1995.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

RIN 1810-ZA01

Family and Community Endeavor Schools Grant Program

AGENCY: Department of Education. **ACTION:** Notice of final definition, maximum award amount, and application evaluation criteria for fiscal year 1995.

SUMMARY: The Secretary announces the

final definition, maximum award amount, and application evaluation criteria for the Family and Community Endeavor Schools Grant Program for fiscal year 1995. The Secretary takes this action to comply with the statute, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, and to ensure appropriate criteria by which to evaluate applications under this Act. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** The definition, maximum grant award, and application evaluation criteria take effect on April 5,

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Family and Community Endeavor Schools Grant Program is to prevent crime and violent behavior by providing programs designed to improve the academic and social development of at-risk children and youth in eligible communities during and after school hours, evenings, on weekends, and during holidays and the summer months. This notice contains the definition of an eligible community. the maximum grant award, and final evaluation criteria by which applications for funds will be evaluated in fiscal year 1995.

Congress authorized the Family and Community Endeavor Schools Grant Program under Title III, Subtitle D of Public Law 103–322, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. This legislation mandates the implementation of two similar programs under Subtitle D: The Community Schools Youth Services and Supervision Grant Program (Community Schools) through the Department of Health and Human Services and the Family and Community Endeavor Schools Grant Program (FACES) through the Department of Education. As the needs

of children, youth, and communities can best be served by integrating the two programs, the Departments of Health and Human Services and Education have jointly developed an announcement of the availability of funds under these two programs.

Note: The definition, maximum grant award, and evaluation criteria outlined in this notice apply only to the FACES program operated through the Department of Education. A notice inviting applications for Community Schools, FACES, or a joint Community Schools/FACES program—all three programs—is published in the Department of Health and Human Services section of this issue of the Federal Register.

Authority for the FACES program is contained in 42 U.S.C. 13792 and 13793.

Definition

Eligible Community means—

- (1) An identifiable community or neighborhood with boundaries generally recognized by the residents in the community;
- (2) A community that is small enough to allow a concentration of resources and the potential for a measurable impact; and
- (3) A community that can demonstrate that it has a significant level of poverty, violent crime, and juvenile delinquency.

(Authority: 42 U.S.C. 13792, 13793)

Maximum Grant Award

The maximum award for a FACES grant is \$500,000. (The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 sets a minimum FACES grant award of \$250,000.)

Application Evaluation Criteria

The Secretary uses the following criteria to evaluate applications under this program:

- (a) Objectives and need for assistance (15 points). The Secretary reviews each application to determine the extent to which the project clearly specifies goals and service objectives; identifies a geographic area to be served; and demonstrates that the area has a significant level of poverty, violent crime, and juvenile delinquency. Applicants must—
- (1) Demonstrate a need for assistance and identify existing gaps in services, infrastructure, and opportunities that, if filled, will support the academic and social development of children and youth in the community and reduce crime and violence;
- (2) Identify measurable goals and objectives of the proposed project; and
- (3) Identify the geographic area to be served, describe the factors that make

the area an identifiable community or neighborhood, and demonstrate that the community is small enough to allow a concentration of resources that will result in an appreciable difference for children, youth, and the community.

(b) Approach (30 points). The Secretary reviews each application to determine the overall quality and appropriateness of its comprehensive plan to improve the academic and social development of at-risk children. The

applicant must—

(1) Describe the underlying child and youth development principles that will be employed as a framework for the program and discuss why this framework was chosen and how it will lead to the reduction of crime and violence;

(2) Identify the age groups to be served, explain the reasons for that choice, and indicate the period of time over which children and youth will receive services;

(3) Describe in detail how the applicant will achieve each of the goals and objectives identified in the application and identify any unusual

features of the program;

(4) Describe the continuum of services and activities that will be provided and indicate how these services will meet the academic, social, and developmental needs of the participants and reduce crime and violence;

(5) Identify the physical location of the program and demonstrate that the location and services are safe, secure, and accessible to children, youth, and families in terms of days and hours of operation and sensitivity to the population served:

(6) Provide information that demonstrates the extent to which the applicant has attempted to generate local support for the program from community leaders, a school district, local officials, and other organizations that the applicant determines to be

appropriate;

(7) Indicate the extent to which a community planning process has occurred and the extent of the planning effort that remains to be accomplished; include information on the process and timing for the phase-in of services and other program components; and information on how the following groups have been or will be included in the planning and implementation of the program—

(i) Children, youth, and family members;

- (ii) Local school officials and teachers;
- (iii) Business and civic leaders;
- (iv) Religious organizations;
- (v) Museums, cultural and arts organizations;