



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

OCT 25 2004

Honorable Lui Tuitele
Director of Education
American Samoa Department of Education
P.O. Box 186
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Dear Director Tuitele:

We have determined that American Samoa's Eligibility Documents for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2004, under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), can be approved. Our determination that American Samoa is eligible for approval is based upon American Samoa's Eligibility Documents for FFY 2004 under Part B, submitted by American Samoa to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) on March 31, 2004.

Please note that as part of your Eligibility Documents Submission for FFY 2004, American Samoa has made an assurance, under 34 CFR §80.11(c), that it will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding. Any changes made by American Samoa after OSEP approval, to information that is part of American Samoa's eligibility documentation, must meet the public participation requirements of IDEA and must be approved by OSEP before implementation.

American Samoa's FFY 2004 IDEA Part B grant award is being released subject to special conditions identified in the U.S. Department of Education's September 29, 2004 letter to American Samoa regarding the Single Audit Act (copy enclosed) that are being imposed pursuant to the Department's authority in 34 CFR §80.12. The special conditions associated with the high-risk designation that remain in effect while American Samoa continues to address the Department's remaining fiscal and programmatic concerns include the following: (1) the timely completion of single audits, relying upon the expertise of an Oversight Agent (the Territorial Audit Office); (2) submission of detailed quarterly reports; and (3) monthly posting of budget and expenditure information on an Internet website available to the public.

Enclosed is a grant award for funds currently available under the Department of Education FFY 2004 Appropriations Act for the Part B Section 611 (Grants to States) program. These funds are for use primarily in school year 2004-2005 and are available for obligation by States from July 1, 2004 through September 30, 2006.

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Enclosure A provides a short description of how Section 611 funds were allocated and how those funds can be used. In addition, Table I in Enclosure A shows funding levels for distribution of Section 611 funds.

We appreciate your ongoing commitment to the provision of quality educational services to children with disabilities.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Smith Lee
Director
Office of Special Education Programs

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Moeolo Va'atausili