

From: Corr, Gregg [Gregg.Corr@ed.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 04:49 PM Eastern Standard Time
To:
Subject: Supplementary Awards for FY14 Allocations

Dear SEA Director:

In September, Congress passed a short-term continuing resolution (CR) that provided funding for a number of Federal programs through December 11, 2014. The bill included an across-the-board reduction of 0.0554 percent that affected the advance portion of fiscal year 2014 funds for four major Department of Education programs that was scheduled to become available on October 1, 2014. Consequently, the October 1 allocations for these programs—Title I LEA Grants, Title II State Grants, Career and Technical Education State Grants, and IDEA Part B Grants to States—were slightly reduced.

In December, Congress passed a full-year appropriations bill covering all of fiscal year 2015. This bill restored the advance portion of fiscal year 2014 funds previously cut by the CR. Therefore, each State that received an allocation on October 1st will receive a small supplementary award. Please note that the Bureau of Indian Education, the outlying areas, and the freely associated states did not have a reduction in their awards, and therefore, will not receive supplementary awards. Supplementary funds are available for the same time period as the October 1, 2014 allocations. States and local educational agencies (LEAs) have until September 30, 2016, to obligate these funds. States must also spend or subgrant these funds in accordance with the IDEA.

Under the IDEA, States are allowed to reserve a portion of their allocations for allowable State-level activities and must flow-through the funds not reserved at the State level to their LEAs. The same restrictions and flexibilities apply to these funds. States that have not yet reserved the maximum amount permitted under the IDEA for State-level activities may reserve additional funds from their supplemental award. A State is not required to submit a revised budget for State-level activities to the Department unless the dollar amount that will be used for one of the State-level activities changes by more than 10 percent of the total amount of funds the State reported it would reserve for State-level activities in its original Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014 application. We note that reserving additional funds at the State level may be an attractive option for States that have not reserved the maximum amount permitted under the IDEA and wish to avoid making additional small awards to LEAs.

States that decide to subgrant the supplementary award to LEAs, or have already reserved the maximum amount allowed for State-level activities, must follow the statutory and regulatory requirements of section 611(f) of the IDEA and 34 CFR §300.705. This means States would be required to recalculate subgrant allocations made to LEAs from the FY 2014 appropriation using the new State allocation totals.

All of the terms and conditions of a State's FFY 2014 IDEA Part B grant award also apply to this supplemental grant award, including any special conditions that may have been placed on a State's FFY 2014 Part B grant award from funds that became available for obligation to States on July 1, 2014.

States or entities that do not receive an October 1 allocation remain unaffected, as they did not receive a reduction in funding pursuant to the CR.

For your information, I have attached a revised allocation table reflecting the increase in funding, and a second table, which includes the amount of the supplementary awards. These tables also include the maximum amount States may reserve for State level activities. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Gregg

Gregory R. Corr, Ed.D.
Division Director
Monitoring and State Improvement Planning
Office of Special Education Programs
U.S. Department of Education
550 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20202
202-245-7309
gregg.corr@ed.gov