

**Topical Heading**  
Reading

**Program Title**

# Even Start

**Also Known as**

Even Start Family Literacy Program; William F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy Program

**CFDA # (or ED #)**

84.213

**Administering Office**

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE)

**Who May Apply (by category)**

State Education Agencies (SEAs)

**Who May Apply (specifically)**

Awards are made to SEAs. SEAs make competitive subgrants to partnerships between local education agencies (LEAs) and other public and private nonprofit organizations and agencies.

**Type of Assistance (by category)**

Formula Grants

**Appropriations**

Fiscal Year 2005 \$225,094,720

Fiscal Year 2006 \$99,000,000

Fiscal Year 2007 \$82,282,760

Note: Funds are awarded to SEAs on the basis of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*, Title I, Part A, formula. SEAs award subgrants to local partnerships on a competitive basis. The appropriation amounts shown above include funds for the state grants, as well as for Even Start grants to the outlying areas (American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) and for the set-asides for the Migrant Education Program—Even Start (# 84.214A) and Even Start Family Literacy Program Grants for Indian Tribes and Tribal Organizations (# 84.258), each shown separately under topical headings "Migrant Education" and "Reading," respectively. The statute also authorizes a grant to a women's prison and, in years in which the appropriation increases over the previous year, the statute also authorizes \$1 million for competitive grants to states for Even Start Statewide Family Literacy Initiatives.

**Fiscal Year 2007 Awards Information**

*Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.*

Number of New Awards Anticipated (for states and outlying areas): 56

Average New Award: \$1,358,867

Range of New Awards: \$41,418–\$9,377,969

**Legislative Citation**

*Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965*, as amended, Title I, Part B, Subpart 3; 20 U.S.C. 6381–6381k

**Program Regulations**

*EDGAR*; 34 *CFR* 74, 75, 76, 77, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99

**Program Description**

This program offers grants to support local family literacy projects that integrate early childhood education, adult literacy (adult basic and secondary-level education and instruction for limited English proficient [LEP] individuals), parenting education, and interactive parent and child literacy activities for low-income families with parents who are eligible for services under the *Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA)* and their children from birth through age 7. Teen parents and their children from birth through age 7 also are eligible. All participating families must be those most in need of program services.

Five percent of the annual appropriation is set aside for family literacy grants for migratory worker families, the outlying areas, and Indian tribes and tribal organizations. In addition, the U.S. Department of Education must

award one project located in a women's prison. Up to 3 percent is reserved for national evaluation and technical assistance. The remaining federal funds are allocated by formula to SEAs, based on their relative shares of Title I, Part A, funds. SEAs make competitive subgrants to partnerships of LEAs and other organizations and agencies, giving priority to proposals that primarily target areas with large numbers of most-in-need families or to projects located in empowerment zones or enterprise communities. The statute also requires that subgrants be equitably distributed among urban and rural areas and that local projects assume an increasing share of program costs each year. The increasing share of the program expenses ranges from 10 percent in the first year to 40 percent in the fourth year. Cost sharing for years five through eight is 50 percent, and, after the eighth year of federal Even Start funding, the cost share is at least 65 percent.

### **Types of Projects**

Projects provide for early childhood education, adult literacy (adult basic and secondary-level education and instruction for English language learners), parenting education, and interactive parent-child literacy activities for participating families, often through other entities providing these services, such as government agencies, colleges and universities, public schools, Head Start programs, and other public and private community-based groups.

Projects operate year-round and provide staff training and support services, such as child care and transportation, when unavailable from other sources, to enable participation in core education activities.

### **Education Level (by category)**

Adult, Early Childhood, Pre-K

### **Subject Index**

Adult Literacy, Children, Early Childhood Education, Family Involvement, Literacy, Parent Child Relationship, Parent Participation, Reading

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### **Links to Related Web Sites**

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/evenstartformula/index.html>