



TO: Roger Breed, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Gary M. Sherman/Carol McClain, Office of Special Education

SUBJECT: Continue contracting for assistance with professional development and child find activities as relates to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B (Sect. 619) and Part C (Infants/Toddlers)

Proposed Board Action:

Grant the Commissioner authority to continue contracting for assistance with professional development and child find activities as relates to IDEA Part B (Section 619) and Part C (Infants/Toddlers)

Background Information:

The Office of Special Education intends to continue to contract for assistance with planning and implementing professional development and child find activities focused on underserved infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The contractor will provide training and consultation/coaching on early childhood topics of strategic planning for services to young children. With the availability of the one-time IDEA ARRA Part C funding, a statewide needs assessment was conducted to identify areas where additional support could improve services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The groups that were identified as needing expanded services included families who are homeless, migrant, incarcerated, in treatment programs, non-English speakers, Native American, and African American. The Part C ARRA funded activities have proven to be successful and warrant continuation with regular Part C funds. Priority activities to be continued include but are not limited to increased efforts in identifying infants and toddlers with disabilities, leadership training for parents, and training in providing home-based services in culturally diverse settings.

Estimated Cost:

Contractor: Cindy Hankey
Contract Amount: \$49,900 (includes travel/other related expenses)
Est. Contract Dates: 10/1/11 to 9/30/12
Funding Source: IDEA Part C

Supporting Documentation Included:

None

For Additional Information on this item:

Call Gary Sherman (402) 471-2471 or e-mail gary.sherman@nebraska.gov; or Carol McClain (402) 471-2471 or e-mail carol.mcclain@nebraska.gov