**Section 651.303 Amounts of and Limits on Operating Assistance Grants**

The Department is authorized under the Act to make operating assistance grants to any participant for an amount not to exceed 50% of the project operating deficit from the participant's approved program of proposed expenditures. The Department will make grants from apportioned funds for 50% of such deficits; however, if 50% of the total approved projected operating deficits of all participants from a region exceeds the total amount of funds apportioned to that region, then the Department will make grants from apportioned funds for less than 50% of such deficits to participants in that region. In such regions, available discretionary funds can be used by the Department for the purpose of supplementing a grant to be made to a participant from apportioned funds so that the total Section 18 operating assistance grant to such participant is closer to the full 50% of the participant's approved projected operating deficit.