preliminary needs assessment described in § 345.30(a)(4).

(b) A description of the following:

(1) The needs relating to technology-related assistance of individuals with disabilities (including individuals from underrepresented populations or rural populations) and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, and other appropriate individuals within the State.

(2) Any problems or gaps that remain with the development and implementation of a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance in the State.

(3) The strategies that the State will pursue during the grant period to remedy the problems or gaps with the development and implementation of a program.

(4) Outreach activities to be conducted by the State, including dissemination of information to eligible populations, with special attention to underrepresented populations and rural

populations.

(5)(i) The specific systems change and advocacy activities described in § 345.20 (including the activities described in § 345.30(b)(1)) carried out under the development grant received by the State, or, in the case of an application for a second extension grant, under an initial extension grant received by the State under this section, including—

(A) A description of systems change and advocacy activities that were undertaken to produce change on a permanent basis for individuals with

disabilities of all ages;

- (B) A description of activities undertaken to improve the involvement of individuals with disabilities in the program, including training and technical assistance efforts to improve individual access to assistive technology devices and assistive technology services as mandated under other laws and regulations in effect on the date of the application, and including actions undertaken to improve the participation of underrepresented populations and rural populations, such as outreach efforts: and
- (C) An evaluation of the impact and results of the activities described in paragraph (b)(5)(i) (A) and (B) of this section.
- (ii) The relationship of systems change and advocacy activities to the development and implementation of a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance.
- (iii) The progress made toward the development and implementation of a

- consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance.
- (6)(i) In the case of an application for an initial extension grant, a report on the hearing described in § 345.8(a)(2) or, in the case of an application for a second extension grant, a report on the hearing described in § 345.8(b)(2).
- (ii) A description of State actions, other than a hearing, designed to determine the degree of satisfaction of individuals with disabilities, and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, public service providers and private service providers, educators and related service providers, technology experts (including engineers), employers, and other appropriate individuals and entities with—
- (A) The degree of their ongoing involvement in the development and implementation of the consumerresponsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance;
- (B) The specific systems change and advocacy activities described in § 345.20 (including the activities described in § 345.30(b)(1)) carried out by the State under the development grant or the initial extension grant;
- (C) Progress made toward the development and implementation of a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance; and
- (D) The ability of the lead agency to carry out the activities described in § 345.6(b).
- (c) A summary of any comments received concerning the issues described in paragraph (b)(6) of this section and response of the State to such comments, solicited through a public hearing or through other means, from individuals affected by the consumerresponsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance, including—
- (1) Individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives;
- (2) Public service providers and private service providers;
- (3) Educators and related services personnel;
- (4) Technology experts (including engineers);
 - (5) Employers; and
- (6) Other appropriate individuals and entities.
- (d) An assurance that the State and any recipient of funds made available to the State under the Act will comply with guidelines established under

- section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d).
- (e)(1) A copy of the protection and advocacy contract or grant agreement entered into by the State;
- (2) Evidence of ongoing negotiations with an entity to provide protection and advocacy services, if the State has not yet entered into a grant or contract; or
- (3) A request that the Secretary enter into a grant agreement with an entity to provide protection and advocacy services, pursuant to § 345.30(b)(12)(ii).

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 2213 (d) and (e); secs. 103 (d) and (e) of the Act)

Subpart D—How Does the Secretary Make a Grant?

§ 345.40 How does the Secretary evaluate an application for a development grant under this program?

The Secretary evaluates each application using the selection criteria in 34 CFR 75.210.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 2212(a); sec. 102(a) of the Act)

§ 345.41 What other factors does the Secretary take into consideration in making development grant awards under this program?

In making development grants under this program, the Secretary takes into consideration, to the extent feasible—

- (a) Achieving a balance among States that have differing levels of development of consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide programs of technology-related assistance; and
- (b) Achieving a geographically equitable distribution of the grants.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 2212(c); sec. 102(c) of the Act)

§ 345.42 What is the review process for an application for an extension grant?

- (a) The Secretary may award an initial extension grant to any State that—
- (1) Provides the evidence described in § 345.6(b) and makes the demonstration described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section;
- (2) Demonstrates that the State has made significant progress, and has carried out systems change and advocacy activities that have resulted in significant progress, toward the development and implementation of a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance, consistent with this part; and
- (3) Holds a public hearing in the third year of a program carried out under a development grant, after providing appropriate and sufficient notice to allow interested groups and organizations and all segments of the public an opportunity to comment on the program.