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[FR Doc. 01-11339 Filed 5-4-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.215F]

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education: Physical Education for Progress Grant Program; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001

SUMMARY: The Secretary invites applications for new awards for FY 2001 under the Physical Education for Progress Grant Program competition (84.215F). The Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program will administer this competition.

Purpose of Program: To assist local educational agencies (LEAs) to initiate, expand, and improve physical education programs in LEAs.

Eligible Applicants: Only LEAs are eligible to submit an application under this competition.

Applications Available: May 3, 2001.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: June 18, 2001.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: August 10, 2001.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 97, 98, and 99; (b) The regulations in 34 CFR part 299; and (c) the final priority and selection criteria for this grant competition as published elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register**.

Award Information: The estimated range of awards under this competition is \$200,000—\$400,000, with an average award of \$300,000. We estimate that approximately 16 awards will be made. Please note that the range of awards, average size of awards, number of awards, and available funding in this

notice are estimates only. The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 12 months.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND FURTHER

INFORMATION CONTACT: Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, 3E332, Washington, DC 20202-6123. Telephone: 202/401-2140. Fax: 202/260-7767. Email:

Connie.Deshpande@ed.gov. *Internet:* <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/SDFS>

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 8351.

Dated: April 27, 2001.

Thomas M. Corwin,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 01-11440 Filed 5-4-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.215F]

Physical Education for Progress Grant Program

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of final priority and selection criteria for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001.

SUMMARY: The Secretary announces the final priority and selection criteria under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, Title X, Part L, Physical Education for Progress Grant Program. The Office of Elementary and Secondary Education will administer this grant competition. The Secretary takes this action to help initiate, expand, and improve physical education programs in local educational agencies.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This priority and selection criteria are effective June 18, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Connie Ann Deshpande, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW—Room 3E332, Washington, DC 20202-6123. Telephone: (202) 401-2140, email address: Connie.Deshpande@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-888-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed at the beginning of this section.

Note: This notice does not solicit applications. In any year in which the Secretary chooses to use this final priority and selection criteria, we invite applications through a notice in the **Federal Register**. A notice inviting applications under this competition is published elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register**.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

General

In making awards under this grant competition, the Secretary shall ensure an equitable distribution of awards between local educational agencies serving urban and rural areas, and between local educational agencies serving large and small numbers of students. Contingent upon the availability of funds, the Secretary may make additional awards in FY 2002 from the rank-ordered list of nonfunded applications from this competition.

Administrative Costs

Not more than 5 percent of the grant funds made available to a local educational agency under this program in any fiscal year may be used for administrative costs.

Federal Share

The Federal share for grants under this program may not exceed 90 percent of the total cost of a project.

Prohibition Against Supplanting

Grant funds made available under this program shall be used to supplement and not supplant other Federal, State, and local funds available for physical education activities.

Participation of Home Schooled or Private School Students

An applicant for funds under this program may provide for the participation of home schooled children and their parents and teachers, or children enrolled in private non-profit elementary and secondary schools, and their parents and teachers. Applicants are not required to propose services for these groups.

Special Rule

Grant funds made available under this program shall not be used to fund extracurricular activities.

Absolute Priority: Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) and Title X, Part L of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8351 *et seq.*), the Secretary gives an absolute preference to applications that meet the following priority, and funds under this competition only those applications that meet the following absolute priority: Local educational agency (LEA) projects to initiate, expand, and improve physical education programs in schools. Such programs must be designed to assist the LEA in making progress toward meeting State standards for physical education, by providing funds for training and education of teachers and staff, and for equipment and support, to enable students in one or more grades kindergarten through 12 to participate actively in physical education activities. Under this absolute priority, to be considered for funding, an applicant is required to:

- (1) Have conducted a needs assessment of how well its current physical education program is enabling the LEA to attain State standards for physical education;
- (2) Based on the results of that needs assessment, include in its application a description of how the proposed activities will help the LEA make progress toward meeting State standards for physical education; and
- (3) Set measurable goals and objectives for the proposed project and provide a description of how progress toward achieving goals will be measured annually.

Competitive Preference: Within the absolute priority in this notice, the Secretary gives preference to applications that meet the following competitive priority: Applicants that provide an assurance that at least one-half of the funding provided to them under this program will be used to benefit students who attend schools identified for improvement by their States, consistent with the requirements in Title I, Section 1116(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2) the Secretary awards 5 points to an application that meets this competitive priority. These points are in addition to any points the applicant earns under the selection criteria for the program.

Selection Criteria

The Secretary uses the following selection criteria to evaluate applications for new grants under this competition. The maximum score for all of these criteria is 100 points. The maximum score for each criterion or factor under that criterion is indicated in parentheses.

(1) *Need for project.* (20 points)

In determining the need for the proposed project, the following factors are considered:

(a) The magnitude of the need for the services to be provided or the activities to be carried out by the proposed project. (10 points)

(b) The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project, including the nature and magnitude of those gaps or weaknesses. (10 points)

(2) *Significance.* (20 points)

In determining the significance of the proposed project, the following factors are considered:

(a) The likelihood that the proposed project will result in system change or improvement. (10 points)

(b) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development or demonstration of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies. (5 points)

(c) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project, especially improvements in teaching and student achievement. (5 points)

(3) *Quality of the project design.* (45 points)

In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the following factors are considered:

(a) The extent to which the proposed activities constitute a coherent, sustained program of training in the field. (20 points)

(b) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice. (10 points)

(c) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable. (5 points)

(d) The extent to which the design of the proposed project is appropriate to, and will successfully address, the needs of the target population or other identified needs. (10 points)

(4) *Quality of the project evaluation.* (15 points)

In determining the quality of the evaluation, the following factors are considered:

(a) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project. (5 points)

(b) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible. (5 points)

(c) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes. (5 points)

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking

Under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553), the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on a proposed priority and selection criteria. However, in order to make timely grant awards in fiscal year (FY) 2001, the Secretary has decided to issue this notice without first publishing a proposed priority and selection criteria for public comment. This priority will apply to the FY 2001 grant competition only. The Secretary takes this action under section 437(d)(1) of the General Education Provisions Act.

Intergovernmental Review

This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. One of the objectives of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism. The Executive order relies on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

This document provides early notification of our specific plans and actions for this program.

Applicable Program Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The regulations in 34 CFR part 299.

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(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.215F, Physical Education for Progress Grant Program)

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 8351.

Dated: April 27, 2001.

Thomas M. Corwin,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.310A]

Parental Assistance Program; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001

Purpose of Program: The purpose of the Parental Assistance Program, 20 U.S.C. 5911, *et seq.*, is to (1) increase parents' knowledge of and confidence in child-rearing activities, such as teaching and nurturing their young children; (2) strengthen partnerships between parents and professionals in meeting the educational needs of children aged birth through five years and the working relationship between home and school; and (3) enhance the developmental progress of the children assisted under the program.

Eligible Applicants: Nonprofit organizations, and nonprofit organizations in consortia with local educational agencies (LEAs).

From the available funds, awards will initially be made to successful applicants from States in which the current Parental Assistance Program grants are expiring. Thus, in this competition, a grant will first be awarded to a successful applicant from each of the following twelve jurisdictions: Alabama, Arkansas, Guam, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, and South Carolina. The remaining funds will be used to award grants to successful applicants from any of the States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the outlying areas. As a result, all states will have at least one parental information and resource center; some States will have a second center funded.

An LEA, by itself, is not eligible for an award. However, an LEA may be part of a consortium with a nonprofit organization that applies. In those instances, the award would be made to the nonprofit organization, which would serve as the fiscal agent.

For purposes of this competition, nonprofit organizations do not include institutions of higher education, State educational agencies, LEAs, intermediate school districts, schools, government entities, or hospitals.

Applications Available: May 7, 2001.
Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: June 21, 2001.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: August 7, 2001.

Available Funds: \$12,000,000. Of this amount, approximately \$5.5 million will be used to award a grant to successful applicants from each of the twelve jurisdictions specifically identified above. The remaining amount will be used to award grants to successful applicants from any State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or the outlying areas. The Department will fund no more than two parent centers in any jurisdiction.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$200,000 to \$700,000.

Note: Due to anticipated variances in the scope of proposed activities and the number of program beneficiaries, the estimated range is very broad.

Estimated Number of Awards: 25. Of this number, a grant will be awarded to a successful applicant from each of the twelve jurisdictions identified above. The remaining thirteen awards will be made to successful applicants from any State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or the outlying areas.

Note: These estimates are projections for the guidance of potential applicants. The Department of Education is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 12 months.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 81, 82, and 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 80 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments) apply to an LEA that is part of a consortium receiving assistance.

(1) *Competitive Preference:* The Secretary has published elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register** a notice of final priorities, which establishes a competitive preference of up to 10 additional points in this competition.

Invitational Priority: Schools must provide a safe, disciplined environment conducive to learning. Projects funded under this program are in a unique position to incorporate in their services activities that assist parents, schools, and the community in implementing strategies to reduce youth violence. The Secretary invites applicants to include as part of their proposals activities to help parents recognize early warning signs that relate to violence and other troubling behaviors. However, under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1), an applicant that meets this invitational priority receives no competitive or absolute preference over applications that do not meet the priority.

Description of Program: The Parental Assistance Program supports parental information and resource centers that are designed to meet the unique training, information, and support needs of parents of children from birth through five years of age and of parents of children enrolled in elementary and secondary schools, particularly parents who are economically or educationally disadvantaged. Funded centers must serve both urban and rural areas, and use at least half of their grant award to serve areas with high concentrations of low-income families. Activities of the center must focus on serving parents of low-income, minority, and limited-English proficient parents. Each center must use part of its funds to support Parents as Teachers Programs or Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters. (Descriptions of these programs are in the application package.)

Applicants should be aware that the legislation at 20 U.S.C. 5912 establishes specific requirements for the organizational structure, operation, and activities of the parent centers. *To be eligible for funding, an applicant must meet these statutory requirements.* (A copy of the program legislation is included in the application package.)