

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.305T]

Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI); National Research Institutes' Field-Initiated Studies (FIS) Research Grant Program; Notice of Extension of Deadline for Receipt of Applications and Applications Availability Date for Fiscal Year 1999

On December 14, 1998, the Secretary published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 68985) a notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year 1999 for the FIS Research Grant Program. The Secretary extends the *deadline date for the receipt of applications* for the OERI fiscal year 1999 FIS grants from February 19, 1999, to **March 26, 1999**. *Application packages* will be available on **January 29, 1999**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR

APPLICATION: To request an application or to obtain further information, write to the Office of Educational Research and Improvement, U.S. Department of Education, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Room 604, Washington, DC 20208, or contact Veda Bright by e-mail at veda_bright@ed.gov or by telephone at (202) 219-1935. Application packages will be available electronically on the World Wide Web at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OERI/FIS/>

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.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph. Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternate format, also, by contacting that person. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternate format the standard forms included in the application package.

Electronic Access to This Document

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To use the pdf you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program with Search, which is available free at either

of the previous sites. If you have questions about using the pdf, call the U.S. Government Printing Office at (202) 512-1530 or, toll free, at 1-888-293-6498.

Anyone may also view these documents in text copy only on an electronic bulletin board of the Department. Telephone: (202) 219-1511, or toll free, 1-800-222-4922. The documents are located under Option G—Files/Announcements, Bulletins and Press Releases.

Note: The official version of a document is the document published in the **Federal Register**.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6031(c)(2)(B)

Dated: January 25, 1999.

C. Kent McGuire,

Assistant Secretary for Educational Research and Improvement.

[FR Doc. 99-2128 Filed 1-27-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA Nos.: 84.315A, 84.315B, 84.315C]

Capacity Building for Traditionally Underserved Populations; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 1999

Purpose of Program: To improve services provided under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Act), especially services provided to individuals from minority backgrounds, and to provide outreach and technical assistance to minority entities and Indian tribes to enhance their capacity and promote their participation in activities funded under the Act.

Eligible Applicants: State and public or private nonprofit agencies and organizations, including Indian tribes and institutions of higher education. For Absolute Priority 1 and Absolute Priority 2, only minority entities as defined in section 21(b)(5)(B) of the Act and Indian tribes are eligible to apply for funds (section 21(b)(2)(B)).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Three types of projects are announced for FY 1999 under this program, and they are authorized under section 21(b)(2)(B) and (b)(2)(C) of the Act.

The term "minority entity" is defined in section 21(b)(5)(B) of the Act to mean an entity that is a historically Black college or university, a Hispanic-serving institution of higher education, an American Indian tribal college or university, or another institution of higher education whose student minority enrollment is at least 50 percent.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 24, 1999.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 23, 1999.

Note: Assistance to federally recognized Indian tribes is excluded from coverage under 34 CFR Part 79 (Intergovernmental Review of Department of Education Programs and Activities).

Applications Available: January 28, 1999.

Available Funds: \$2,000,000.

Maximum Awards: In no case does the Secretary make an award greater than the maximum amount listed for a single budget period of 12 months for each absolute priority. The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that proposes a budget exceeding the following maximum amounts:

Absolute Priority 1 " \$150,000

Absolute Priority 2 " \$400,000

Absolute Priority 3 " \$200,000

Estimated Range of Awards: \$120,000 to \$400,000.

Absolute Priority 1 " \$120,000 to \$150,000

Absolute Priority 2 " \$300,000 to \$400,000

Absolute Priority 3 " \$150,000 to \$200,000

Note: Applicants should apply for level funding for each project year.

Estimated Number of Awards: 12.

Absolute Priority 1—8

Absolute Priority 2—1

Absolute Priority 3—3

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Page Limit: Part III of the application, the application narrative, is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria used by reviewers in evaluating the application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 45 pages, using the following standards:

(1) A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.

(2) You must double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.

If you use a proportional computer font, you may not use a font smaller than a 12-point font or an average character density greater than 18 characters per inch. If you use a nonproportional font or a typewriter, you may not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget

section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

If, in order to meet the page limit, you use print size, spacing, or margins smaller than the standards specified in this notice, we won't consider your application for funding.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR Part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian tribes.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR Part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

Priorities

Absolute Priority 1 (84.315A): Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) and section 21(b)(2)(B) of the Act, the Secretary gives an absolute preference to applications from minority entities and Indian tribes that propose projects that would provide training, technical assistance, or related activities in order to improve services under the Act, especially services provided to individuals from minority backgrounds. The Secretary funds under this competition only applications that meet this absolute priority.

Invitational Priority: Within Absolute Priority 1, the Secretary is particularly interested in applications from minority entities that propose to do both of the following:

(A) Provide training, technical assistance, or related activities in order to improve the delivery of vocational rehabilitation services provided under the Act, especially services provided to individuals from minority backgrounds.

(B) Establish collaborative relationships and partnerships with community-based organizations, particularly those community-based organizations that provide services to individuals with disabilities from minority backgrounds.

However, under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) an application that meets this invitational priority does not receive competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

Approved applications from this competition also may be funded in FY 2000.

Absolute Priority 2 (84.315B): Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) and section 21(b)(2)(B) of the Act, the Secretary gives an absolute preference to

applications from minority entities and Indian tribes that propose projects that would improve services provided under the Act by providing training, technical assistance, or related activities to assist grantees funded under the Vocational Rehabilitation Service Projects for American Indians with Disabilities program (CFDA No. 84.250). The Secretary funds under this competition only applications that meet this absolute priority.

Absolute Priority 3 (84.315C): Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) and section 21(b)(2)(C) of the Act, the Secretary gives an absolute preference to applications that propose projects that would provide outreach and technical assistance to minority entities and Indian tribes to promote their participation in activities funded under the Act, including assistance to enhance their capacity to carry out those activities. Projects may provide technical assistance to minority entities who are first-time recipients of grants funded under the Act in order to increase their capacity to carry out their grants. The Secretary funds under this competition only applications that meet this absolute priority.

Selection Criteria: In evaluating an application for a new grant under these competitions, the Secretary uses selection criteria chosen from the general selection criteria in 34 CFR 75.210 of EDGAR. The selection criteria to be used for these competitions will be provided in the application package for these competitions.

For Applications Contact: The Grants and Contracts Service Team (GCST), U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. (Room 3317, Switzer Building), Washington, D.C. 20202-2649; Telephone (202) 205-8351. 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. The preferred method for requesting applications is to FAX your request to (202) 205-8717.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternate format by contacting the GCST. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternate format the standard forms included in the application package.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ellen C. Chesley, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. (Room 3318 Switzer Building), Washington, D.C. 20202-2649. Telephone: (202) 205-9481. 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.

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Program Authority: 29 U.S.C. 718b (Section 21 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended).

Dated: January 22, 1999.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 99-2019 Filed 1-27-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC99-516-000; FERC-516]

Proposed Information Collection and Request for Comments

January 22, 1999.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of proposed information collection and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of Section 3506(c)(2)(a) of