August 9, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Thomas R. Bice
State Superintendent of Education

RE: Catastrophic Special Education Support Fund

Attached is the application packet for the Catastrophic Special Education Support Fund. These funds are provided by the Appropriations Act No. 2013-112 with the purpose of assisting local education agencies in covering the direct special education instructional costs of providing a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) to children with disabilities that would create a catastrophic fiscal impact on the local education agency (LEA). A catastrophic need may arise when special education and related services are provided for a particular child that are unduly expensive, extraordinary, and beyond the routine and reasonable special education and related services provided by the LEA.

For the remainder of FY 2013, (August-September) approximately $100,000 is available for distribution to local districts through the Catastrophic Special Education Support Fund. If your LEA is interested in applying for these funds, please complete and return the attached application packet no later than August 20, 2013. LEAs receiving Catastrophic Special Education Support Funds will be notified by August 23, 2013. All funds granted must be expended by September 30, 2013.

If you need assistance, please contact Ms. Lisa Highfield in Special Education Services by telephone at (334) 242-8114 or by e-mail at lhighfield@alsde.edu.

TRB/MLH/GMT

Attachment

cc: City and County Special Education Coordinators
   Mrs. Sherrill W. Parris
   Dr. Linda Felton Smith
   Dr. Warren Craig Pouncey
   Mr. Barry Kachelhofer
   Ms. Crystal Richardson

FY13-2089
CATASTROPHIC SPECIAL EDUCATION SUPPORT FUND
APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
FUND SOURCE 2241

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Local Education Agency:
__________________________________________________________

Superintendent:
__________________________________________________________

Special Education Coordinator:
__________________________________________________________

Contact Person:
__________________________________________________________

Mailing Address:
__________________________________________________________

Telephone Number: ___________________ E-mail Address: __________

Signature of Superintendent: ___________________ Date: ____________

FOR ALSDE USE ONLY

☐ FUNDING APPROVED

Amount _______________________

☐ FUNDING DISAPPROVED

__________________________________________
Thomas R. Bice
State Superintendent of Education

Date
Catastrophic Special Education Support Fund Application
August–September 2013
Fund Source 2241

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name: ___________________________ LEA: ___________________________
SS# ___________________ Age: ______ DOB: ___________ Sex: ______ Race: ______
Area of Disability: __________________ Most Recent (Re)evaluation Date: __________
School: __________________ Location of School: __________________________
Person Requesting Funds: __________________ Title: ________________________
Email: ________________________ Telephone: ____________________________
Mailing Address: _______________________________________________________

Please attach the following:

• Current IEP
• Current Eligibility Report
• Other Supporting Documentation

Provide specific details of the facts and circumstances surrounding the catastrophic support services needed because of the student’s disability:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
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Statement of Financial Need

Provide a detailed statement of the IEP services needed and the expected cost of each service.

Provide a detailed statement showing each anticipated source of funds (including local) for the proposed expenditures in this application by the local education agency special education program.

Provide a detailed statement of the financial impact on the special education program of the local education agency if such services were funded solely by the local education agency.

Provide a statement of the financial impact on the entire local education agency if this grant is not approved.
Catastrophic Special Education Support Fund

Purpose:

A Catastrophic Special Education Support Fund has been established (funding provided by the Appropriations Act No. 2013-112) with the purpose of assisting local education agencies in covering the direct special education instructional costs of providing FAPE to children with disabilities that would create a catastrophic fiscal impact on the LEA. For the remainder of FY 13, (August-September) approximately $100,000 is available for distribution to local districts through the Catastrophic Special Education Support Fund.

Catastrophic:

Special Education and Related Services that are required for a particular child and are unduly expensive, extraordinary, and beyond the routine and reasonable special education and related services provided by the local education agency.

Applications:

Recipients of an award from the Catastrophic Special Education Support Fund will provide detailed information on the impact of the educational costs and the resulting financial hardship on the LEA. A current IEP and eligibility report should be submitted with the application along with any other supporting documentation. Applications must be submitted by August 20, 2013.

Awards:

A committee will review the applications and supporting documentation and will determine the award recipients. All applicants will be notified of the determination made by the committee.

Catastrophic Special Education Support Funds do not carry over and must be expended before September 30 of each year. Awards are only for one fiscal year and no priority is given to recipients in the following years.