

States' Protection and Advocacy Systems as potential collaborators for the DBTACs.

Discussion: The Secretary believes that the types of collaborative relationships suggested by both commenters could be valuable and expects the DBTACs to work with all types of entities with rights and responsibilities under the ADA. However, the Secretary prefers to provide applicants with the discretion to propose those collaborative relationships that the applicant believes would be appropriate for the States in their region.

Changes: None.

Comment: One commenter recommended focusing the efforts of the DBTAC's capacity-building activities on the business community.

Discussion: The capacity-building requirement in the priority refers to "organizations at the State and local level." The Secretary expects the DBTACs to undertake capacity-building with a variety of organizations, including business organizations. The Secretary declines to direct the DBTACs to focus its capacity-building activities on only one community.

Changes: None.

Comment: One commenter recommended changing the name of the DBTACs because it is "awkward and not easy to use."

Discussion: The Secretary declines to change the name of the DBTAC in order to take advantage of the name recognition that the DBTACs have developed.

Changes: None.

Comment: One commenter recommended revising the priority to indicate that the DBTACs provide referrals to individuals and entities with responsibilities and rights under the ADA.

Discussion: The Secretary points out that, in the Background section, referrals are included among examples of the technical assistance services that the DBTACs provide, along with consultation and facility surveys. The Secretary expects the DBTACs to provide a wide range of technical assistance services including those in the Background section as well as any others that an applicant may propose.

Changes: None.

Comment: One commenter pointed out that, while the Background section refers to the capacity-building support that the DBTACs provide to Centers for Independent Living (CILs), this support is not specified in the priority. A second commenter recommended requiring the DBTACs to interact with State's Independent Living Councils "and/or any other associations that the CILs may have formed."

Discussion: The Secretary agrees that the priority should specify that CILs are to be included in the DBTACs capacity-building activities. However, the Secretary declines to provide further specification regarding the DBTACs' relationships with various associations of CILs.

Changes: Centers for Independent Living have been included in the requirement addressing capacity-building.

Comment: One commenter recommended requiring the DBTACs to build local capacity to implement mediation services to resolve ADA complaints.

Discussion: The priority authorizes the DBTACs to increase the capacity of organizations at the State and local level to provide technical assistance, disseminate information, provide training, and promote awareness of the ADA. The Secretary believes that an applicant could propose to build local capacity to implement mediation services to resolve ADA complaints under the priority. However, the Secretary cautions that conflict resolution through mediation is a specialized field that requires a great deal of expertise. Properly developing local capacity to implement mediation services to resolve ADA complaints would require a significant financial commitment. The Secretary declines to impose this requirement.

Changes: None.

Comment: One commenter suggested that it would be more efficient to produce a national DBTAC newsletter rather than authorizing the DBTACs to produce regional newsletters.

Discussion: NIDRR's ADA Coordination contractor will provide all of the DBTACs with core information about developments in case law and policy to ensure that the production of newsletters will be carried out as economically as possible. This will enable each DBTAC to continue to address issues and events that are unique to its region through the issuance of regional newsletters.

Changes: None.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.133D]

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research; Notice Inviting Applications Under the Knowledge Dissemination and Utilization Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 1996

Purpose of Program: The Knowledge Dissemination and Utilization Program is designed to support activities that will ensure that rehabilitation knowledge generated from projects and centers funded by NIDRR and from other sources is fully utilized to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families. The final priority for this award, entitled "Regional Disability and Business Technical Assistance Centers," is published in this issue of the Federal Register. Potential applicants should consult the statement of the final priority published in this issue to ascertain the substantive requirements for their application.

This notice supports the National Education Goal that calls for all Americans to possess the knowledge

and skills necessary to compete in a global economy and exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

Eligible Applicants: Parties eligible to apply for grants under this program are public and private nonprofit and for-profit agencies and organizations, including institutions of higher education and Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

Applications Available: December 12, 1995.

Application Deadline: February 12, 1996.

Estimated Range of Awards:

Region I: \$500,000-525,000
Region II: \$550,000-600,000
Region III: \$550,000-600,000
Region IV: \$650,000-700,000
Region V: \$650,000-700,000
Region VI: \$550,000-600,000
Region VII: \$500,000-525,000
Region VIII: \$500,000-525,000
Region IX: \$600,000-650,000
Region X: \$500,000-525,000

Estimated Number of Awards: 10 (1 per Department of Education Region).

Note: The estimates of funding levels and awards in this notice do not bind the Department of Education to a specific level of funding or number of grants.

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), 34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 78, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86; (b) the regulations for this program in 34 CFR Parts 350 (amended April 5, 1995 (60 FR 17426)), and 355 (amended September 22, 1993 (58 FR 49419)); and the notice of final priority published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register.

For Further Information Contact: In order to obtain an application package, contact William H. Whalen, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue SW., Switzer Building, Room 3411, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 205-9141. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number at (202) 205-8887.

Information about the Department's funding opportunities, including copies of application notices for discretionary grant competitions, can be viewed on the Department's electronic bulletin board (ED Board), telephone (202) 260-9950; or on the Internet Gopher Server at GOPHER.ED.GOV (under Announcements, Bulletins, and Press Releases). However, the official application notice for a discretionary grant competition is the notice published in the Federal Register.

Program Authority: 29 U.S.C. 761a and 762.