

## Foreign Language Assistance (CFDA No. 84.293; 84.294)

### I. Legislation

Title VII, Part B of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. 7511) (expires September 30, 1999).

### II. Funding History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
1991	\$ 4,880,000
1992	10,000,000
1993	10,912,000
1994	10,912,000
1995	10,912,000
1996	10,092,000 <u>1/</u>

1/ Appropriated in the Bilingual and Immigrant Education Account.

### III. Analysis of Program Performance

#### A. Goals and Objectives

The Foreign Language Assistance Program provides grants, on a competitive basis, to state education agencies (SEAs) or local education agencies (LEAs) to pay the federal share of the cost of innovative model programs providing for the establishment, improvement, or expansion of foreign language study for elementary and secondary school students.

#### B. Strategies to Achieve the Goals

SEAs are eligible to apply for funds under this program. In awarding grants under this program to LEAs, the Secretary supports projects that show the promise of being continued beyond their project period, demonstrate approaches that can be disseminated and duplicated in other local education agencies, and may include a professional development component. In awarding grants under this program to SEAs, the Secretary supports projects that promote systemic approaches to improving foreign language learning in the state.

In recent years, competitive priority has been given, for both SEAs and LEAs, to applicants that propose to establish, improve, or expand foreign language learning in the elementary grades and that focus on any of the following languages: Japanese, Chinese, Russian, Arabic, or Korean. The Department made 64 new awards to applicants proposing programs that included those languages in 1996.

The federal share for each project is established at 50 percent, but the Secretary may waive this requirement for any local education agency that the Secretary determines does not have adequate resources to pay the nonfederal share.

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#### **IV. Planned Studies**

None.

#### **V. Sources of Information**

Program files.

#### **VI. Contacts for Further Information**

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