



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

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SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

April 17, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Intermediate school districts, local education agencies, including public school academies, institutions of higher education, professional organizations, private profit and non-profit organizations, including parent and advocacy organizations and other interested parties

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

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of Request for Proposal for a Mandated Activities Project: Dispute Resolution Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004)

The State Board of Education has approved criteria for a mandated activities project titled, "Dispute Resolution Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004)."

Purpose: To establish and maintain a statewide project that will provide an alternative form of conflict resolution related to due process hearings and complaints. The project will provide a system for conducting dispute resolutions which includes, but is not limited to: training mediators, processing requests for mediation, collecting data, developing and maintaining a manual of procedures and publications, and evaluating program effectiveness. The project will provide training to school district personnel and parents in communication, negotiating, and conflict resolution. The project will also provide district personnel and parent training and technical assistance in Individualized Education Program (IEP)/Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) facilitation.

Funding: The total amount of the project is up to \$350,000 per year.

OSE/EIS-06-06

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Memorandum
Page 2
April 17, 2006

Proposal Due: The proposals will be due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 2, 2006.

Project Duration: The project duration is anticipated to be October 1, 2006, or upon award, through September 30, 2007 for the initial funding period and is contingent upon the Superintendent's approval. Funding may continue for up to five years, based on satisfactory performance and availability of federal funds.

Eligibility: Intermediate school districts, local education agencies, including public school academies, institutions of higher education, professional organizations, private profit and non-profit organizations, including parent and advocacy organizations, and others with a demonstrated experience in providing the services requested.

Application: To receive a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for this project, please contact Ms. Linda Price at (517) 241-4517 prior to the due date, or access our website at: <http://www.michigan.gov/mde>
Click on: (1) Programs & Offices; (2) Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services; (3) Finance Management under the Grants section.

If you have any questions regarding the competitive bid procedures or process, please contact John Andrejack at (517) 373-2949. If your questions pertain to the project's purpose or intent, please contact the grant manager listed in the RFP.

JJT:bh