

by the Office of the Legal Adviser or by other Bureau elements. Final funding decisions are at the discretion of the Department of State's Acting Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs. Final technical authority for assistance awards (grants or cooperative agreements) resides with the Bureau's Grants Officer.

Review Criteria

Technically eligible applications will be competitively reviewed according to the criteria stated below. These criteria are not rank ordered and all carry equal weight in the proposal evaluation:

1. *Quality of the program idea:* Proposals should exhibit originality, substance, precision, and relevance to the Bureau's mission. Integration of language and culture components should adhere to stated objectives of this project.

2. *Program planning:* 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. Refer to POGI regarding elements that should be included in a calendar of activities/timetable.

3. *Ability to achieve program objectives:* Objectives should be measurable, tangible and flexible. Proposals should clearly demonstrate how the organization will meet the program's objectives and plan.

4. *Support of Diversity:* Proposals should demonstrate substantive support of the Bureau's policy on diversity. Achievable and relevant features should be cited in both program administration (selection of staff and speakers, program venue, host families) and program content (curriculum, orientation and wrap-up sessions, program meetings, and resource materials).

5. *Institutional Capacity:* Proposed personnel and institutional resources should be adequate and appropriate to achieve the program or project's goals. Coordinator responsible for curriculum, materials development and instruction should demonstrate relevant ESL/U.S. culture teaching experience and qualifications.

6. *Institution's Record/Ability:* Proposals should demonstrate an institutional record of successful language/culture programs, including responsible fiscal management and full compliance with all reporting requirements for past Bureau grants as determined by Bureau Grant Staff. The Bureau will consider the past performance of prior recipients and the demonstrated potential of new applicants.

7. *Project Evaluation:* Proposals should include a plan to evaluate the program's success, both as the activities unfold and at the end of the program. A draft survey questionnaire, tests, or other techniques plus description of a methodology to use to link outcomes to original project objectives is recommended. Successful applicant will be expected to submit a final report after project is concluded.

8. *Cost-effectiveness/ 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.

Authority

Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87-256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is "to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries * * *; to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations * * * and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world." The funding authority for the program above is provided through legislation appropriating funds annually for Department of State's exchange programs.

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFGP 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 internal Bureau procedures.

Dated: February 12, 2001.

Helena Kane Finn,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 01-4396 Filed 2-21-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice #3547]

Advisory Committee for the Study of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union; Notice of Meeting

The Department of State announces that the Advisory Committee for the Study of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (Title VIII) will convene on Thursday, April 19, 2001, beginning at 10 a.m. in Room 1105, U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The Advisory Committee will recommend grant recipients for the FY 2001 competition of the Program for the Study of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union in connection with the "Research and Training for Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union Act of 1983, as amended." The agenda will include opening statements by the Chairman and members of the Committee and, within the Committee, discussion, approval, and recommendation that the Department of State negotiate grant agreements with certain "national organizations with an interest and expertise in conducting research and training concerning the countries of Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union," based on the guidelines contained in the call for applications published in the **Federal Register** on November 14, 2000. Following committee deliberation, interested members of the public may make oral statements concerning the Title VIII program in general.

This meeting will be open to the public; however, attendance will be limited to the seating available. Entry into the Department of State building is controlled and must be arranged in advance of the meeting. Those planning to attend should notify Temi Johnson, INR/RES, U.S. Department of State, (202) 736-4572 by Monday, April 16, 2001, providing their date of birth, Social Security number, and any requirements for special needs. All attendees must use the 2201 C Street,

NW., entrance to the building. Visitors who arrive without prior notification and without a photo ID will not be admitted.

Dated: February 12, 2001.

W. Kendall Myers,

Executive Director, Advisory Committee for Study of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union, U.S. Department of State.

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Notice of Meeting of the Industry Sector Advisory Committee on Services for Trade Policy Matters (ISAC-13)

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Industry Sector Advisory Committee on Services will hold a meeting on February 27, 2001, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The meeting will be opened to the public from 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. and closed to the public from 9:45 a.m. to 12 noon.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2001, unless otherwise notified.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Department of Commerce, Conference Room 6057, located at 14th Street between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues, NW., Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Holderman (202) 482-0345, Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (principal contact), or myself on (202) 395-6120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: During the opened portion of the meeting the following topics will be discussed:

- Services Contribution to the United States Economy
- Services Statistics

Christina Sevilla,

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

[FR Doc. 01-4388 Filed 2-21-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

[Policy Statement Number ANM-01-01]

FAA Policy on Use of the "Aircraft Materials Fire Test Handbook"

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of policy statement; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces an FAA policy applicable to the use of Report DOT/FAA/AR-00/42, "Aircraft Materials Fire Test Handbook." This notice advises the public that the FAA considers the material flammability tests described in the latest version of that document to be the preferred acceptable test methods for showing compliance with the relevant regulations. This notice is necessary to advise the public of FAA policy and give all interested persons an opportunity to present their views on the policy statement.

DATES: Send all comments on this policy statement on or before March 26, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments on this policy statement to the individual identified under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeff Gardlin, Federal Aviation Administration, Transport Airplane Directorate, Airframe/Cabin Safety Branch, ANM-115, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA 98055-4056; telephone (425) 227-2136; fax (425) 227-1320; e-mail: jeff.gardlin@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

You may comment on this policy statement by sending any written data, views, or arguments as you may desire. You should identify the Policy Statement Number ANM-01-01 on your comments, and submit your comments, in duplicate, to the address indicated above. The Transport Airplane Directorate (Transport Standards Staff) will consider all communications received on or before the closing date for comments.

Discussion

The Original Version of the Handbook

In September 1990, the FAA published Report DOT/FAA/CT-99/15, "Aircraft Materials Fire Test Handbook" (referred to throughout this notice as "the Handbook"). The Boeing Company, with the assistance of the former McDonnell Douglas Aircraft Company,

developed the Handbook under contract to the FAA.

The 1990 version of the Handbook consisted of chapters outlining in detail the various material flammability tests that Boeing and McDonnell Douglas had used to show compliance with the FAA material flammability regulations. Those specific regulations in Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), part 25, are:

§ 25.853 ("Compartment interiors"),
§ 25.855 ("Cargo and baggage compartments"),

§ 25.857 ("Cargo compartment classification"),

§ 25.858 ("Cargo compartment fire detection systems"), and

§ 25.869 ("Fire protection: systems").

At the time of its original publication, the Handbook contained test methods that represented acceptable, but not necessarily the only, methods to show compliance with those regulations. In addition, the Handbook contained other chapters with general information on flammability testing of aircraft material, such as where in the regulations to find requirements, the location of international contacts, and a list of various fire test laboratories.

Modifications to Test Methods in the Handbook

Since the original publication of the Handbook, the FAA has relied on the International Aircraft Materials Fire Test Working Group (IAMFTWG) to review the test methods and advise on areas needing possible revision. The IAMFTWG consists of experts in the materials and fire testing specialties who help refine and support the development of test methods used in aviation. The members of the IAMFTWG include representatives from the airlines, airframe manufacturers, material suppliers, and regulatory authorities, among others. A representative from the FAA's Technical Center chairs this group. The IAMFTWG is a participative technical peer group that contributes to FAA research, but its activities are not regulatory in nature.

Before any modifications to the test methods described in the Handbook have been incorporated, the IAMFTWG has provided data supporting such modifications, and the FAA has reviewed and accepted the data. In addition, the FAA's Transport Airplane Directorate (Transport Standards Staff) has determined whether the modified test methods complied with the applicable regulations.

The following is an example of why and how this procedure has been used in the past to modify and improve test methods.