

The institution should also provide the Bureau with a substantive written analysis of the orientation, with recommendations for improving future orientations (no later than ten weeks after the orientation). The Bureau reserves the right to conduct an independent evaluation of the program. The institution is also required to provide a breakdown of actual cost figures for the orientation no later than ten weeks after the completion of the orientation.

Special note: The cooperating institution will survey the literature of appropriate subject fields to determine materials of greatest potential value to teachers. If approved by the Bureau, recipient institution will purchase materials (up to \$40 per teacher). The institution will also compile other materials as directed by the Bureau. These may include materials on U.S. education, including current trends and initiatives, materials on education in selected foreign countries, materials on cross-cultural adjustment and understanding, materials that provide guidance on living abroad, and other materials which the institution and the Bureau staff consider useful. The institution will provide these materials to U.S. and foreign exchange teachers at the orientation.

Note: The Bureau may also request that cooperating institution arrange additional orientation and/or training, or workshop briefings for program participants and administrators, resource people, and organizers during the award period. Cooperating institution may also be asked to provide programming and other services to the Bureau including, but not limited to, peer committee chairpersons workshops, predeparture orientation activities, foreign and U.S. teacher debriefings, materials purchase and distribution, and the development of new program information, including materials and videos.

Proposed Budget

Organizations must submit a comprehensive line-item budget based on the specific guidance in the Solicitation Package. There must be a summary budget as well as a breakdown reflecting both the administrative budget and the program budget. For better understanding or further clarification, applicants may provide separate sub-budgets for each program component, phase, location, or activity in order to facilitate the Bureau decisions on funding. Administrative costs should be kept low; this will be an important factor in grant competition. Also, the ability to achieve cost-effectiveness within budget guidelines through cost-sharing will enhance competitive proposals. Please refer to

the Solicitation Package for complete budget guidelines and formatting instructions.

Review Process

The Bureau will acknowledge receipt of all proposals and will review them for technical eligibility. Proposals will be deemed ineligible if they do not fully adhere to the guidelines stated herein and in the Solicitation Package. All eligible proposals will be reviewed by Bureau officers. Proposals may also be reviewed by the Office of the Legal Advisor or by other offices of the State Department. Funding decisions will be made at the discretion of the Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs. Final technical authority for assistance awards (grants or cooperative agreements) will reside with a contracts officer with competency for Bureau programs.

Review Criteria

State Department officers will use the criteria below to reach funding recommendations and decisions. Technically eligible applications will be competitively reviewed according to the criteria stated below. These criteria are not rank-ordered or weighted.

1. Quality and Clarity of Program Planning: Proposals should exhibit substance, precision, and relevance to Bureau mission. Detailed agenda and relevant work plan should demonstrate substantive undertakings and logistical capacity. Agenda and plan should adhere to the program overview and guidelines described above. Proposals should clearly demonstrate how the institution will meet the program's objectives and plan.

2. Support of Diversity: Proposals should demonstrate substantive support of the Bureau's policy on diversity by outlining relevant aspects of the institutional profile. Achievable and relevant features should be cited in both program administration and program content (orientation sessions, resource materials, and choice of resources).

3. Institutional Capacity and Record/Ability: Proposed personnel and institutional resources should be adequate and appropriate to achieve the program or project's goals. Proposals should demonstrate an institutional record of successful exchange programs, including responsible fiscal management and full compliance with all reporting requirements for past Bureau grants as determined by the State Department's Contracts office. The Bureau will consider the past performance of prior recipients and the demonstrated potential of new applicants.

4. Project Evaluation: Proposals should include a plan to evaluate the activities' success, both as the activities unfold and at the end of the program. A draft survey questionnaire or other technique plus description of a methodology to use to link outcomes to original project objectives are recommended.

5. Cost-effectiveness and Cost-sharing: The overhead and administrative components of the proposal, including salaries and honoraria, should be kept as low as possible. All other items should be necessary and appropriate. Proposals should maximize cost-sharing through other private sector support as well as institutional direct funding contributions.

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFP are binding and may not be modified by any Bureau representative. Explanatory information provided by the Bureau that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through the internal Bureau procedures.

Dated: January 7, 2000.

Evelyn S. Lieberman,

Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs.

[FR Doc. 00-985 Filed 1-13-00; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Notice of Meeting of the Industry Functional Advisory Committee on Electronic Commerce (IFAC-4)

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Industry Functional Advisory Committee on Electronic Commerce (IFAC-4) will hold a meeting on February 3, 2000, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The meeting will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and closed to the public from 12 noon to 3 p.m.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2000, unless otherwise notified.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Department of Commerce Room 4830, located at 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, unless otherwise notified.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric Fredell, Department of Commerce, 14th St. and Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20230, (202) 482-0304 or Ladan Manteghi, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 1724 F St. NW, Washington, DC 20508, (202) 395-6120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The IFAC-4 will hold a meeting on February 3, 2000 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The meeting will include a review and discussion of current issues which influence U.S. trade policy. Pursuant to Section 2155(f)(2) of Title 19 of the United States Code and Executive Order 11846 of March 27, 1975, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative has determined that part of this meeting will be concerned with matters the disclosure of which would seriously compromise the development by the United States Government of trade policy, priorities, negotiating objectives or bargaining positions with respect to the operation of any trade agreement and other matters arising in connection with the development, implementation and administration of the trade policy of the United States. During the discussion of such matters, the meeting will be closed to the public from 12 noon to 3 p.m. The meeting will be open to the public and press from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, when other trade policy issues will be discussed. Attendance during this part of the meeting is for observation only. Individuals who are not members of the committees will not be invited to comment.

Pate Felts,

Acting Assistant United States Trade Representative, Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Liaison.

[FR Doc. 00-894 Filed 1-13-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Notice of Intent To Request Renewal From the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) of Two Current Public Collections of Information

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the FAA invites public comment on two currently approved public information collections which will be submitted to OMB for renewal.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 14, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed or delivered to the FAA at the following address: Ms. Judith Street, Room 613, Federal Aviation Administration, Standards and Information Division, APF-100, 800 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20591.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Judith Street at the above address or on (202) 267-9895.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FAA solicits comments on the following two current collections of information in order to evaluate the necessity of the collection, the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden, the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and possible ways to minimize the burden of the collection. Following is a short synopsis of the two currently approved public information collection activities, which will be submitted to OMB for review and renewal:

1. 2120-0608, Commercial Space Transportation Licensing Regulations. The data requested for a license application to conduct commercial space launch activities are required by the Commercial Space Launch Act of 1984, 49 U.S.C. App. §§ 2601-2623, as recodified at 49 U.S.C. 70101-70119 (1994). The required information will be used to determine if applicant proposals for conducting commercial space launches can be accomplished in a safe manner according to regulations and license orders issued by the Office of the Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation. Respondents are an estimated 6 licensees authorized to conduct licensed launch activities. The estimated annual burden is 3000 hours.

2. 2120-0652, Changes in Permissible Stage 2 Airplane Operations. On 11/29/99, the President signed legislation (PL 106-113) amending the Airport Noise and Capacity Act (ANCA) of 1990. The primary focus of ANCA was the prohibition on Stage 2 airplane flight in the contiguous United States after 12/31/99. The changes to ANCA give the FAA new authority to allow certain non-revenue Stage 2 flights after the statutory compliance date. After 12/31/99, operations will need a special flight authorization to bring Stage 2 airplanes into the U.S. in non-revenue service for a certain purpose. The respondents are an estimated 100 operators of stage 2

airplanes needing to bring Stage 2 airplanes into the U.S. in non revenue service for a certain purpose. The estimated annual burden is 25 hours.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 10, 2000.

Steve Hopkins,

Manager, Standards and Information Division, APF-100.

[FR Doc. 00-932 Filed 1-13-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA-1999-6689]

Railroad Car Conspicuity; Establishment of Public Docket

Congress, in the Federal Railroad Safety Authorization Act of 1994 (Pub. L. No 103-440), requires FRA to conduct a review of the Department's rules with respect to the visibility of railroad cars. Part of this review includes collecting relevant data from operational experience by railroads having enhanced visibility measures in service. The statute, codified at 49 U.S.C. 20148, provides that if the review establishes that enhanced railroad car visibility would likely improve safety in a cost-effective manner, the Secretary of Transportation shall initiate a rulemaking to prescribe regulations requiring enhanced visibility standards for railroad cars. The Secretary has delegated this responsibility to the Federal Railroad Administration ("FRA").

FRA will consider, at a minimum—

- (1) visibility of railroad cars from the perspective of nonrailroad traffic;
- (2) whether certain railroad car paint colors should be prohibited or required;
- (3) the use of reflective materials;
- (4) the visibility of lettering on railroad cars;
- (5) the effect of any enhanced visibility measures on the health and safety of train crew members; and
- (6) the cost/benefit ratio of any new regulations.

In an effort to carry out the Congressional mandate, FRA is establishing a public docket to provide all interested parties with a central location to both send and review relevant information concerning railroad car conspicuity. The docket established for this purpose is designated Docket No. FRA-1999-6689. The information submitted to the docket will aid FRA in determining whether or not a rulemaking will ultimately be appropriate.