

Participation Division, Room 3522, ROB-3, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-5323.

An applicant must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following: (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark; (2) a legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service; (3) a dated shipping label, invoice or receipt from a commercial carrier; or (4) any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of Education.

If an application is sent through the U.S. Postal Service, the Secretary does not accept either of the following as proof of mailing: (1) A private metered postmark, or (2) a mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

An applicant should note that the U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, an applicant should check with its local post office.

An applicant is encouraged to use certified or at least first class mail. Institutions that submit institutional participation applications and required documents after the closing date will not be considered for funding under the campus-based programs for award year 1996-97.

**Applications and Required Documents Delivered by Hand.** An institutional participation application and required documents delivered by hand must be taken to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, Institutional Participation Division, Room 3522, ROB-3 (GSA Building), 7th and D Streets, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20407. We will accept hand-delivered applications between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Eastern time) daily, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays. An institutional participation application for the 1996-97 award year that is delivered by hand will not be accepted after 4:30 p.m. on the closing date.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the three campus-based programs, the Secretary allocates funds to eligible institutions of higher education. The Secretary will not allocate funds under the campus-based programs for award year 1996-97 to any currently ineligible institution unless the institution files its "Application for Institutional Participation" and other required documents by the closing date. If the institution submits its institutional participation application or other required documents after the closing date, the Secretary will use this application in determining the institution's eligibility to participate in

the campus-based programs beginning with the 1997-98 award year.

For purposes of this notice, ineligible institutions only include:

(1) An institution that has not been designated as an eligible institution by the Secretary but has previously filed a FISAP; or

(2) An additional location of an eligible institution that is currently not included in the Department's eligibility certification for that eligible institution but has been included in the institution's 1996-97 FISAP.

The Secretary wishes to advise institutions that the institutional eligibility form, "Application for Institutional Participation," should not be confused with the FISAP form that institutions were required to submit electronically as of September 29, 1995, in order to be considered for funds under the campus-based programs for the 1996-97 award year.

#### Applicable Regulations

The following regulations apply to the campus-based programs:

- (1) Student Assistance General Provisions, 34 CFR Part 668.
- (2) Federal Perkins Loan Program, 34 CFR Part 674.
- (3) Federal Work-Study Program, 34 CFR Part 675.
- (4) Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program, 34 CFR Part 676.
- (5) Institutional Eligibility Under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, 34 CFR Part 600.
- (6) New Restrictions on Lobbying, 34 CFR Part 82.
- (7) Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants), 34 CFR Part 85.
- (8) Drug-Free Schools and Campuses, 34 CFR Part 86.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information concerning designation of eligibility, contact: Karen W. Kershenstein, Acting Director, Institutional Participation Division, U.S. Department of Education, Room 3923, ROB-3, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-5323. Telephone: (202) 708-4906.

For technical assistance concerning the FISAP or other operational procedures of the campus-based programs, contact: Judy Norris, Acting Chief, Campus-Based Financial Operations Branch, Institutional Financial Management Division, Room 4714, ROB-3, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-5458. Telephone: (202) 708-9757. Individuals who use a

telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1087aa *et seq.*; 42 U.S.C. 2751 *et seq.*; and 20 U.S.C. 1070b *et seq.*)

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers: 84.007 Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program; 84.033 Federal Work-Study Program; 84.038 Federal Perkins Loan Program)

Dated: December 15, 1995.

David A. Longanecker,  
Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

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BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

### Recognition of Accrediting Agencies, State Agencies for Approval of Public Postsecondary Vocational Education, and State Agencies for Approval of Nurse Education

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Request for Comments on Agencies applying to the Secretary for Initial Recognition or Renewal of Recognition.

**DATES:** Commentors should submit their written comments by February 5, 1996 to the address below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karen W. Kershenstein, Director, Accreditation and State Liaison Division, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 3915 ROB-3, Washington, DC 20202-5244, telephone: (202) 708-7417.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

**SUBMISSION OF THIRD-PARTY COMMENTS:** The Secretary of Education recognizes as reliable authorities as to the quality of education offered by institutions or programs within their scope accrediting agencies and State approval agencies for public postsecondary vocational education and nurse education that meet certain criteria for recognition. The purpose of this notice is to invite interested third parties to present written comments on the agencies listed in this notice that have applied for initial or continued recognition. All comments received in response to this notice will be reviewed by Department staff as part of its evaluation of the agencies' compliance with the criteria for recognition. In order for Department staff to give full consideration to the

comments received, the comments must arrive at the address listed above not later than (Insert 45 days after date of publication in the Federal Register). Comments must relate to the Secretary's Criteria for the Recognition of Accrediting Agencies.

The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (the "Advisory Committee") advises the Secretary of Education on the recognition of accrediting agencies and State approval agencies. The Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet May 22-24, 1996 in Washington, D.C. All written comments received by the Department in response to this notice will be considered by both the Advisory Committee and the Secretary. A subsequent Federal Register notice will announce the meeting and invite individuals and/or groups to submit requests for oral presentation before the Advisory Committee on the agencies being reviewed. That notice, however, does not constitute another call for written comment. This notice is the only call for written comment.

The following agencies will be reviewed during the May 1996 meeting of the Advisory Committee:

#### Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Associations

##### *Petitions for Initial Recognition*

1. American Polygraph Association (requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of private, postsecondary, non-degree-granting institutions that prepare students to become Polygraph examiners).

2. National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Reproductive Health (requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of women's health nurse practitioner education programs in reproductive health).

3. Pacific Association of Schools and Colleges (requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of smaller specialized degree-granting institutions of higher education that specialize in limited and identified areas of social sciences and humanities).

4. Respiratory Care Accreditation Board (requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of respiratory care education programs).

##### *Petitions for Renewal of Recognition*

1. Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (requested scope of recognition: As a coordinating agency for the accreditation of institutions and programs under the following allied health education committees:

a. Cytotechnology Programs Review Committee.

b. Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

c. Joint Review Committee on Education in Electroneurodiagnostic Technology.

d. Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs for the EMT-Paramedic

e. Accreditation Committee for Perfusion Education (perfusionist)

f. Accreditation Committee for Education for the Physician Assistant

g. Joint Review Committee for Respiratory Therapy Education

h. Accreditation Review Committee for the Surgical Technologist

The Commission is also requesting an expansion of scope of recognition to include the accreditation of institutions and programs under the following allied health education committee:

i. Joint Review Committee on Education in Cardiovascular Technology.

2. Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Secondary Schools (requested scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation of public vocational and technical schools offering non-degree postsecondary education in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands)

3. National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of programs for the histologic technician/technologist)

4. National League for Nursing, Inc. (requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of programs in practical nursing, and diploma, associate, baccalaureate and higher degree nurse education programs)

*Interim Reports* (An interim report is a follow-up report on an accrediting agency's compliance with specific criteria for recognition that was requested by the Secretary when the Secretary granted recognition to the agency)—

1. American Bar Association, Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admission to the Bar

2. Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training

3. American Psychological Association, Committee on Education

4. Commission on Opticianry Accreditation

5. Distance Education and Training Council, Accrediting Commission

6. National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council

State Agencies Recognized for the Approval of Public Postsecondary Vocational Education

##### *Petition for Renewal of Recognition—*

1. Puerto Rico State Agency for the Approval of Public Postsecondary Vocational Technical Education Institutions and Programs

State Agencies Recognized for the Approval of Nurse Education

##### *Petition for Renewal of Recognition*

1. Montana Board of Nursing

Public Inspection of Petitions and Third-Party Comments

All petitions and interim reports, and those third-party comments received in advance of the meeting, will be available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, ROB-3, Room 3915, 7th and D Streets, S.W., Washington, DC 20202-5244, telephone (202) 708-7417 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Dated: December 18, 1995.

David A. Longanecker,

*Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.*

[FR Doc. 95-31073 Filed 12-20-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### **Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Idaho National Engineering Laboratory; Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting: Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL).

**DATES:** Tuesday, January 16, 1996 from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (MST) and Wednesday, January 17, 1996 from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. MST. There will be a public comment availability session Tuesday, January 16, 1996 from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. MST.

The Board will be participating in a public outreach program hosted by Boise State University and the University of Idaho Engineering Programs Tuesday afternoon.

**ADDRESSES:**