Dear Colleagues,

The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) has just completed issuing the initial Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2018 grant awards for the State Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR), Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind (OIB), Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights (PAIR) programs, and the Client Assistance Program (CAP). For these programs, FFY 2018 funding was made available under a continuing resolution (CR) through December 8, 2017.

Based on House and Senate action to-date, it appears that Congress may not provide funds for the State Supported Employment Services Program (Supported Employment) in the FFY 2018 Appropriation.[[1]](%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftn1)  Because allotting funds for the Supported Employment program under the FFY 2018 CR could impinge on the final prerogatives of Congress, the Department has not made funds available under the current CR for awards under this program. However, if funds are provided for the Supported Employment program under the final appropriation bill, grantees would get the full amount of their FFY 2018 Supported Employment award. State VR agencies should continue to provide supported employment services to eligible individuals with the most significant disabilities with any remaining FFY 2017 Supported Employment grant funds. As you are aware, supported employment services are also allowable under the VR program (34 CFR 361.5(c)(54)) and may be provided with remaining FFY 2017 VR funds or FFY 2018 VR funds.

Please note that all RSA formula awards now include a clause reminding grantees that the prior approval requirements listed in the Office of Management and Budget's Uniform Administrative Requirements, Costs Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), codified at 2 CFR part 200, are applicable to the award. Additionally, the grant award attachments related to program and financial reporting were updated to reflect the Uniform Guidance requirement that interim Federal financial reports (SF-425) submitted before the final report are due within 30 days after the end of the reporting period (2 CFR 200.328(b)(1)). The final SF-425 report is still due within 90 days after the end of the period of performance.

If you have any questions, please contact the RSA Financial Management Specialist assigned to your agency.

David

**David Steele** | Chief

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**Footnote:**

[1] On September 14, 2017, the House of Representatives passed a package of funding bills for the 2018 fiscal year (H.R. 3354), including funding for the Department of Education. (See H. Report 115-244, July 19, 2017, page 120, accompanying the House Committee on Appropriations funding bill (HR 3358).

On September 7, 2017, the Senate Committee on Appropriations approved the Fiscal Year 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill (S.1771) (See S. Report 115-120, page 178).

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