

standard forms included in the application package.

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7541-7546.

Dated: June 30, 2003.

Eugene W. Hickok,

Under Secretary of Education.

[FR Doc. 03-16999 Filed 7-3-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.362A]

Native Hawaiian Education Program

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2003.

Purpose of the Program: The purpose of the Native Hawaiian Education program, authorized under Part B of Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Pub. L. 107-110, is to support innovative projects that provide supplemental services that address the educational needs of Native Hawaiian children and adults.

Eligible Applicants: Native Hawaiian educational organizations; Native-Hawaiian community-based organizations; and public and private nonprofit organizations, agencies, and institutions with experience in developing or operating Native Hawaiian programs or programs of instructions in the Native Hawaiian language; or consortia thereof.

Applications Available: July 7, 2003.

Deadline for Transmittal of

Applications: August 6, 2003.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: September 5, 2003.

Estimated Available Funds: \$13 million. Of this amount, we will award approximately \$5.1 million under absolute priority 1 (family-based education centers); approximately \$4.5 million under absolute priority 2 (curriculum and professional development); approximately \$724,000 under absolute priority 3 (gifted and talented); approximately \$1.7 million under absolute priority 4 (community-based learning centers); approximately \$500,000 under absolute priority 5 (early childhood education) and approximately \$500,000 under absolute priority 6 (construction/renovation).

Estimated Number of Awards: 8 under absolute priority 1; 9 under absolute priority 2; 1 under absolute priority 3; 3 under absolute priority 4; 1 under absolute priority 5; and 1 under absolute priority 6.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$637,500 under absolute priority 1; \$500,000 under absolute priority 2; \$724,000 under absolute priority 3; \$567,000 under absolute priority 4; \$500,000 under absolute priority 5; and \$500,000 under absolute priority 6.

Note: These estimates are projections for the guidance of potential applicants. The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 86, 97, 98, and 99.

Absolute Priorities: In the conference report accompanying the Department's FY 2003 Appropriations Act, Congress urged the Department to support Native Hawaiian education activities in certain specifically identified areas. In response to the conference report, the Secretary establishes the following separate absolute priorities under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) and will fund under this competition only applicants that meet one of these priorities:

Absolute Priority 1—Family-Based Education Centers—The applicant will use the funds received under this competition to support the operation of a family-based education center that provides such services as—

(a) Programs for Native Hawaiian parents and their infants from the prenatal period of the infants through age three;

(b) Preschool programs for Native Hawaiians; and

(c) Research on, and development and assessment of, family-based, early childhood, and preschool programs for Native Hawaiians.

Absolute Priority 2—Curriculum and Professional Development—The

applicant will use the funds received under this competition to—

(a) Develop academic and vocational curricula to address the needs of Native Hawaiian children and adults, including curriculum materials in the Hawaiian language and mathematics and science curricula that incorporate Native Hawaiian tradition and culture; or

(b) Support professional development activities for educators, including—

(i) The development of programs to prepare prospective teachers to address the unique needs of Native Hawaiian students within the context of Native Hawaiian culture, language, and traditions;

(ii) In-service programs to improve the ability of teachers who teach in schools with concentrations of Native Hawaiian students to meet the unique needs of those students; and

(iii) The recruitment and preparation of Native Hawaiians, and other individuals who live in communities with a high concentration of Native Hawaiians, to become teachers.

Absolute Priority 3—Gifted and Talented—The applicant will use the funds received under this competition to support activities that address the special needs of Native Hawaiian students who are gifted and talented, including—

(a) Educational, psychological, and developmental activities designed to assist in the educational progress of those students; and

(b) Activities that involve the parents of those students in a manner designed to assist in the students' educational progress.

Absolute Priority 4—Community-Based Learning Centers—The applicant will use the funds received under this competition to support the operation of a community-based learning center that addresses the needs of Native Hawaiian families and communities through the coordination of public and private programs and services, including—

(a) Preschool programs;

(b) After-school programs;

(c) Vocational and adult education programs; and

(d) Programs that recognize and support the unique cultural and educational needs of Native Hawaiian children and incorporate appropriately qualified Native Hawaiian elders and seniors.

Absolute Priority 5—Early Childhood Education—The applicant will use the funds received under this competition for the development and maintenance of a Native Hawaiian early education and care system to provide a continuum of services for Native Hawaiian children

from the prenatal period of the children through age five.

Absolute Priority 6—School Construction and Renovation—The applicant will use the funds received under this competition for the construction, renovation and modernization of any elementary school, secondary school, or structure related to an elementary school or secondary school, that is run by the Department of Education of the State of Hawaii and that serves a predominantly Native Hawaiian student body.

Competitive Preference: The legislation at 20 U.S.C. 7515(a)(2) establishes specific statutory priorities. In response to these statutory priorities, the Secretary establishes a competitive preference under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2) for this competition and will award an applicant, in addition to any points that an applicant earns under the selection criteria, five points if it proposes a project that is designed to address one or more of the following:

(a) Beginning reading and literacy among students in kindergarten through third grade;

(b) The needs of at-risk children and youth;

(c) Needs in fields or disciplines in which Native Hawaiians are underemployed; and

(d) The use of the Hawaiian language in instruction.

An applicant that addresses one or more of these areas will receive a total of five additional points in the competition. If an applicant addresses more than one of the four areas of this competitive preference, it will receive a total of five additional competitive preference points, rather than five points for each of the areas addressed.

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking: It is the Secretary's practice, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553), to offer interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed rules that are not taken directly from statute. Ordinarily, this practice would have applied to the priorities and requirements in this notice. Section 437(d)(2) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA), however, exempts from this requirement those rules where it would cause extreme hardship to the intended beneficiaries of the program that would be affected by those regulations. In accordance with section 437(d)(2) of GEPA, the Secretary has decided to forgo public comment with respect to the rules in this grant competition in order to ensure timely and high-quality awards. These rules will apply only to the FY 2003 grant competition.

For Applications and Information Contact: Mrs. Lynn Thomas, (202) 260-1541, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., FOB6, Room 3C124, Mail Stop 6140, Washington, DC 20202. The e-mail address for Mrs. Thomas is: lynn.thomas@ed.gov.

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7515-7517.

Dated: June 30, 2003.

Eugene W. Hickok,

Under Secretary of Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA 84.186C]

Safe and Drug-Free Schools Programs for Native Hawaiians Grant Competition

AGENCY: Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice inviting applications for new awards using fiscal year (FY) 2002

funds, final priority, definitions, and selection criteria.

Purpose of Program: The purpose of this program is to make financial assistance available to organizations primarily serving and representing Native Hawaiians to plan, conduct, and administer programs designed to prevent violence in and around schools and prevent the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs.

Eligible Applicants: Organizations primarily serving and representing Native Hawaiians for the benefit of Native Hawaiian youth.

Applications Available: July 7, 2003.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: August 15, 2003.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: September 14, 2003.

Estimated Available Funds: \$944,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 1 to 3.

Estimated Size of Awards: \$314,666-\$944,000 (per project year).

Average Size of Awards: \$472,000.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Projects will be funded for one year, with options for four additional years contingent upon substantial progress.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; and (b) the final priority, selection criteria and definition for this grant competition published in this notice.

Definition: For the purposes of this competition, the term "*Native Hawaiian*" means any individual any of whose ancestors were natives, prior to 1778, of the area that now comprises the State of Hawaii.

General: Contingent upon the availability of FY 2003 and FY 2004 funds, we may make additional awards under these appropriations from the rank-ordered list of unfunded applications from this competition.

Other Requirements

Principles of Effectiveness: Programs implemented with funds awarded under this competition must meet the requirements of the Principles of Effectiveness authorized in section 4115(a) of the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act.

Participation by Private School Children and Teachers: Local educational agencies (LEAs) that receive a grant are required to provide for the equitable participation of eligible private school children and their teachers or other educational personnel.