

Education  
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO  
ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FROM AGENCIES TO PROVIDE  
SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR THE EDUCATION OF  
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES, FROM JULY 1, 2001 THROUGH  
JUNE 30, 2002**

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP), to obtain supported employment services for students with disabilities from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002. The RFP will seek one agency to provide supported employment services for exceptional students with moderate to severe disabilities at the six Occupational Training Centers and at any secondary school in the district in which there is an exceptional student who is moderately to severely disabled and whose Individual Educational Plan indicates the need for such services. The agency will be responsible for job development, job matching, job placement, on-the-job training, and follow-up of participating students.

The selection of a provider will be made by a committee on the basis of several factors including qualifications of job coaches; ability to place students in jobs on an individual, one-to-one basis; previous experience providing supported employment services to individuals with disabilities; ability to provide follow-up services to students after graduation; type and frequency of supervision; fee specified; and ability to provide a substitute job coach when needed.

The selection committee will consist of the following:

- two administrators from the Division of Exceptional Student Education
- an administrator from the Bureau of Procurement and Materials Management
- a representative from the Division of Business Development and Assistance
- a Region Director for Exceptional Student Education
- a team leader from an Occupational Training Center
- a representative from the Superintendent's Advisory Panel for Exceptional Student Education

The estimated timeline for implementation is as follows:

Contract Review Committee .....	March 8, 2001
Request Board approval to issue RFP and approval of selection committee .....	April 18, 2001
Mailing of RFP .....	April 20, 2001
Opening of Proposals .....	May 8, 2001
Evaluation completed by Selection Committee .....	May 9, 2001
Recommendation to School Board for approval .....	June 20, 2001

A copy of the RFP will be provided to Board Members under separate cover, and will be available for inspection in the Office of Board Recording Secretary and the Citizen Information Center.

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

1. authorize the Superintendent to issue a Request for Proposals from agencies to provide supported employment services for the education of students with disabilities; and
2. approve a selection committee to evaluate the submitted proposals.

RKF:yvj