

(Pub. L. 106-402, title III, §302, Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1734.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 1141 of title 20, referred to in par. (2), was repealed by Pub. L. 105-244, §3, title I, §101(b), title VII, §702, Oct. 7, 1998, 112 Stat. 1585, 1616, 1803, effective Oct. 1, 1998. However, the term "institution of higher education" is defined in section 1001 of Title 20, Education.

**§ 15113. Reaching up scholarship program**

**(a) Program authorization**

The Secretary may award grants to eligible entities, on a competitive basis, to enable the entities to carry out scholarship programs by providing vouchers for postsecondary education to direct support workers who assist individuals with developmental disabilities residing in diverse settings. The Secretary shall award the grants to pay for the Federal share of the cost of providing the vouchers.

**(b) Eligible entity**

To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall be—

- (1) an institution of higher education;
- (2) a State agency; or
- (3) a consortium of such institutions or agencies.

**(c) Application requirements**

To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an eligible entity shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including a description of—

- (1) the basis for awarding the vouchers;
- (2) the number of individuals to receive the vouchers; and
- (3) the amount of funds that will be made available by the eligible entity to pay for the non-Federal share of the cost of providing the vouchers.

**(d) Selection criteria**

In awarding a grant under this section for a scholarship program, the Secretary shall give priority to an entity submitting an application that—

- (1) specifies that individuals who receive vouchers through the program will be individuals—
  - (A) who are direct support workers who assist individuals with developmental disabilities residing in diverse settings, while pursuing postsecondary education; and
  - (B) each of whom verifies, prior to receiving the voucher, that the worker has completed 250 hours as a direct support worker in the past 90 days;
- (2) states that the vouchers that will be provided through the program will be in amounts of not more than \$2,000 per year;
- (3) provides an assurance that the eligible entity (or another specified entity that is not a voucher recipient) will contribute the non-Federal share of the cost of providing the vouchers; and
- (4) meets such other conditions as the Secretary may specify.

**(e) Federal share**

The Federal share of the cost of providing the vouchers shall be not more than 80 percent.

(Pub. L. 106-402, title III, §303, Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1735.)

**§ 15114. Staff development curriculum authorization**

**(a) Funding**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall award funding, on a competitive basis, through a grant, cooperative agreement, or contract, to a public or private entity or a combination of such entities, for the development, evaluation, and dissemination of a staff development curriculum, and related guidelines, for computer-assisted, competency-based, multimedia, interactive instruction, relating to service as a direct support worker.

**(2) Participants**

The curriculum shall be developed for individuals who—

- (A) seek to become direct support workers who assist individuals with developmental disabilities or are such direct support workers; and
- (B) seek to upgrade their skills and competencies related to being a direct support worker.

**(b) Application requirements**

To be eligible to receive an award under this section, an entity shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including—

- (1) a comprehensive analysis of the content of direct support roles;
- (2) information identifying an advisory group that—
  - (A) is comprised of individuals with experience and expertise with regard to the support provided by direct support workers, and effective ways to provide the support, for individuals with developmental disabilities in diverse settings; and
  - (B) will advise the entity throughout the development, evaluation, and dissemination of the staff development curriculum and guidelines;
- (3) information describing how the entity will—

- (A) develop, field test, and validate a staff development curriculum that—
  - (i) relates to the appropriate reading level for direct service workers who assist individuals with disabilities;
  - (ii) allows for multiple levels of instruction;
  - (iii) provides instruction appropriate for direct support workers who work in diverse settings; and
  - (iv) is consistent with subsections (b) and (c) of section 15001 of this title and section 15009 of this title;
- (B) develop, field test, and validate guidelines for the organizations that use the curriculum that provide for—