

Sonia E. Diaz, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO
ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FROM AGENCIES TO
PROVIDE RESPIRATORY THERAPIST, REGISTERED NURSE,
AND LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE SERVICES FOR THE
EDUCATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AND
SECTION 504 STUDENTS**

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) from agencies to continue the provision of Respiratory Therapist (RT), Registered Nurse (RN), and Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) services for the education of students with disabilities for whom such services have been identified as necessary to access and benefit from school-based education, effective July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. The RFP will seek an agency to provide nursing and related medical services for students with disabilities as determined necessary by their Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) or Section 504 Plans and physicians' medical recommendations for these services. It is proposed that once the contract is awarded, an option be included to renew the contract for a maximum of two additional one-year periods. The District has been contracting for these services since 1990.

Estimated hours of services needed from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006, are as follows: RT services, approximately 30,000 hours; RN services, approximately 30,000 hours; and LPN services, approximately 30,000 hours. The estimated cost for providing these services is \$2,500,000.

The selection of the agency to provide the RT, RN, and LPN services will be made by a committee on the basis of several factors including professional qualifications; experience in providing RT, RN, and LPN services; and the fee. The proposed members of the selection committee are:

- an administrative director of the Division of Exceptional Student Education(ESE);
- a supervisor of the Division of ESE;
- a region center instructional supervisor of ESE;
- a principal of a school with students who receive RT, RN, or LPN services;
- a representative of the Superintendent's District Advisory Panel for ESE;
- a teacher of a program with students who receive RT, RN, or LPN services;
- a representative of the Division of Business Development and Assistance; and
- a representative of Procurement Management Services.

The estimated timeline for implementation is as follows:

Procurement Contract Review Committee	January 13, 2005
Request Board approval to issue RFP and approval of selection committee	January 19, 2005
Mailing of RFP	January 31, 2005
Opening of proposals.....	March 1, 2005
Evaluation completed by selection committee.....	March 10, 2005
Contract award	May 18, 2005

The appropriation for this item will be included in the General Fund of the 2005-2006 Tentative Adopted Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2005 under Fund 0100, Function 5217, Program 6840, Object 5310, Location 9731, and in the Other Federal Programs Fund (Contracted Programs Fund) under Fund 0420, Function 5200, Program 3635, Object 5310, Location 9615.

Copies of the RFP will be transmitted to School Board Members under separate cover and are available for inspection by the public in the Office of the Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 NE Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. authorize the Superintendent to issue a Request for Proposals from agencies to provide Respiratory Therapist, Registered Nurse, and Licensed Practical Nurse services for the education of students with disabilities and Section 504 students, effective July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006; and
2. approve a selection committee to evaluate the submitted proposals.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the General Fund and in the Other Federal Programs Fund (Contracted Programs Fund) of the 2005-2006 Tentative Adopted Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2005.

RKF/BB:jf