner

cc: Tim Beatty