

§ 648.33

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funds, if any, among the continuation grantees and, if necessary, awards continuation grants of less than \$100,000.

(b) *Equitable distribution.* In awarding grants, the Secretary will, consistent with an allocation of awards based on the quality of competing applications, ensure the following:

(1) An equitable geographic distribution of grants to eligible applicant institutions of higher education.

(2) An equitable distribution of grants to eligible applicant public and eligible applicant private institutions of higher education.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1135–1135c)

§ 648.33 What priorities and absolute preferences does the Secretary establish?

(a) For each application period, the Secretary establishes as an area of national need and gives absolute preference to one or more of the general disciplines and sub-disciplines listed as priorities in the appendix to this part or the resulting interdisciplines.

(b) The Secretary announces the absolute preferences in a notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1135, 1135a)

Subpart D—How Are Fellows Selected?

§ 648.40 How does an academic department select fellows?

(a) In selecting individuals to receive fellowships, an academic department shall consider only individuals who—

(1) Are currently enrolled as graduate students, have been accepted at the grantee institution, or are enrolled or accepted as graduate students at an eligible nondegree-granting institution;

(2) Are of superior ability;

(3) Have an excellent academic record;

(4) Have financial need;

(5) Are planning to pursue the highest possible degree available in their course of study;

(6) Are planning a career in teaching or research;

(7) Are not ineligible to receive assistance under 34 CFR 75.60; and

(8)(i) Are United States citizens or nationals;

(ii) Are permanent residents of the United States;

(iii) Provide evidence from the Immigration and Naturalization Service that they are in the United States for other than a temporary purpose with the intention of becoming permanent residents; or

(iv) Are citizens of any one of the Freely Associated States.

(b) An individual who satisfies the eligibility criteria in paragraph (a) of this section, but who attends an institution that does not offer the highest possible degree available in the individual's course of study, is eligible for a fellowship if the individual plans to attend subsequently an institution that offers this degree.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1135, 1135b)

[58 FR 65842, Dec. 16, 1993, as amended at 64 FR 13487, Mar. 18, 1999]

§ 648.41 How does an individual apply for a fellowship?

An individual shall apply directly to an academic department of an institution of higher education that has received a grant.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1135, 1135c)

Subpart E—How Does the Secretary Distribute Funds?

§ 648.50 What are the Secretary's payment procedures?

(a) The Secretary awards to the institution of higher education a stipend and an institutional payment for each individual awarded a fellowship under this part.

(b) If an academic department of an institution of higher education is unable to use all of the amounts available to it under this part, the Secretary re-allots the amounts not used to academic departments of other institutions of higher education for use in the academic year following the date of the reallocation.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1135a, 1135c, 1135d)

§ 648.51 What is the amount of a stipend?

(a) For a fellowship initially awarded for an academic year prior to the academic year 1993–94, the institution