

§ 345.1

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Subpart A—General

§ 345.1 What is the State Grants Program for Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities?

This program provides grants to States to support systems change and advocacy activities designed to assist States in developing and implementing consumer-responsive comprehensive

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Statewide programs of technology-related assistance that accomplish the purposes in § 345.2.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 2211(a); section 101(a) of the Act)

§ 345.2 What are the purposes of the State grants program for technology-related assistance for individuals with disabilities?

The purposes of this program are to provide financial assistance to States to support systems change and advocacy activities designed to assist each State in developing and implementing a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance, for individuals with disabilities of all ages, that is designed to—

(a)(1) Increase the availability of, funding for, access to, and provision of, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

(2) Increase the active involvement of individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives, in the planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of the program;

(3) Increase the involvement of individuals with disabilities and, if appropriate, their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, in decisions related to the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

(4) Increase the provision of outreach to underrepresented populations and rural populations, to enable the two populations to enjoy the benefits of programs carried out to accomplish the purposes described in this section to the same extent as other populations;

(5) Increase and promote coordination among State agencies, and between State agencies and private entities, that are involved in carrying out activities under this part, particularly providing assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, that accomplish a purpose described in another paragraph of this section;

(6)(i) Increase the awareness of laws, regulations, policies, practices, procedures, and organizational structures, that facilitate the availability or provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; and

(ii) Facilitate the change of laws, regulations, policies, practices, procedures, and organizational structures, that impede the availability or provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

(7) Increase the probability that individuals with disabilities of all ages will, to the extent appropriate, be able to secure and maintain possession of assistive technology devices as these individuals make the transition between services offered by human service agencies or between settings of daily living;

(8) Enhance the skills and competencies of individuals involved in providing assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

(9) Increase awareness and knowledge of the efficacy of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services among—

(i) Individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives;

(ii) Individuals who work for public agencies, or for private entities (including insurers), that have contact with individuals with disabilities;

(iii) Educators and related services personnel;

(iv) Technology experts (including engineers);

(v) Employers; and

(vi) Other appropriate individuals;

(10) Increase the capacity of public agencies and private entities to provide and pay for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services on a statewide basis for individuals with disabilities of all ages; and

(11) Increase the awareness of the needs of individuals with disabilities for assistive technology devices and for assistive technology services.

(b)(1) Identify Federal policies that facilitate payment for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.

(2) Identify Federal policies that impede this payment.

(3) Eliminate inappropriate barriers to this payment.

(c) Enhance the ability of the Federal Government to provide States with—

(1) Technical assistance, information, training, and public awareness programs relating to the provision of as-

istive technology devices and assistive technology services; and

(2) Funding for demonstration projects.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 2201(b); section 2(b) of the Act)

§ 345.3 What are the types of awards under this program?

(a) Under this program, the Secretary—

(1) Awards three-year development grants to assist States in developing and implementing consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide programs that accomplish the purposes in § 345.2;

(2) May award an initial two-year extension grant to any State that meets the standards in § 345.42(a); and

(3) May award a second extension grant, for a period of not more than 5 years, to any State that meets the standards in § 345.42(b).

(b) The Secretary calculates the amount of the development grants in paragraph (a)(1) of this section on the basis of—

(1) Amounts available for making grants under this part;

(2) The population of the State or territory concerned; and

(3) The types of activities proposed by the State relating to the development of a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance.

(c) The Secretary calculates the amount of the extension grants in paragraph (a)(2) of this section on the basis of—

(1) Amounts available for making grants;

(2) The population of the State;

(3) The types of assistance proposed by the State in its application; and

(4) A description in its application of the amount of resources committed by the State and available to the State from other sources to sustain the program after federal funding ends.

(d)(1) In providing any increases in initial extension grants in paragraph (a)(2) of this section above the amounts provided to States for Fiscal Year 1993, the Secretary may give priority to States (other than the territories) that—