



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

JUN 6 2008

Honorable Nena S. Nena
Secretary of Health, Education, and Social Services
Federated States of Micronesia
P.O. Box PS 70 Palikir
Pohnpei State, FM 96941

Dear Secretary Nena:

Thank you for the timely submission of the Federated States of Micronesia's (FSM) FFY 2006 Annual Performance Report (APR) and revised State Performance Plan (SPP) under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as amended in 2004. We also acknowledge the revisions to FSM's APR received on April 14, 2008. We appreciate FSM's efforts in preparing these documents.

The Department has determined that, under IDEA section 616(d), FSM needs assistance in meeting the requirements of Part B of the IDEA. The Department's determination is based on the totality of FSM's data and information including FSM's FFY 2006 APR and revised SPP, other state-reported data, and information obtained through on-site verification and focused monitoring visits, and other publicly available information. See the enclosure entitled "How the Department Made Determinations under Section 616(d) of the IDEA in 2008" for further details.

Specific factors affecting OSEP's determination of needs assistance for FSM included that FSM reported: (1) 32% compliance for Indicator 13, and (2) 67% compliance for Indicator 11. For both indicators, FSM did not provide evidence of full correction of noncompliance. Although these data are not comparable to the data reported in FFY 2005, they represent progress because FSM's FFY 2006 data for these indicators included data from Chuuk that was not included in the FFY 2005 data. OSEP also considered FSM's data of 50% compliance for Indicator 15, with slippage from 60%. For these reasons we were unable to determine that FSM met requirements under section 616(d). OSEP notes that FSM has monitored all four states within FSM for the first time. We hope that FSM will be able to demonstrate that it meets requirements in its next APR.

The enclosed table provides OSEP's analysis of FSM's FFY 2006 APR and revised SPP and identifies, by indicator, OSEP's review of any revisions made by FSM to its targets, improvement activities (timelines and resources) and baseline data in FSM's SPP. It also identifies, by indicator, FSM's status in meeting its targets, whether FSM's data reflect progress or slippage, and whether FSM corrected noncompliance and provided valid and reliable data.

FSM may want to consider taking advantage of available sources of technical assistance. A list of sources of technical assistance related to the SPP/APR indicators is available by clicking on the "Technical Assistance Related to Determinations" box on the opening page of the SPP/APR Planning Calendar website at <http://spp-apr-calendar.rfcnetwork.org/>. You will be directed to a list of indicators. Click on specific

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indicators for a list of centers, documents, web seminars and other sources of relevant technical assistance for that indicator.

If you included revisions to baseline, targets or improvement activities in your APR submission, and OSEP accepted those revisions, please ensure that you update your SPP accordingly and that the updated SPP is made available to the public.

OSEP is committed to supporting FSM's efforts to improve results for children with disabilities and looks forward to working with FSM over the next year. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call Ms. Lucille Sleger, your OSEP State Contact, at 202-245-7528.

Sincerely,



William W. Knudsen

Acting Director

Office of Special Education Programs

Enclosures

cc: State Director of Special Education