

(c) Includes an academic component that emphasizes high educational standards for the expelled students;

(d) Includes educational practices and strategies appropriate for the expelled students and, where appropriate, includes job training and work force readiness;

(e) Describes the educational services and activities to be provided, including the length of time services will be provided for each student and the number of hours per day for which the program will operate, and indicates how these services will meet the educational, behavioral, and social needs of expelled students;

(f) Details a plan for strong collaboration among schools, law enforcement agencies, CBOs, businesses, local service organizations, parent groups, and other agencies, including a description of how they will participate in the program at every stage; and

(g) Proposes a plan for the active recruitment of all expelled students within the project area and describes how the selection of students to be served would be made.

(3) *Staff Background* (20 Points).

The Secretary reviews each application to determine the skills, abilities and educational background of key personnel the applicant plans to use on the project. The Secretary considers—

(a) The extent to which skills, experience and educational background of key staff are relevant to the objectives of the project;

(b) The staff's ability to manage the project effectively, including the ability to provide educational services and coordinate with relevant community agencies;

(c) The appropriateness of the ratio of staff to students proposed for the project; and

(d) The extent to which time commitments are appropriate for the responsibilities each staff member will have.

(4) *Budget* (10 points).

The Secretary reviews each application to determine that the project's costs are reasonable in view of the anticipated results and benefits. The Secretary considers—

(a) The cost of the proposed project in terms of the number of youth to be served by the project, the student-to-staff ratio proposed, and the facilities in which the program will be offered; and

(b) Evidence that the applicant can and intends to generate the local financial and in-kind support, service, and commitments required for this project.

(5) *Evaluation of Project* (20 Points).

The Secretary determines the quality and thoroughness of the applicant's plan to evaluate the project. The Secretary considers—

(a) The extent to which the applicant describes a plan to evaluate the long- and short-term outcomes of the program (such as the percentage of students who are able to re-integrate into the regular school program and remain free of referrals for classroom disruption) and indicates in measurable terms appropriate indicators for assessment of program implementation and impact;

(b) The extent to which the applicant provides an evaluation plan for the project that includes collection of baseline data and identifies and tracks indicators that will show progress in program implementation and attainment of outcomes;

(c) Provides for implementation of the evaluation plan by an independent evaluator; and

(d) The extent to which the applicant develops a plan for long-term tracking of participants.

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking

In accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 533), it is the practice of the Department of Education to offer interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed priorities. However, in order to make timely grant awards in FY 1995, the Assistant Secretary, in accordance with section 437(d)(1) of the General Education Provisions Act, has decided to issue this final priority and selection criteria, which will apply only to the FY 1995 grant competition.

Executive Order 12866

This notice of final priority has been reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 12866. Under the terms of the order the Secretary has assessed the potential costs and benefits of this regulatory action.

The potential costs associated with the notice of final priority are those resulting from statutory requirements and those determined by the Secretary as necessary for administering this program effectively and efficiently.

In assessing the potential costs and benefits—both quantitative and qualitative—of this notice of final priority, the Secretary has determined that the benefits of the proposed final priority justify the costs.

The Secretary has also determined that this regulatory action does not unduly interfere with State, local and tribal governments in the exercise of their governmental functions.

Intergovernmental Review: This program is subject to the requirements of Executive Order 12372 and the regulation in 34 CFR Part 79. The objective of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism by relying on the processes developed by State and local government for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

In accordance with this order, this document is intended to provide early notification of the Department's specific plans and actions for this program.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7131.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 84.184b Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Federal Activities Grant Program)

Dated: May 26, 1995.

Thomas W. Payzant,

Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

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[CFDA No.: 84.184B]

Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Federal Activities Grant Program

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 1995.

Purpose of Program: To fund projects that establish, expand, or improve models for alternative education for students expelled from their regular education program.

Eligible Applicants: Public and private nonprofit organizations, including local educational agencies, institutions of higher education, and community based organizations.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: July 24, 1995.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: September 22, 1995.

Applications Available: June 21, 1995.

Available Funds: \$3,500,000.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$300,000-\$400,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$350,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 10.

Project Period: Up to 24 months.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 74, 75 (except 75.210), 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85 and 86.

Priority: The priority in the notice of final priority for this program, as published elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register**, applies to this competition.

Selection Criteria: The selection criteria in the notice of final priority for