

Subject: Missouri Part C Application for Federal Funds under IDEA

Source: Beth Loethen, Coordinator, First Steps Program

Intended Audience: Stakeholders interested in Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Date: February 19, 2020

All states submitting an application for federal funds under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) are required to make the application for funds available for public review and comment.

IDEA Part C funds support the First Steps Early Intervention Program for children, birth to 3 years, and their families. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has developed a draft application for the funds. The draft application is available for review from February 19, 2020, through April 20, 2020, on the Department's website at:

<https://dese.mo.gov/special-education/compliance/part-c-annual-state-application>

The Part C application, developed by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), includes a summary of the assurances, certifications, and description of IDEA use of funds that the state will use to implement Part C of IDEA. Upon OSEP's approval of Missouri's Part C application, the state will receive a federal grant award under Part C of IDEA for the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021.

As you review the application, please note the following:

- The application is in a format required by OSEP.
- The costs included in this application only reflect those attributable to the federal IDEA Part C funds allocated to the state of Missouri and not the total cost of the First Steps program.
- The amounts listed in Section III, Description of the Use of Part C Funds, are based on anticipated state fiscal year (SFY) 2021 award amounts.

Written public comments on the Missouri Part C application may be submitted from March 18, 2020, until the close of business on April 20, 2020, by mail to the Office of Special Education, Attn: First Steps, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480, by email to Idea.Comments@dese.mo.gov (indicate Part C application in the subject line) or by fax to 573-526-4404.