



May 19, 2000

OIG REPORT 00-36 (H)

MEMORANDUM FOR: GENE BOTTOMS, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
SOUTHERN REGIONAL EDUCATION BOARD

OBJECT: Memorandum Survey Report
Review of School to Work Partnership Program
Grant No. CO-11349C

PURPOSE

The purposes of our review were (1) to determine the allowability of the costs claimed under the ARC grant, (2) to determine if the grant objectives were met and (3) to determine the current status of the project.

SCOPE

Our survey included procedures to review costs incurred and claimed for reimbursement under the grant, as well as costs claimed as matching funds. The period of performance for the grant was September 1, 1996 through June 30, 2000. We reviewed the grantee's reports, examined records, and held discussions with grantee officials in Atlanta, Georgia on April 19, 2000. As a basis for determining allowable costs and compliance requirements, we used the provisions of the grant agreement, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars A-87 and A-102, and the ARC Code. Audit work was performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards.

BACKGROUND

ARC Grant CO-11349C was awarded to the Southern Regional Education Board to provide advanced technical assistance and staff training opportunities to current SREB sites in Appalachia, enabling them to continue their *High Schools That Work* school-to-work improvement efforts. This is a continuing grant that serves multiple-states.

The total project costs was estimated as \$812,578. The ARC grant was for \$441,256 (54%). The grantee was to pay or cause to be paid the non-federal share of \$371,322 (46%) in cash, contributed services, or in-kind contributions.

RESULTS

Financial Review

During our visit, we reviewed the grantee's accounting records, including invoices and supporting documentation for a sample of grant and matching costs charged to the project. Total claimed costs were supported by the grantee's accounting records and no deficiencies were noted as to the allowability of the expenses or the adequacy of the documentation for the expenditures we reviewed.


The grant was divided into two time periods. For the first part of the grant expenses of \$220,000 was claimed, as budgeted. The second part of the grant ends June 30, 2000, as of February 29, 2000 the grantee has expended \$152,388 of the \$221,256 budgeted for that period. The grantee has drawn down \$334,111 of ARC funds with \$107,145 available. Documentation shows the grantee has already met their non-federal match of \$371,322.

Program Review

The grantee completed all the specific tasks as required which included:

- school-to-work improvement workshops;
- provided technical assistance team visits to schools;
- awarded curriculum integration grants;
- awarded demonstration site grants to schools with greatest improvement; and
- conducted student assessments, analyzed data and reported to ARC.

Grantee's financial and programmatic records were well documented and organized.


Hubert N. Sparks
Inspector General



July 19, 2000


MEMORANDUM FOR

The Federal Co-Chairman
ARC Executive Director
ARC General Counsel

SUBJECT:

OIG Reports 00-34(H), 00-35(H), 00-36(H), 00-39(H), 00-46(H), 00-47(H) and 00-48(H)—ARC Grants GA-7769, Georgia Technical Assistance; GA-13047, Appalachian Technical Institute Off-Campus Learning Centers; CO-11349C, Southern Regional Education Board School-to-Work Partnership Program; WV-12348, Department of Education Work Force Training; NC-12836, Handmade in America Regional Leadership Initiative Program; SC-12851, New Horizons Family Services Health Care Facility; and SC-13175, SCACOG Upstate Community Information Regional Telecommunications

Enclosed are copies of the subject reports. The reviews reflect that the projects were completed and funds expended in accordance with the grant agreement and applicable regulations. With respect to Grant SC-13175, the project has been completed; and actions to ensure the project is closed by the administering agency (HHS) were recommended.


Hubert N. Sparks
Inspector General

Enclosures

cc: Ms. Judy Rae