

June 21, 2002

MEMORANDUM

TO: Institutions of Higher Education, Intermediate and Local School District Directors of Special Education, Public School Academies, Public and Private Agencies/Companies/Corporations, For Profit and Not-for-Profit Professional Organizations, and Other Interested Parties

FROM: Jacquelyn J. Thompson, Ph.D., Director
Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services

SUBJECT: Notice of Request for Proposal for a State Competitive Project:
Public Awareness, Information, and Referral

The State Board of Education has approved criteria for a new state categorical project titled "Public Awareness, Information, and Referral," under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Purpose: This project will provide support of the federally required child find, public awareness, and central directory components of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Families and other primary referral sources who are in contact with children who may benefit from early intervention and/or special education services must have access to information and materials regarding the availability of services in Michigan. A coordinated public awareness effort at both the state and local levels is designed to provide information on child development and IDEA regulations for service providers, parents, and the general public. Thus, an ongoing public awareness campaign, including the continued development and dissemination of informational materials is a central part of IDEA.

Funding: The total amount of the Project is up to \$290,000 per year.

Proposal Due: The proposals are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 23, 2002.

Project Duration: The project duration is October 1, 2002 (upon award) through September 30, 2003 for the initial funding period and is contingent upon the Superintendent's approval. Based on satisfactory performance, and availability of federal funds, the project and annual funding may continue for up to three years.

Eligibility: Institutions of Higher Education, Intermediate and Local School District Directors of Special Education, Public School Academies, Public and Private Agencies/Companies/Corporations, For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Professional Organizations, and Other Interested Parties.

Application: To receive a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for this Project, please contact Ms. Jan Bunge at (517) 373-6335 or Lou Anne Houchlei at (517) 241-1521.

If you have any questions regarding competitive bid procedures or questions regarding reimbursable items, please contact Ms. Carol Regnier at (517) 373-2949. If your questions pertain to the Project's purpose or intent, please contact the project manager listed in the RFP.

JJT:VW:jb

OSE/EIS-02-11