

Dear Colleagues in Education:

As promised, the FY 04 Title III applications for the Language Instruction Programs for Limited English Proficient Students grant and the Immigrant Education Program grant (LIPLEPS & IEP) are now available at <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/bilingual/htmls/apply.htm> Completed applications should be **postmarked no later than August 29, 2003**.

Districts must have a state funded TBE/TPI program in order to qualify for Title III funds. Title III federal monies are to supplement what the districts and the state are already required to provide these students.

Applications for the Immigrant Education Program (IEP) grant can be submitted only by districts that a) supplied an immigrant student count in FY 03 and b) have been determined to be eligible because the count showed a significant increase of immigrant students over the average enrollment reported for the preceding two years. (Those districts reporting immigrant student enrollment counts for the first time in FY 03 will be considered as having had a "significant increase"). Additionally, districts meeting the requirements under a) and b) above, need to have reported at least 10 immigrant students in FY 03, in order to be able to apply individually. Those with lower numbers may apply with other eligible districts as part of a cooperative agreement.

A list of districts that will be eligible for IEP funding will be posted on our web page within the next few days. In addition to the applications available through the Web, hard copies of the FY 04 IEP grant application will be mailed to eligible school districts within the next few weeks.

Additional online support for new directors may be available by August 8, 2003. Please call us at 312-814-3850 if you require additional assistance.

If you have not completed your Annual Student Report(ASR), it is URGENT that you complete this information IMMEDIATELY. The deadline for submission was June 30, 2003. Completing the ASR means ISBE can determine districts' allocations of FY04 Title III LIPLEP funds. Please assist us in this important task of accurately counting LEP students. See the RESOURCES header at <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/bilingual/htmls/apply.htm> to confirm that your ASR has been received and information uploaded. An excel file should be posted by Tuesday July 8, 2003. Note: if you sent your ASR but it does not appear on the list, it may only mean that the records are still waiting to be uploaded.