



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

SEP 10 2012

Margarita Olopai-Taitano
Director
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
P.O. Box 501521
Saipan, MP 96950-1521

Dear Ms. Olopai-Taitano:

The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) acknowledges your electronic submission via the RSA Web site of the fiscal year (FY) 2013 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 Commonwealth of Northern Marianas' Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) in compliance with Sections 101(a) and 625 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*, as amended (the act). In addition, RSA acknowledges receipt of the assurance, submitted on June 25, 2012, to complete the activities necessary to fulfill the assurance under which the FY 2012 State Plan was approved.

The State Plan, in the form of a preprint of affirmative assurances and any required attachments, and the assurance of compliance were reviewed to ensure conformity with statutory provisions of the act, implementing regulations and the administrative requirements of RSA. RSA approves the OVR State Plan for the VR and SE programs based on the submitted preprint of affirmative assurances, required attachments and the assurance to complete the activities necessary to fulfill the assurance under which the FY 2012 State Plan was approved and submitted in conjunction with the FY 2013 State Plan.

In accordance with this approval of the State Plan and accompanying assurance, RSA is making available to the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas its FY 2013 Title I, Part B, and Title VI, Part B, grant awards. Please be advised that RSA will closely monitor OVR's activities in support of the assurance it has made.

The approved FY 2013 OVR State Plan will be published by RSA and available to the general public on RSA's Web site by Monday, October 1, 2012. Individuals who wish to read the State Plan at that time may visit <http://rsa.ed.gov>, select the appropriate state, search for "VR State Plan" and select "View the VR State Plan."

400 MARYLAND AVE. S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202
www.ed.gov

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

Finally, although RSA has approved the OVR FY 2013 State Plan, it encourages OVR to develop measureable goals for the FY 2014 State Plan, including baseline data and specified targets, that would enable OVR to measure, assess and monitor its performance. In addition, consider aligning these goals with the federal standards and indicators for which OVR has not met the required performance levels.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact your state liaison, Adrienne Grierson, at (202) 245-7561 or adrienne.grierson@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Edward Anthony".

Edward Anthony, Ph.D.
Deputy Commissioner

cc: Adrienne Grierson