

Dated: January 26, 1995.

Kathleen B. Larson,

Director, Management Planning and Analysis Staff, Office of Financial and Human Resources, Health Care Financing Administration.

[FR Doc. 95-2724 Filed 2-2-95; 8:45 am]

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Health Resources and Services Administration

Correction for Program Announcement and Proposed Review Criteria for Grants for Geriatric Education Centers for Fiscal Year 1995

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announced, in the **Federal Register** on January 9, 1995 at 60 FR 2396, that applications are being accepted for fiscal year (FY) 1995 Grants for Geriatric Education Centers funded under the authority of section 777(a) of the Public Health Service Act, as amended by the Health Professions Education Extension Amendments of 1992, Pub. L. 102-408. This announcement also proposed two additional review criteria. Following is information regarding where to send public comments on the review criteria. This information was inadvertently omitted from the original notice.

Interested persons are invited to comment on the proposed review criteria. The comment period is 30 days. All comments received on or before March 6, 1995 will be considered before the final review criteria are established. Written comments should be addressed to: Neil Sampson, Director, Division of Associated, Dental, and Public Health Professions, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 8-101, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857

All comments received will be available for public inspection and copying at the Division of Associated, Dental, and Public Health Professions, Bureau of Health Professions, at the above address, weekdays (Federal holidays excepted) between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Dated: January 27, 1995.

Ciro V. Sumaya,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 95-2626 Filed 2-2-95; 8:45 am]

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Maternal and Child Health Services; Federal Set-Aside Program; Research and Training Grants

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), PHS.

ACTION: Notice of availability of funds.

SUMMARY: The Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), HRSA, announces that fiscal year (FY) 1995 funds are available for Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS) research and training grants. Awards will be made under the program authority of section 502(a) of the Social Security Act, the MCH Federal Set-Aside Program. MCH research and training grants improve the health status of mothers and children through: development and dissemination of new knowledge; demonstration of new or improved ways of delivering care or otherwise enhancing Title V program capacity to provide or assure provision of appropriate services; and preparation of personnel in MCH-relevant specialties. Grants for SPRANS genetic services and special MCH improvement projects (MCHIP), which contribute to the health of mothers, children, and children with special health care needs (CSHCN), are being announced in a separate notice. No new SPRANS hemophilia program grants will be funded in FY 1995.

Of the approximately \$7.3 million available for SPRANS research and \$35.6 million for training in FY 1995, about \$1.0 million will be available to support approximately 8 new and competing continuation MCH research projects and about \$19.5 million will be available for 47 new and competing training projects. About \$6.5 million will be used to support continuation of existing MCH research and \$16.3 million will support continuation of existing training. The actual amounts available for awards and their allocation may vary depending on unanticipated program requirements and the volume and quality of applications. Awards are made for grant periods which generally run from 1 up to 5 years in duration. Funds for research and training grants under the MCH Federal Set-Aside Program are appropriated by Public Law 103-333. A revised regulation implementing the Federal Set-Aside Program (42 CFR part 51a) was

published in the July 19, 1994, issue of the **Federal Register** at 59 FR 36703.

The Public Health Service (PHS) is committed to achieving the health promotion and disease prevention objectives of Healthy People 2000, a PHS-led national activity for setting priority areas. The MCH Block Grant Federal Set-Aside Program addresses issues related to the Healthy People 2000 objectives of improving maternal, infant, child and adolescent health and developing service systems for children with special health care needs. Potential applicants may obtain a copy of Healthy People 2000 (Full Report: Stock No. 017-001-00474-0) or Healthy People 2000 (Summary Report: Stock No. 017-001-00473-1) through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office Washington, DC 20402-9325 (telephone: 202 783-3238).

The PHS strongly encourages all grant recipients to provide a smoke-free workplace and promote the non-use of all tobacco products. This is consistent with the PHS mission to protect and advance the physical and mental health of the American people.

ADDRESS: Grant applications for MCH research and training grants must be obtained from and submitted to: Chief, Grants Management Branch, Office of Program Support, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, Room 18-12, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857, (301) 443-1440. Applicants for research projects will use Form PHS 398, approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under control number 0925-0001. Applicants for training projects will use Form PHS 6025-1, approved by OMB under control number 0915-0060. Requests should specify the category or categories of activities for which an application is requested so that the appropriate forms, information and materials may be provided.

DATES: Potential applicants are invited to request application packages for the particular program category in which they are interested, and to submit their applications for funding consideration. Deadlines for receipt of applications differ for the several categories of grants. These deadlines are as follows:

MCH FEDERAL SET-ASIDE COMPETITIVE RESEARCH AND TRAINING GRANTS ANTICIPATED DEADLINE, AWARD, FUNDING, AND PROJECT PERIOD INFORMATION, BY CATEGORY; FY 1995

Category	Application deadline	Estimated number of awards	Estimated amounts available	Project period
Grants in the following areas: 1. Research	Cycle 1: 3/1/95* Cycle 2: 8/1/95*	up to 8	\$1.0 million	up to 5 years.
2. Long Term Training: 2.1. Pediatric Pulmonary Centers	4/3/95	up to 9	\$1.5 million	up to 5 years.
2.2. Neuro developmental Disabilities	4/3/95	up to 30	\$18 million	up to 5 years.
3. Continuing Education	7/3/95	up to 8	\$400,000	1-3 years.

* Approximately one-half of the available funds are allocated to each cycle. Applications approved but not funded in one cycle are automatically carried forward to the next.

Applications will be considered to have met the deadline if they are either: (1) received on or before the deadline date, or (2) postmarked on or before the deadline date and received in time for orderly processing. Applicants should request a legibly dated receipt from a commercial carrier or the U.S. Postal Service, or obtain a legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark. Private metered postmarks will not be accepted as proof of timely mailing. Late applications or those sent to an address other than specified in the ADDRESS section will be returned to the applicant.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for technical or programmatic information should be directed to the contact persons identified below for each category covered by this notice. Requests for information concerning business management issues should be directed to: Dorothy M. Kelley, Acting Grants Management Officer (GMO), Maternal and Child Health Bureau, at the address specified in the ADDRESS section.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: To facilitate the use of this announcement, information in this section has been organized, as outlined in the Table of Contents below, into a discussion of: Program Background, Special Concerns, Overall Review Criteria, SPRANS Program, and Eligible Applicants. In addition, for each research and training funding category or subcategory, information is presented under the following headings:

- Application Deadline
- Purpose
- Priorities
- Special Eligibility Considerations
- Grants/Amounts
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1. Program Background and Objectives

Under Section 502 of the Social Security Act, as amended by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1989, 12.75 percent of amounts appropriated for the MCH Block Grant in excess of \$600 million are set aside by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) for special Community Integrated Service Systems projects under Section 501(a)(3) of the Act. Of the remainder of the total appropriation, 15 percent of the funds are to be retained by the Secretary to support (through grants, contracts, or otherwise) special projects of regional and national significance, research, and training with respect to maternal and child health and children with special health care needs (including early intervention training and services development); for genetic disease testing, counseling, and information development and dissemination programs; for grants (including funding for comprehensive hemophilia diagnostic treatment centers) relating to hemophilia without regard to age; and for the screening of newborns for sickle cell anemia, and other genetic disorders and follow-up services. The MCH SPRANS set-aside was established in 1981. Support for projects covered by this announcement will come from the SPRANS set-aside. Availability of FY 1995 funds for MCH research and training grants is being announced

separately from other SPRANS grants this year in order to reduce confusion to potential applicants from announcement of grants in very large numbers of SPRANS categories and subcategories. The research and training grants covered in this notice are intended to improve the health status of mothers and children.

Research programs focus on the development of new knowledge for application in health care promotion and prevention efforts directed at pregnant women, women of childbearing age, infants, children, adolescents, and children with special health care needs and their families. Findings are expected to have potential for application in health care delivery programs for mothers and children.

Training programs focus on development of professionals for leadership roles, in combination with advanced professional preparation. Training is intended to accomplish the dual objectives of developing high levels of clinical competence and developing leadership attributes which extend beyond clinical acumen and skills. To achieve the latter objective, emphasis is placed on those curriculum and practicum areas which relate to: populations as well as individuals; systems of care as well as specific services; community-based services as well as institution-based; program administration in addition to clinical expertise; public policy in addition to practice policy; and research in addition to putting new knowledge into practice. In addition, leadership training emphasizes cultural and linguistic competence in serving the end user; trainees, however, are not end users. With an understanding of and appreciation for these broader issues and aspects of health care, professionals are more adequately prepared to deliver care and to provide leadership in advancing the field to better serve mothers and children.

“Continuing Education” (CE) is any short-term, non-degree program offered by an institution of higher learning. Continuing Education focuses on increasing leadership skills of MCH health professionals; facilitating timely transfer and application of new information, research findings, and technology related to MCH; and updating and improving the knowledge and skills of health and related professionals in programs serving mothers and children, including children with special health care needs (CSHCN). As a result of the CE, professionals are more adequately prepared to deliver comprehensive services and to provide leadership in advancing the field to better serve mothers and children.

2. Special Concerns

In its administration of the MCH Services Block Grant, the MCHB places special emphasis on improving service delivery to women and children from racial and ethnic minority populations who have had limited access to accessible care. This means that SPRANS projects are expected to serve and appropriately involve in project activities individuals from the populations to be served, unless there are compelling programmatic or other justifications for not doing so. The MCHB's intent is to ensure that project interventions are responsive to the cultural and linguistic needs of special populations, that services are accessible to consumers, and that the broadest possible representation of culturally distinct and historically underrepresented groups is supported through programs and projects sponsored by the MCHB.

3. Project Review and Funding

Within the limit of funds determined by the Secretary to be available for the activities described in this announcement, the Secretary will review applications for funds under the specific project categories in section 4 below as competing applications and may award Federal funding for projects which will, in her judgment, best promote the purpose of title V of the Social Security Act, with special emphasis on improving service delivery to women and children from culturally distinct populations; best address achievement of Healthy Children 2000 objectives related to maternal, infant, child and adolescent health and service systems for children at risk of chronic and disabling conditions; and otherwise best promote improvements in maternal and child health.

3.1 Criteria for Review

The criteria which follow are used, as pertinent, to review and evaluate applications for awards under all SPRANS grants and cooperative agreement project categories announced in this notice. Further guidance in this regard is supplied in application guidance materials, which may specify variations in these criteria.

- The quality of the project plan or methodology.
- The need for the research or training.
- The extent to which the project will contribute to the advancement of maternal and child health and/or improvement of the health of children with special health care needs;
- The extent to which the project is responsive to policy concerns applicable to MCH grants and to program objectives, requirements, priorities and/or review criteria for specific project categories, as published in program announcements or guidance materials.
- The extent to which the estimated cost to the Government of the project is reasonable, considering the anticipated results.
- The extent to which the project personnel are well qualified by training and/or experience for their roles in the project and the applicant organization has adequate facilities and personnel.
- The extent to which, insofar as practicable, the proposed activities, if well executed, are capable of attaining project objectives.
- The strength of the project's—plans for evaluation.
- The extent to which the project will be integrated with the administration of the MCH Block Grant, State primary care plans, public health, and prevention programs, and other related programs in the respective State(s).
- The extent to which the application is responsive to the special concerns and program priorities specified in this notice.

3.2 Funding of Approved Applications

Final funding decisions for SPRANS research and training grants are the responsibility of the Director, MCHB. In considering scores for the ranking of approved applications for funding, preferences may be exercised for groups of applications; for example, new projects may be funded ahead of competing continuations, or vice versa. Within any category of approved projects, the score of an individual project may be favorably adjusted if the project addresses specific priorities

identified in this notice. In addition, special consideration in assigning scores may be given by reviewers to individual applications that address areas identified in this notice as special concerns.

4. Special Projects of Regional and National Significance

Three categories of SPRANS grants are discussed below: Research, Long Term Training, and Continuing Education:

4.1. Research Grants

- Application Deadlines: March 1 and August 1, 1995.
- Purpose: To encourage research in maternal and child health which has the potential for ready transfer of findings to health care delivery programs. Research grants may be made only to public or nonprofit institutions of higher learning and public or nonprofit private agencies and organizations engaged in research or in maternal and child health or programs for CSHCN.

Special consideration will be given to projects which address the factors and processes that lead to disparities in health status and use of services among minority and other disadvantaged groups as well as health promoting behaviors, quality outcome measures, and systems integration/reform.

- Grants/Amounts: Approximately \$1.0 million will be available to support up to 8 new or competing renewal research projects at an average of \$125,000 per award for one year. Project periods are generally 3 years but may be up to 5 years.
- Contact: For programmatic or technical information, contact Gontran Lamberty, Dr.P.H., telephone: 301 443-2190.

4.2. Long Term Training Grants

- Application Deadline: April 3, 1995.
- Purpose: Awards to institutions of higher learning to support and strengthen MCH programs through long term training of health professionals at the graduate and postgraduate levels, with a special focus on family-centered, community-based care. The programs are designed to develop leadership personnel to provide for comprehensive health, including health promotion and disease prevention, and related services to mothers and children; and to address special issues, such as HIV; injury; minority health concerns; and substance abuse. Training is provided to a wide range of health professionals who serve mothers and children.

Contact: For programmatic and technical information, contact Elizabeth

Brannon, M.S., R.D., telephone: 301 443-2190.

The following subcategories have been identified for competition in FY 1995 under the MCH long term training program:

4.2.1. Pediatric Pulmonary Centers

- Application Deadline: April 3, 1995.
 - Purpose: To support the development, enhancement, or improvement of community-based care for children with chronic respiratory diseases and their families in a wide geographic area by providing interdisciplinary training of a range of professional personnel and by working with State and local health agencies and providers—public, private, or voluntary. The centers are expected to be models of excellence in training, service and research related to chronic respiratory diseases in infants and children.
 - Special Qualifications: Applicant qualifications include meeting the special requirements for Training Programs in Pediatric Pulmonology of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Residency Review Committee.
 - Grants/Amounts: About \$1.5 million will be available to support up to 6 new or competing renewal projects in this subcategory. Grant awards average \$250,000 for one year. Project periods are up to five years.
 - Contact: For programmatic and technical information, contact Elizabeth Brannon, M.S., R.D., telephone 301 443-2190.
- #### 4.2.2. MCH Interdisciplinary Leadership Education/Training in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities
- Application Deadline: April 3, 1995.
 - Purpose: To support and strengthen MCH programs through long term training of a wide range of health professionals at the graduate and post-graduate levels, with a special focus on family-centered, community-based care. The programs are designed to develop leadership personnel to provide for comprehensive health, including health promotion and disease prevention, and related services to children (infants through adolescents) with, or at risk for, neurodevelopmental delays, developmental disabilities, mental retardation, or multiple systems disabilities, through interdisciplinary clinical training, and through provision of continuing education, technical assistance and consultation.
 - Special Qualifications: Universities with an accredited medical school

which has defined working relationships/agreements with academic (i.e., degree granting) schools or departments providing graduate training in all requisite core disciplines identified in the program elements and requirements for this category. Such agreements may be either with components of the applicant institution or with one or more other institutions of higher learning through formal affiliation agreements. Although multiple institutions and programs may, and are encouraged to participate, the application must be submitted by the university at which the major medical and other health profession schools/ departments are located. All training components must have their primary locus in, or proximal to, the applicant institution.

- Grants/Amounts: Approximately \$18 million will be available to support up to 30 new or competing renewal projects in this subcategory. Grant award amounts will vary depending upon budget requirements. Project periods are up to 5 years.
- Contact: For programmatic and technical information, contact Elizabeth Brannon, M.S., R.D., telephone 301 443-2190.

4.3. Continuing Education

- Application Deadline: July 3, 1995.
 - Purpose: To support and strengthen MCH programs and improve MCH systems of care through short term, non-degree related training of health professionals and others providing health and related services for mothers and children; workshops; seminars; institutes; and other related activities intended to develop or improve standards, practices, curriculum or delivery of health care for the MCH population. Continuing Education grants may be made only to public or nonprofit private institutions of higher learning.
 - Priorities: Priority for funding in this category will be given to continuing education projects in the following areas:
 - Emergency Medical Services for Children.
 - Violence Prevention in Schools.
 - Core Public Health.
 - Grants/Amounts: Approximately \$400,000 will be available to support up to 8 new or competing renewal continuing education training projects. Project periods range from 1 to 3 years.
 - Contact: For programmatic or technical information, contact Stephanie Bryn, M.P.H., telephone: 301 443-2190.
- The categories, priorities, special considerations and preferences

described above are not being proposed for public comment this year. In July 1993, following publication of the Department's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to revise the MCH special project grant regulations at 42 CFR 51a, the public was invited for a 60-day period to submit comments regarding all aspects of the SPRANS application and review process. Public comments regarding SPRANS priorities received during the comment period were considered in developing this announcement. In responding to those comments, the Department noted the practical limits on Secretarial discretion in establishing SPRANS categories and priorities owing to the extensive prescription in both the statute and annual Congressional directives.

Comments on this SPRANS notice which members of the public wish to make are welcome at any time and may be submitted to: Director, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, at the address listed in the ADDRESS section. Suggestions will be considered when priorities are developed for the next solicitation.

5. Eligible Applicants

In general, MCH training grants may be made only to public or nonprofit private institutions of higher learning. Research grants may be made only to public or nonprofit private institutions of higher learning and public or nonprofit private agencies and organizations engaged in research in maternal and child health or programs for CSHCN. As noted above, applicants for certain grant categories or subcategories are expected to have additional qualifications.

6. Public Health System Reporting Requirements

This program is subject to the Public Health System Reporting Requirements (approved under OMB No. 0937-0195). Under these requirements, the community-based nongovernmental applicant must prepare and submit a Public Health System Impact Statement (PHSIS). The PHSIS is intended to provide information to State and local health officials to keep them apprised of proposed health services grant applications submitted by community-based nongovernmental organizations within their jurisdictions.

Community-based nongovernmental applicants are required to submit the following information to the head of the appropriate State and local health agencies in the area(s) to be impacted no later than the Federal application receipt due date:

(a) A copy of the face page of the application (SF 424).

(b) A summary of the project (PHSIS), not to exceed one page, which provides:

(1) A description of the population to be served.

(2) A summary of the services to be provided.

(3) A description of the coordination planned with the appropriate State and local health agencies.

7.Executive Order 12372

The MCH Federal set-aside program has been determined to be a program which is not subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372 concerning intergovernmental review of Federal programs.

The OMB Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number is 93.110.

Dated: January 31, 1995.

Ciro V. Sumaya,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 95-2738 Filed 2-2-95; 8:45 am]

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Final Funding Preference for Centers of Excellence in Minority Health Professions Education for Fiscal Year 1995

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announces the final funding preference for fiscal year (FY) 1995 Grants for Centers of Excellence (COE) in Minority Health Professions Education funded under the authority of section 739, title VII of the Public Health Service Act (the Act), as amended by the Health Professions Education Extension Amendments of 1992, Pub. L. 102-408, dated October 13, 1992.

Purposes

Grants for eligible Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic, Native American and Other Centers of Excellence must be used by the schools for the following purposes:

1. To establish, strengthen, or expand programs to enhance the academic performance of minority students attending the school;

2. To establish, strengthen, or expand programs to increase the number and quality of minority applicants to the school;

3. To improve the capacity of such school to train, recruit, and retain minority faculty;

4. With respect to minority health issues, to carry out activities to improve the information resources and curricula of the school and clinical education at the school; and

5. To facilitate faculty and student research on health issues particularly affecting minority groups.

Applicants must address the five legislative purposes. In addition, grants for eligible HBCUs as described in section 799(l)(A) and which have received a contract under section 788B of the Act (Advanced Financial Distress Assistance) for FY 1987 may also be used to develop a plan to achieve institutional improvements, including financial independence, to enable the school to support programs of excellence in health professions education for minority individuals, and to provide improved access to the library and informational resources of the school.

Eligibility

Section 739 authorizes the Secretary to make grants to schools of medicine, osteopathic medicine, dentistry and pharmacy for the purpose of assisting the schools in supporting programs of excellence in health professions education for Black, Hispanic and Native American individuals, as well as for HBCUs as described in section 799(l)(A) and which have received a contract under section 788B of the Act (Advanced Financial Distress Assistance) for FY 1987.

To qualify as a COE, a school is required to:

1. Have a significant number of minority individuals enrolled in the school, including individuals accepted for enrollment in the school;

2. Demonstrate that it has been effective in assisting minority students of the school to complete the program of education and receive the degree involved;

3. Show that it has been effective in recruiting minority individuals to attend the school, including providing scholarships and other financial assistance to such individuals, and encouraging minority students of secondary educational institutions to attend the health professions school; and

4. Demonstrate that it has made significant recruitment efforts to increase the number of minority individuals serving in faculty or administrative positions at the school.

These entities must be located in any of the several states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

Final Funding Preference

A funding preference for this program was proposed in the **Federal Register** on November 1, 1994, at 59 FR 54617. One comment was received during the comment period. The respondent recommended that preference be given to previously funded COE programs which have completed only one grant cycle. We have proposed that preference be given to competing continuation applications (renewals) to direct assistance to quality COE programs that have documented sustained or increased accomplishments under this program. Therefore, the preference will remain as proposed.

A funding preference will be given to competing continuation (renewal) applications for Centers of Excellence programs whose current project periods end in fiscal year 1995.

Additional Information

To obtain information regarding the programmatic aspects of this grant program, direct inquiries to: A. Roland Garcia, Ph.D., Chief, Centers of Excellence Section, Program Coordination Branch, Division of Disadvantaged Assistance, Bureau of Health Professions, HRSA, Parklawn Building, Room 8A-09, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857, Telephone: (301) 443-4493, FAX: (301) 443-5242.

This program is listed at 93.157 in the *Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance*. It is not subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs (as implemented through 45 CFR part 100).

This program is not subject to the Public Health System Reporting Requirements.

Dated: January 30, 1995.

Ciro V. Sumaya,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 95-2625 Filed 2-2-95; 8:45 am]

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Health Resources and Services Administration Advisory Council; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463), announcement is made of the following National Advisory body scheduled to meet during the month of March 1995.

Name: Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines (ACCV).

Date and Time: March 1, 1995; 9:00 am-5:00 pm; March 2, 1995; 9:00 am-12:00 noon.