

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, coopera-

tive 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—
    - (i) providing necessary technical and instructional support to trainers and mentors for the participants;
    - (ii) ensuring easy access to and use of such curriculum by workers that choose to participate in using, and agencies that choose to use, the curriculum;
    - (iii) evaluating the proficiency of the participants with respect to the content of the curriculum;
    - (iv) providing necessary support to the participants to assure that the participants have access to, and proficiency in

using, a computer in order to participate in the development, testing, and validation process;

(v) providing necessary technical and instructional support to trainers and mentors for the participants in conjunction with the development, testing, and validation process;

(vi) addressing the satisfaction of participants, individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, providers of services for such individuals and families, and other relevant entities with the curriculum; and

(vii) developing methods to maintain a record of the instruction completed, and the content mastered, by each participant under the curriculum; and

(C) nationally disseminate the curriculum and guidelines, including dissemination through—

(i) parent training and information centers funded under part D of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.);

(ii) community-based organizations of and for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families;

(iii) entities funded under subchapter I;

(iv) centers for independent living;

(v) State educational agencies and local educational agencies;

(vi) entities operating appropriate medical facilities;

(vii) postsecondary education entities; and

(viii) other appropriate entities; and

(4) such other information as the Secretary may require.

(Pub. L. 106-402, title III, §304, Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1735.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(3)(C)(i), is title VI of Pub. L. 91-230, Apr. 13, 1970, 84 Stat. 175, as amended. Part D of the Act is classified generally to subchapter IV (§1450 et seq.) of chapter 33 of Title 20, Education. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1400 of Title 20 and Tables.

### § 15115. Authorization of appropriations

#### (a) Scholarships

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 15113 of this title \$800,000 for fiscal year 2001 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007.

#### (b) Staff development curriculum

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 15114 of this title \$800,000 for fiscal year 2001 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2002 and 2003.

(Pub. L. 106-402, title III, §305, Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1737.)

## CHAPTER 145—PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER MEDAL OF VALOR AND TRIBUTES

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15201. Authorization of Medal.

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### § 15201. Authorization of Medal

After September 1, 2001, the President may award, and present in the name of Congress, a Medal of Valor of appropriate design, with ribbons and appurtenances, to a public safety officer who is cited by the Attorney General, upon the recommendation of the Medal of Valor Review Board, for extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty. The Public Safety Medal of Valor shall be the highest national award for valor by a public safety officer.

(Pub. L. 107-12, §2, May 30, 2001, 115 Stat. 20.)

#### SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 107-12, §1, May 30, 2001, 115 Stat. 20, provided that: "This Act [enacting this chapter and amending section 2214 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade] may be cited as the 'Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001'."

### § 15202. Medal of Valor Board

#### (a) Establishment of Board

There is established a Medal of Valor Review Board (hereinafter in this chapter referred to as the "Board"), which shall be composed of 11 members appointed in accordance with subsection (b) and shall conduct its business in accordance with this chapter.

#### (b) Membership

##### (1) Members

The members of the Board shall be individuals with knowledge or expertise, whether by experience or training, in the field of public safety, of which—

(A) two shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

(B) two shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

(C) two shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(D) two shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives; and

(E) three shall be appointed by the President, including one with experience in fire-fighting, one with experience in law enforcement, and one with experience in emergency services.

##### (2) Term

The term of a Board member shall be 4 years.

##### (3) Vacancies

Any vacancy in the membership of the Board shall not affect the powers of the Board and shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

##### (4) Operation of the Board

###### (A) Chairman

The Chairman of the Board shall be elected by the members of the Board from among the members of the Board.