

increase in the number of PGY-2 positions does not address the intent of this special factor.

Innovative training methods-examples of ways in which applicants address this special factor might include new sponsor/co-sponsor arrangements; different organizational and administrative structures; expanded private/public sector affiliations and setting linkages; and creative applications for current instructional telecommunications and computer technologies.

Peer reviewers will take into consideration the extent to which proposals address these Special Factors and adjust their individual technical review scores accordingly.

A notice was published in the **Federal Register** at 62 FR 62616 on November 24, 1997, for the proposed special factors for the above-referenced program. No comments were received within the 30 day comment period. Therefore, the special factors remain as proposed.

If additional information is needed, please contact: Bernice Parlak, 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, Telephone: (301) 443-6853, FAX: (301) 443-1164.

Dated: January 30, 1998.

Claude Earl Fox,

Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-3090 Filed 2-5-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

"Low Income Levels" for Health Professions and Nursing Programs

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is updating income levels used to identify a "low income family" for the purpose of providing training for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds under various health professions and nursing programs included in Titles VII and VIII of the Public Health Service Act (the Act).

The Department periodically publishes in the **Federal Register** low income levels used for grants and cooperative agreements to institutions providing training for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. A "low

income level" is one of the factors taken into consideration to determine if an individual qualifies as a disadvantaged student for purposes of health professions and nursing programs.

The programs under the Act that use "low income levels" as one of the factors in determining disadvantaged backgrounds include the Health Careers Opportunity Program, section 740, the Program of Financial Assistance for Disadvantaged Health Professions Students, section 740 (a)(2)(F), and Nursing Education Opportunities for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds, section 827. Loans to Disadvantaged Students, section 724, Scholarships for Health Professions Students from Disadvantaged Backgrounds, section 737, Disadvantaged Health Professions Faculty Loan Repayment and Fellowships Program, section 738 were added to Title VII by the Disadvantaged Minority Health Improvement Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-527) and are also using the low income levels. Other factors used in determining "disadvantaged backgrounds" are included in individual program regulations and guidelines.

Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP), Section 740

This program awards grants to accredited schools of medicine, osteopathic medicine, public health, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, pharmacy, allied health, podiatric medicine, chiropractic and public or nonprofit private schools which offer graduate programs in clinical psychology, and other public or private nonprofit health or educational entities to assist individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds to enter and graduate from health professions schools.

Financial Assistance for Disadvantaged Health Professions Students (FADHPS), Section 740 (a)(2)(F)

This program awards grants to accredited schools of medicine, osteopathic medicine, and dentistry to provide financial assistance to individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who are of exceptional financial need to help pay for their health professions education. The provision of these scholarships shall be subject to section 795 relating to residency training and practice in primary health care.

Nursing Education Opportunities for Individuals From Disadvantaged Backgrounds, Section 827

This program awards grants to public and nonprofit private schools of nursing and other public or nonprofit private entities to meet costs of special projects to increase nursing education opportunities for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Loans to Disadvantaged Students, Section 724

This program makes awards to certain accredited schools of medicine, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, optometry, pharmacy, podiatric medicine, and veterinary medicine for financially needy students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Scholarships for Health Professions Students From Disadvantaged Backgrounds, Section 737

This program awards grants to schools of medicine, nursing, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, podiatric medicine, optometry, veterinary medicine, allied health, or public health, or schools that offer graduate programs in clinical psychology for the purpose of assisting such schools in providing scholarships to individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who enrolled (or are accepted for enrollment) as full-time students.

Disadvantaged Health Professions Faculty Loan Repayment and Fellowship Program, Section 738

This program awards grants to repay the health professions education loans of disadvantaged health professionals who have agreed to serve for at least 2 years as a faculty member of a school of medicine, nursing, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, podiatric medicine, optometry, veterinary medicine, public health, or a school that offers a graduate program in clinical psychology. Section 738 (a) allows loan repayment only for an individual who has not been a member of the faculty of any school at any time during the 18-month period preceding the date on which the Secretary receives the request of the individual for repayment contract (ie., "new" faculty).

The following income figures were taken from low income levels published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, using an index adopted by a Federal Interagency Committee for use in a variety of Federal programs. That index includes multiplication by a factor of 1.3 for adaptation to health professions and nursing programs which support training for individuals from

disadvantaged backgrounds. The income figures have been updated to reflect increases in the Consumer Price Index through December 31, 1997.

Size of Parents Family ¹	Income Level ²
1	\$10,700
2	13,900
3	16,500
4	21,200
5	25,000
6 or more	28,100

¹ Includes only dependents listed on Federal income tax forms.

² Rounded to the nearest \$100. Adjusted gross income for calendar year 1997.

Dated: January 30, 1998.

Claude Earl Fox,

Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-3091 Filed 2-6-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) meeting:

Name of SEP: International Cooperative Biodiversity Groups.

Date: March 23-24, 1998.

Time: March 23—9:00 a.m. to Recess; March 24—9:00 a.m. to Adjournment.

Place: Double Tree Hotel—Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Contact Person: Lalita Palekar, Ph.D., Scientific Review Administrator, National Cancer Institute, NIH, Executive Plaza North, Room 622, 6130 Executive Boulevard, MSC 7405, Bethesda, MD 20892-7405, Telephone: 301/496-7575.

Purpose/Agenda: To review, discuss and evaluate grant applications.

The meeting will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C. Applications and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Numbers: 93.393, Cancer Cause and Prevention Research; 93.394, Cancer Detection and Diagnosis Research; 93.395, Cancer Treatment Research; 93.396, Cancer Biology Research; 93.397, Cancer Centers Support; 93.398, Cancer Research Manpower; 93.399, Cancer Control)

Dated: February 2, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98-3094 Filed 2-6-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting of the National Cancer Institute Initial Review Group:

Agenda/Purpose: To review, discuss and evaluate grant applications.

Committee Name: Subcommittee G—Education.

Date: March 10-11, 1998.

Time: March 10—8:00 a.m. to Recess; March 11—8:00 a.m. to Adjournment.

Place: Holiday Inn—Georgetown, 2101 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20007.

Contact Person: Harvey P. Stein, Ph.D., Scientific Review Administrator, National Cancer Institute, NIH, 6130 Executive Blvd., North, Room 611B, Bethesda, MD 20892-7403, Telephone: 301-496-7481.

The meeting will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. Applications and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Numbers: 93.393, Cancer Cause and Prevention Research; 93.394, Cancer Detection and Diagnosis Research; 93.395, Cancer Treatment Research; 93.396, Cancer Biology Research; 93.397, Cancer Centers Support; 93.398, Cancer Research Manpower; 93.399, Cancer Control)

Dated: February 2, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98-3095 Filed 2-6-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice

is hereby given of the following National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) meeting:

Name of SEP: Sleep Academic Award Applications.

Date: March 9, 1998.

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Holiday Inn Chevy Chase, 5520 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815.

Contact Person: Louise P. Corman, Ph.D., Two Rockledge Center, Room 7180, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892-7924, (301) 435-0270.

Purpose/Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

This meeting will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. Applications and/or proposals and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications and/or proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs Nos. 93.837, National Heart and Vascular Diseases Research; 93.838, Lung Diseases Research; and 93.839, Blood Diseases and Resources Research, National Institutes of Health)

Dated: February 2, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98-3096 Filed 2-6-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following Initial Review Group (IRG) meeting:

Name of IRG: Heart, Lung, and Blood Program Project Review Committee.

Date: March 19-20, 1998.

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Place: Holiday Inn Silver Spring, 8777 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

Contact Person: Dr. Jeffrey H. Hurst, Scientific Review Administrator, NHLB/ Review Branch, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Rm. 7208, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, (301) 435-0303.

Purpose/Agenda: To review and evaluate program project grant applications.

The meeting will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in Sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C. Applications and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or