




THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY,
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DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH
DISABILITIES
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June 2008

To: Local Educational Agencies (LEAs)
From: Rebecca H. Cort 
Subject: Important Information Regarding 2008-2009 Individuals with Disabilities
Education Act (IDEA) Part B Section 611, Section 619 project funds

This is to inform you that the 2008-2009 *Applications for Federal Funding for the Education of Students with Disabilities* for the section 611/section 619 projects and associated application materials are now available at the following web address: <http://www.vesid.nysed.gov/spedfin/>. You may now begin to prepare your IDEA budgets/application packets for those federal funds. Please note that approved special education providers of *related services only* to preschool students with disabilities placed by a school district's committee on preschool special education continue to be eligible to receive one-third of the calculated per-student vendor funding amounts for the section 611 and section 619 sub grant projects with one exception. This process is further explained in Michael C. Plotzker's June 2008 memorandum to LEAs located at the web site indicated above.

The due date for submission of the section 611/section 619 application packet is **August 31, 2008**. This due date will enable the State Education Department (SED) to review and approve, in a timely manner, applications which are fully completed and submitted on time. However, districts are encouraged to submit each application packet earlier, if possible. **Please note:** in accordance with federal rules, LEAs may not obligate funds for a proposed federal grant project until it has been received by SED in a substantially approvable form.

The applicant **must** use project year funds for section 611 and section 619 projects for a **10 or 12-month project operation period** beginning **no earlier** than **September 1** and ending **no later** than **August 31** of the following year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael C. Plotzker, Coordinator of the Central Office Administrative Support Services Team (COASST) at (518) 486-4734 or Robert P. Waxman of his staff at (518) 473-6108.

We appreciate your cooperation in this important process.

Enclosures

