

## Special Education Grants General Information

**Special Education Grant Type:** These grants are formula grants, which means that they are awarded based on a predetermined formula and given non-competitively to eligible applicants. These grants are distributed from the federal government's Office of Special Education Projects directly to the state departments of education. The state DOEs then each have their own methods of distributing the funds.

**Special Education Eligibility:** Funds awarded are based on the relative numbers of children in their general populations and in poverty in the age ranges for which they mandate services. Most of the funds must be distributed by the state DOE to local education agencies directly serving children. However, states may retain remaining funds for state level activities, including administration of, support of, and direct services to children with disabilities.

**Special Education Use of Funds:** These funds are used to provide free and appropriate public education to children with disabilities. This includes special education and related services. Specifically, funds may be used for salaries of teachers and other personnel, education materials, education-related services (such as special transportation or occupational therapy that allow children with disabilities to access education services) and other education-related needs.

**Special Education Application Process:** Because each state DOE handles its own distribution of funds to local education agencies, the process varies from state to state. Check your state Department of Education's website for information that applies to your school.

### *At a Glance:* Special Education Grants to States

**School Year 2007-2008:**

Funding for \$10,782,961,000 (Approximate)

<b>School Year</b>	
<b>2007-2008:</b>	
<b>Number of Awards (Approximate):</b>	<b>60</b> (Awards for U. S. states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the secretary of the interior, freely associated states, and outlying areas.)
<b>Program Type:</b>	<b>Formula Grants</b>
<b>Additional Information:</b>	Contact information for Special Education Grants to States: <a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/osepgts/contacts.html">http://www.ed.gov/programs/osepgts/contacts.html</a>
<b>Helpful Links:</b>	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services: <a href="http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html">http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html</a>
<b>School Year 2008-2009:</b>	
<b>Funding for School Year 2008-2009:</b>	<b>\$10,947,512,000</b> (Anticipated)
<b>Program Type:</b>	<b>Formula Grants</b>
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	State educational agencies
<b>Application Availability and Deadline:</b>	Dates will vary from state to state if this grant program is funded for school year 2008-2009. Contact your state Innovative Programs representative.
<b>Additional Information:</b>	Contact information for Special Education Grants to States: <a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/osepgts/contacts.html">http://www.ed.gov/programs/osepgts/contacts.html</a>
<b>Helpful Links:</b>	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services: <a href="http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html">http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html</a> Special Education Grants to States program description: <a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/osepgts/index.html">http://www.ed.gov/programs/osepgts/index.html</a>
<b>Information Current To:</b>	Information current to <b>02/10/08</b>

**Special Education Additional Help and Contact Information:** For more help, you may contact Ruth Ryder, U.S. Department of Education, OSERS, Office of Special Education Programs, 400 Maryland Avenue S.W., Room 4144 PCP Washington, D.C. 20202-2600, tel: 202-245-7629, E-mail: [ruth.ryder@ed.gov](mailto:ruth.ryder@ed.gov).