Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian tribes.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations, 34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR Part 307.

Priorities: Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) and 34 CFR 307, the Secretary gives an absolute preference to applications that meet the following priorities. The Secretary funds under these competitions only applications that meet one of these absolute priorities:

(Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice, except as otherwise provided by statute.)

Absolute Priority 1—Technical Assistance for Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind (84.025A). (a) This priority supports one project that provides technical assistance to State and Multi-State Projects funded under 34 CFR 307.11 of the Services for Children with Deaf-Blindness Program, lead agencies under part H of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and State educational agencies. This priority also includes technical assistance to State educational agencies in making available to adolescents and young adults with deaf-blindness, programs and services to facilitate their transition from education to employment and other services such as vocational, independent living, and other postsecondary services.

(b) A grantee must provide the services required by 34 CFR 307.12 and 307.13.

The Secretary invites applications that use a consortia approach in conducting the activities authorized under this priority.

Project Period: 60 months. Absolute Priority 2—Demonstration Projects for Children with Deaf-Blindness (84.025D). This priority supports projects that develop, improve, or demonstrate new or existing methods, approaches, or techniques that contribute to the adjustment, early intervention, and education of children who are deaf-blind.

Invitational Priority: Within Absolute Priority 2 the Secretary is particularly interested in applications that meet the following invitational priority. However, under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) an application that meets this invitational priority does not receive competitive or absolute preference over other applications: Projects that—

(a) Improve instructional techniques that enhance communication skills, including use of augmentative devices and assistive technology;

(b) Improve social skills, including social interaction;

- (c) Improve independent living skills, including selfdetermination, mobility, and other community living skills;
- (d) Improve recreation and leisure skills; or
- (e) Improve more traditional skills, including academic achievement and transition and employment skills.

Project Period: 36 months. Absolute Priority 3—National Clearinghouse for Children Who Are Deaf-Blind (84.025U). This priority supports a national clearinghouse for children who are deaf-blind. The clearinghouse will—

- (a) Identify, coordinate, and disseminate information on deaf-blindness, emphasizing information concerning practices developed through research, development, or demonstration activities that have produced statistical or narrative data establishing their effectiveness with children who are deaf-blind including—
- (1) Special educational and early intervention programs, services, and resources;
- (2) Related medical, health, social, and recreational services;
- (3) The nature of deaf-blindness and its early intervention, educational, and employment implications;
- (4) Legal issues affecting persons with disabilities; and
- (5) Information on available services and programs in postsecondary education for adolescents and young adults with deaf-blindness;
- (b) Interact with educators, professional groups, and parents to identify areas for programming, materials development, training, and expansion of specific services;

(c) Maintain a computerized data base on local, regional, and national resources; and

(d) Respond to information requests from professionals, parents, and members of the public.

Project Period: 36 months. For Applications and General Information Contact: Robin Buckler, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue SW., room 4617, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202–2732. Telephone: (202) 205– 9844.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number at (202) 205–8169.

For Technical Information Contact: Charles Freeman, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW., room 4617, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202–2644. Telephone: (202) 205–8165.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number at (202) 205–8169.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1422.

84.029D, E, K, and M Training Personnel for the Education of Individuals with Disabilities—Grants for Personnel Training and Parent Training and Information Centers

Purpose of Program: (a) The purpose of Grants for Personnel Training is to increase the quantity and improve the quality of personnel available to serve infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities. (b) The purpose of Parent Training and Information Centers is to enable parents to work more fully and effectively with professionals in meeting the needs of infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities.

Eligible Applicants:

Under Absolute Priorities 1 (Preparation of Leadership Personnel) and 2 (Minority Institutions): Institutions of higher education; and appropriate nonprofit agencies.

Under Absolute Priority 3 (Special Projects): Institutions of higher education; State agencies; and other appropriate nonprofit agencies.

Under Absolute Priority 4 (Parent Training and Information Centers): parent organizations, as defined in 34 CFR 316.5(c).

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 76, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR parts 316 and 318.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

Priorities: Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), 34 CFR 316, and 34 CFR 318, the Secretary gives an absolute preference to applications that meet the following priorities. The Secretary funds under these competitions only those applications that meet any one of these absolute priorities:

(Note: If an applicant wishes to apply under more than one of these absolute priorities, the applicant must submit a separate application under each affected priority.)

Absolute Priority 1—Preparation of Leadership Personnel (84.029D). This priority supports projects designed to provide preservice professional preparation of leadership personnel in