

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDS

Education Department
Office of Early Education and Reading Initiatives
Room 381 EBA
Albany, NY 12234

SCHOOL DISTRICTS, BOARDS OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (BOCES), NONPROFIT COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS, INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND PUBLIC OR PRIVATE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
Even Start Family Literacy Program, ESEA Title I, Part B, Subpart 3, Sections 1231-1240

An eligible applicant is a partnership composed of both a local education agency and a nonprofit community-based organization, an institution of higher education, or a public or private nonprofit organization of demonstrated quality.

Even Start grants fund up to 90 percent of the project costs in the first year. The federal contribution is decreased by an additional 10 percent each year to 60 percent in the fourth year and 50 percent in the fifth through eighth year and 35 percent in any subsequent year.

The purpose of this program is to help break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy by improving the educational opportunities of low-income families. Unified family literacy programs integrate parenting education, early childhood education and adult literacy/adult education through collaborative efforts that build on existing community resources. Programs help parents become full partners in the education of their children, assist children in reaching their full potential as learners, and provide literacy training for their parents.

Approximately \$21.5 million will be available to fund 2004-05 Even Start programs. After funding existing programs, approximately \$6.3 million will be available to fund new grants.

The grant application for new grants is available at www.emsc.nysed.gov. The application is due postmarked by June 1, 2004.

For more information contact: Susan Henry, Office of Early Education and Reading Initiatives, (518) 474-5807

