

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.305M]

**Institute of Education Sciences;
Correction**

ACTION: Notice inviting applications for grants to support education research for fiscal years 2003; Correction.

On January 6, 2003, a notice inviting applications for grants to support education research was published in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 656). On page 656, in the table, the column *Due Date for Optional Letter of Intent* states that the deadline for transmittal of the letter of intent is "March 26, 2003" for the Teacher Quality Research program (84.305M). The *Due Date for Optional Letter of Intent* is corrected to read "March 6, 2003."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Harold Himmelfarb, U.S. Department of Education, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW., room 510f, Washington, DC 20208. Telephone: (202) 219-2031 or via the Internet: harold.himmelfarb@ed.gov.

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 9501 *et seq.* (the "Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002", Title 1 of Public Law 107-279, November 5, 2002).

Dated: January 30, 2003.

Grover J. Whitehurst,

Director, Institute of Education Sciences.

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**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY**

[FRL-7448-2]

**Integrated Risk Information System
(IRIS); Announcement of 2003
Program; Request for Information and
Announcement of Workshop**

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice; announcement of the IRIS 2003 program and request for scientific information on health effects that may result from exposure to chemical substances; announcement of the stakeholder workshop on priority-setting criteria for the assessment of chemical substances.

SUMMARY: IRIS is an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) data base that contains EPA scientific consensus positions on human health effects that may result from chronic exposure to chemical substances in the environment. On January 9, 2002, EPA announced the 2002 IRIS agenda and solicited scientific information from the public for consideration in assessing health effects from specific chemical substances. Most of the health assessments listed in the notice are in progress or near completion. Today, EPA is adding some additional health assessments to the IRIS agenda. This notice describes the Agency's plans and solicits scientific data and evaluations for consideration in EPA's new assessments. Additional new assessments may be announced in the **Federal Register** later this year. This notice also announces a stakeholder workshop on the criteria that EPA's IRIS program uses to establish annual priorities for assessing chemical substances and provides information for observer registration.

DATES: Please submit scientific information in response to this notice in the form of an initial "submission inventory" in accordance with the instructions in this notice by April 7, 2003.

The stakeholder workshop on criteria for establishing priorities for assessing chemical substances for IRIS will be held March 4, 2003. This notice includes instructions for observer registration.

ADDRESSES: A "submission inventory" should be sent to the IRIS Submission Desk in accordance with the instructions provided under "Submission of Information" in this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the IRIS program, contact Amy Mills, Program Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment, (mail code 8601D), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC 20460, or call (202) 564-3204, or send electronic mail inquiries to mills.amy@epa.gov. For general questions about access to IRIS or the content of IRIS, please call the IRIS Hotline at (301) 345-2870 or send electronic mail inquiries to hotline.iris@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

IRIS is an EPA data base containing Agency consensus scientific positions on potential adverse human health effects that may result from exposure to chemical substances found in the environment. IRIS currently provides information on health effects associated with chronic exposure to over 500 specific chemical substances.

IRIS contains chemical-specific summaries of qualitative and quantitative health information in support of the first two steps of the risk assessment process, *i.e.*, hazard identification and dose-response evaluation. IRIS information includes the reference dose for noncancer health effects resulting from oral exposure, the reference concentration for non-cancer health effects resulting from inhalation exposure, and the carcinogen assessment for both oral and inhalation exposure. Combined with specific situational exposure assessment information, the summary health hazard information in IRIS may be used as a source in evaluating potential public health risks from environmental contaminants.

The IRIS Program

EPA's process for developing IRIS consists of: (1) An annual **Federal Register** announcement of EPA's IRIS agenda and call for scientific information from the public on the selected chemical substances, (2) a search of the current literature, (3) development of health assessments and draft IRIS summaries, (4) peer review within EPA, (5) peer review outside EPA, (6) EPA consensus review and management approval, (7) preparation of final IRIS summaries and supporting documents, and (8) entry of summaries