Assistive Technology Infusion Project

The Ohio Department of Education is pleased to announce the availability of \$9.4 million in funds to assist districts in providing assistive technology devices for students with disabilities. Funding is provided through the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) School Renovation, IDEA, and Technology Grants authorized in the FY 2001 Appropriations Act.

Under the grant program, local educational agencies (LEAs) may apply for funds for specific assistive devices for an individual student as documented in the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). Costs of all services can be used as part of the local share contribution. All applicants must meet the definition of an LEA as defined in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

This is a substantial grant and will have major impact on Ohio's ability to provide assistive technology for students with disabilities.

The Office for Exceptional Children (OEC) has formed a management and implementation partnership with the Ohio SchoolNet Commission (OSNC) and ORCLISH for distribution of funds to districts. Three rounds of applications are anticipated. Applications for the first round of funding will be available October, 2001 and due mid-November, 2001.

The Request for Proposals, Frequently Asked Questions, and Application Guidelines are located at www.atip.state.oh.us. Contact Kim Finnerty at 800-672-5474, extension 29, or 614-262-5989 TTY with questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Susan Wilson ATIP Project Director