

Education
Mercedes Tournal, Associate Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS, PART C, TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO CHILDREN AGES BIRTH THROUGH TWO, FROM JULY 1, 2002 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2003

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Early Intervention Programs (EIPs), Part C, to provide services to children ages birth through two. This cooperative agreement has been in effect since 1994.

The EIPs are the result of the enactment of an amendment to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1986. This amendment differs from its companion amendment, Part B, in that Part B did not mandate services to children below the age of three. Part C, however, entitles children from the ages of birth through two to services, if it is determined that these children have a developmental delay or an established condition that has a high probability of resulting in a disability or delay. This cooperative agreement between Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) and the EIPs, Part C, is proposed to meet the state level agreement of the Part C Implementation Plan.

Under this agreement M-DCPS will provide procedures for referrals, evaluation of children above 36 months of age, participation in the development of Family Support Plans, and transition into prekindergarten programs of students approaching their third birthday. The EIPs will be responsible for service coordination, multidisciplinary team evaluations of students below 36 months of age, and providing services identified on the Family Support Plans. Authorization is also requested for the Superintendent to exercise his discretion to renew the agreement for up to two additional one-year periods.

There is no exchange of funds.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. enter into a cooperative agreement with the Early Intervention Programs, Part C, to provide services to children ages birth through two, from July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003; and
2. renew the cooperative agreement for up to two additional one-year periods.

There is no exchange of funds.

RKF/jf