

Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: January 19, 2000.

William E. Burrow,

*Leader, Information Management Group,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Type of Review: Reinstatement.

Title: Applications for Grants under the Class Size Reduction Program.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 57.

Burden Hours: 14.

Abstract: This application will be used to award grants to State educational agencies for the purpose of reducing class size.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_IMG_Issues@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346.

Questions regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Kathy Axt at (703) 426-9692 or via her internet address Kathy_Axt@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 00-1706 Filed 1-24-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before February 24, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of

Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Danny Werfel, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address DWERFEL@OMB.EOP.GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: January 20, 2000.

William E. Burrow,

*Leader, Information Management Group,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Type of Review: New.

Title: Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities National Programs—Federal Activities Grants Program—The Challenge Newsletter.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs; Not-for-profit institutions.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 20;

Burden Hours: 400.

Abstract: This program provides a communication link on current and future program directions, research-based activities, and other information related to effective drug and violence prevention strategies between the

Department of Education and State and local education agencies and other public and private organizations involved with safe and drug-free schools programs.

This information collection is being submitted under the Streamlined Clearance Process for Discretionary Grant Information Collections (1890-0001). Therefore, the 30-day public comment period notice will be the only public comment notice published for this information collection.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_IMG_Issues@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346.

Questions regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to AXT at (703) 426-9692. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 00-1754 Filed 1-24-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No 84.031S]

Developing Hispanic Serving Institutions Program

AGENCY: Department of Education.

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2000.

Purpose of Program: Grants to Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI) under the Developing Hispanic Serving Institutions Program assist eligible Hispanic Serving institutions of higher education to expand their capacity to serve Hispanic and low-income students by enabling them to improve their academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability and to increase their self-sufficiency. Five-year development grants and one-year planning grants are awarded.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions that, at the time of application, have an enrollment of undergraduate full-time equivalent students that is at least 25 percent Hispanic students, and provide assurances that not less than 50 percent of their Hispanic students are low-income individuals.

Special Notes

1. If an institution is the recipient of a grant under the programs authorized under Part A or B of Title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), the institution may not receive a grant under the HSI Program if any part of the grant period for the HSI Program grant would overlap with the grant awarded under Part A or B of Title III. Thus, such an institution may not apply for a grant under the HSI Program in this competition. Further, an institution that is a recipient of a grant under Part A or B may not relinquish that grant in order to apply for a grant under the HSI Program. The programs authorized under Part A of Title III of the HEA include the Strengthening Institutions Program, American Indian Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Program, Alaska Native-Serving Institutions Program, and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions Program. The programs authorized under Part B of Title III of the HEA include the Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program and the Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions Program.

2. An institution that does not fall within the limitation described in paragraph 1 may apply for a grant under both the programs authorized under Title III Part A of the HEA and the HSI Program. However, the institution may receive only one grant under any of those programs. Accordingly, if an institution applies for a grant under more than one program, it should indicate that fact in each application, and should further indicate which grant it wishes to receive if it is selected to receive a grant under more than one program.

3. We have changed the way we collect information for determining the value of endowment funds and total expenditures for library materials. As a result of that change, we do not now have base year data beyond 1996–1997 data. Consequently, in order to award FY 2000 grants in a timely manner, we will use 1996–1997 base year data.

Applications Available: January 25, 2000.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 10, 2000.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 10, 2000.

Methods for Submission of Grant Applications: We will accept applications in two formats, a paper application and a diskette application. You must submit one original (hard copy with signatures) and two diskettes. Each diskette must contain a copy of the entire application for the FY 2000 grant

competition, excluding the following forms (which should be included with the hard copy only): the Application for Federal Education Assistance Form (ED 424), HSI Certification Form (ED 851S–7), the Assurances and Certification Forms and the Endowment Fund Assurance Form (ED 851S–8). The hard copy and the two diskettes must be postmarked on or before the closing date of the competition.

Under both formats we have established mandatory page limits. Reviewers will be instructed not to read applications beyond the stated page limits. If, to meet the page limit, you use a larger page or you use a print size, spacing, or margins smaller than the standards in this notice, we will reject your application. For this purpose, an application narrative includes the institutional narrative, the comprehensive development plan, activity narratives, and the project management narrative.

- The narrative of a development grant application may not exceed 60 pages. Additionally, essential appendices may be attached but may not exceed 5 pages each.
- The narrative of a cooperative arrangement grant application may not exceed 120 pages. Additionally, essential appendices may be attached but may not exceed 10 pages each.
- The narrative of a planning grant application may not exceed 20 pages. Additionally, essential appendices may be attached but may not exceed 5 pages each.

The cover page (ED Form 424 and the tiebreaker information page on the back of ED Form 424) and all certificates and assurances must accompany the original application and are not included within the page limits.

1. A 'page' is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins top, bottom, right and left.

2. You must double-space all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions. However, you may single space charts, forms, tables, figures or graphs.

Electronic Field Readings: During FY 2000, all grant applications under the HSI Program will be reviewed by readers from a secure website. The reviewers will provide comments and award points online. Reviewers will have the opportunity to discuss any significant point differences in a virtual chat room environment.

Note: Some of the procedures in these instructions for transmitting applications differ from those in 34 CFR 75.102. Under 5 U.S.C. 553, the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to

comment on proposed regulations. However, these amendments make procedural changes only and do not establish new substantive policy. Therefore, under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A), the Secretary has determined that proposed rulemaking is not required.

Available Funds: Total estimated funding available is \$42,500,000 for FY 2000. Approximately \$16,500,000 will support 39 continuing grants. Approximately \$26,000,000 will be available for the new grant competition.

Estimated Range of Awards:

Development Grants: \$350,000–\$400,000 per year.

Planning Grants: \$30,000—\$35,000 for one year.

Estimated Average Size of Awards:

Development Grant: \$375,000 per year.

Planning Grant: \$32,500 for one year.

Estimated Number of Awards:

Development Awards: 65.

Planning Grant Awards: 10.

Project Period:

60 months for development grants.

12 months for planning grants.

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

Statutory Priorities

Under Section 511(d) of the HEA, we give priority to applications that contain satisfactory evidence that the Hispanic Serving institution has entered into or will enter into a collaborative arrangement with at least one local educational agency or community-based organization to provide that agency or organization with assistance (from funds other than funds provided under Title V of the HEA) in reducing dropout rates for Hispanic students, improving rates of academic achievement for Hispanic students, and increasing the rates at which Hispanic secondary school graduates enroll in higher education. We anticipate that we will fund under this competition only applications that meet this priority.

As described under Section 514(b) of the HEA, we give priority to grants for cooperative arrangements that are geographically and economically sound or will benefit the applicant Hispanic Serving Institution. We anticipate that we will fund only those applications that meet this priority under this competition.

Special Funding Consideration

In tie-breaking situations described in 34 CFR 606.23 of the HSI Program regulations, we award one additional point to an application from an

institution that has an endowment fund for which the market value in 1996–97, per full-time equivalent (FTE) student, was less than the average per FTE student at similar type institutions; and one additional point to an application

from an institution that had expenditures for library materials in 1996–97, per FTE student, that were less than the average per FTE student at similar type institutions.

For the purpose of these funding considerations, an applicant must be

able to demonstrate that the market value of its endowment fund per FTE student, or expenditures for library per FTE student, were less than the following approximated national averages for year 1996–97.

	Average market value of endowment fund per FTE student	Average Library expenditures for materials per FTE student
Two-year public institutions	\$1,332	\$45
Two-year nonprofit private institutions	11,567	121
Four-year public institutions	2,829	165
Four-year nonprofit private institution	42,579	254

If a tie still remains after applying the additional points, we determine that an institution will receive an award according to a combined ranking of two-year and four-year institutions. This ranking is established by combining library expenditures and endowment values per FTE student. The institutions with the lowest combined library expenditures per FTE student and endowment values per FTE student are ranked higher in strict numerical order.

Applicable Regulations

(a) The Department of Education General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; and (b) the regulations for the HSI Program in 34 CFR Part 606. The HSI final regulations, 34 CFR part 606, were published in the **Federal Register** on December 15, 1999, 64 FR 70146–70155.

For Applications or Information Contact: Jessie DeAro, Title V-Developing Hispanic Serving Institutions Program, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, Higher Education Programs, 1990 K Street N.W., 6th floor, Washington DC 20006–8501. Telephone (202) 502–7562. The email address for Jessie DeAro is jessie_dearo@ed.gov.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

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 specified 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

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following sites:

- <http://www.ed.gov/news.html>
- <http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm>

To use the PDF you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program with Search, which is available free at the previously mentioned web sites. If you have any questions about using the PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) toll free, at 1–888–293–6498; or in the Washington, DC area at (202) 512–1530.

Note: The official version of a document is the document Published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>.

Program Authority: 20 USC 1059c.

Dated: January 19, 2000.

A. Lee Fritschler,

Assistant Secretary Office of Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 00–1725 Filed 1–24–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education—Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities National Programs—Federal Activities Grants Program

AGENCY: Department of Education

ACTION: Notice of proposed priority and selection criteria for fiscal year 2000 and subsequent years.

SUMMARY: The Secretary announces a proposed priority, eligible applicants, and selection criteria for fiscal year (FY) 2000 and, at the discretion of the Secretary, for subsequent years under the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) National Programs—Federal Activities Grants Program. The Secretary takes this action to focus Federal financial assistance on an identified national need—the development and dissemination of a newsletter with information about effective practices to prevent drug use and violent behavior among youth. *The Challenge* newsletter will provide a communication link on current and future program directions, research-based activities, and other information related to effective drug and violence prevention strategies between the U.S. Department of Education and State and local education agencies and other public and private organizations involved with safe and drug-free schools programs.

Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants under this competition are public and private nonprofit organizations and individuals.

Invitation to Comment: Interested persons are invited to submit comments and recommendations regarding this proposed priority. All comments submitted in response to this notice will be available for public inspection, during and after the comment period, in Room 3E310, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday of each week except Federal holidays. On request, the Department supplies an appropriate aid, such as a reader or print magnifier, to an individual with a disability who