

## Wyoming Department of Health – ARRA IDEA Part C

### **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C Grants for Infants and Families Program**

**Description:** The Wyoming Early Intervention and Education Program receives federal funds from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) for this program. These funds are distributed to the states on a formula basis to provide services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) administers the IDEA Part C Program through the Developmental Disabilities Division, Early Intervention and Education Program. Wyoming receives an annual funding allocation of approximately \$2.2 million, which is distributed to fourteen (14) regional child development centers (CDC).

The ARRA stimulus bill provides a total of \$2,139,843 funding for the IDEA Part C Grant for Infants and Families Program over a two year period and is available for the same spending categories of services as regular IDEA Part C funding. The first 50% of this award is an automatic extension of the regular IDEA Part C federal funding. These funds are provided in accordance with section 807 of the ARRA, which allows the Secretary to award these ARRA funds on the basis of IDEA eligibility determinations made for fiscal year 2008 and the provision of the certification required by section 1607 of the ARRA. The assurances, certifications, and other information provided in the state's FY 2008 application will apply to these ARRA funds, as well as the requirements of the ARRA. All activities utilizing stimulus money must be separately contracted (including separate applications to initiate contracts) and separately tracked, vouchered, reported, and monitored. The DDD, EIEP will follow the Governor's protocol in accepting this award. The second part of the funding will require an additional application from the State.

The staff of the DDD, EIEP will conduct the following: distributing the state stimulus plan, reviewing applications, contracting, payment processing, tracking, monitoring, and reporting of stimulus money in addition to the ongoing duties of overseeing the annual IDEA Part C program. Each of the fourteen CDCs will conduct the following: distributing state stimulus plans, preparing applications, contracting, payments processing, tracking, monitoring and reporting of stimulus funded activities within their region. The total ARRA IDEA Part C funding for Wyoming is \$1,069,922 which will be used as follows:

\$50,000 - Support the Annual Early Intervention and Education Program Conference in August 2009.

\$54,000 - Develop a statewide Early Intervention Specialist and Family Service Coordinator training system based on evidence-based practices.

\$10,000 - Supplement the statewide Child Find activities to ensure that Wyoming meets its performance targets related to serving infants under age one and infants and toddlers birth through age two.

\$100,000 - Conduct an in depth comprehensive study of the early intervention services through out the state to improve results for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

\$855,922 - Distribute to regional programs for the improvement of outcomes to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families in accordance with ARRA Part C guidelines.

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