

applications to include additional formula grant programs and additional discretionary grant competitions. The Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program, CFDA #84.364A, is one of the programs included in the pilot project. If you are an applicant under the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program you may submit your application to us in either electronic or paper format.

The pilot project involves the use of the Electronic Grant Application System (e-Application) portion of the Grant Administration and Payment System (GAPS). Users of e-Application will be entering data on-line while completing their applications. You may not e-mail a soft copy of a grant application to us. If you participate in this voluntary pilot project by submitting an application electronically, the data you enter on-line will be saved into a database. We request your participation in e-Application. We shall continue to evaluate its success and solicit suggestions for improvement.

If you participate in e-Application, please note the following:

- Your participation is voluntary.
- You will not receive any additional point value because you submit a grant application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you submit an application in paper format. When you enter the e-Application system, you will find information about its hours of operation.
- You may submit all documents electronically, including the Application for Federal Assistance (ED 424), Budget Information Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.
- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgement, which will include a PR/Award number (an identifying number unique to your application).
- Within three working days after submitting your electronic application, fax a signed copy of the Application for Federal Assistance (ED 424) to the Application Control Center after following these steps:
 - (1) Print ED 424 from the e-Application system.
 - (2) The institution's Authorizing Representative must sign this form.
 - (3) Place the PR/Award number in the upper right hand corner of the hard copy signature page of the ED 424.
 - (4) Fax the signed ED 424 to the Application Control Center at (202) 260-1349.
- We may request that you give us original signatures on all other forms at a later date.

• **Closing Date Extension in Case of System Unavailability:** If you elect to participate in the e-Application pilot for the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program and you are prevented from submitting your application on the closing date because the e-Application system is unavailable, we will grant you an extension of one business day in order to transmit your application electronically, by mail, or by hand delivery. For us to grant this extension—

(1) You must be a registered user of e-Application, and have initiated an e-Application for this competition; and (2)(a) The e-Application system must be unavailable for 60 minutes or more between the hours of 8:30 and 3:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the deadline date; or

(b) The e-Application system must be unavailable for any period of time during the last hour of operation (that is, for any period of time between 3:30 and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time) on the deadline date. The Department must acknowledge and confirm these periods of unavailability before granting you an extension. To request this extension you must contact either (1) the person listed elsewhere in this notice under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** or (2) the e-GRANTS help desk at 1-888-336-8930.

You may access the electronic grant application for the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program at: <http://e-grants.ed.gov>.

FOR APPLICATIONS CONTACT: Applications will be available on the World Wide Web at the following sites: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/LSL>; <http://www.ed.gov/GrantApps>.

Hard Copies will be available after March 6, 2003, from the Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794-1398. Telephone (toll free) 1-877-433-7827. FAX: (301) 470-1244. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call (toll free): 1-877-576-7734.

You may also contact ED Pubs at its Web site: <http://www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html>. or you may contact ED Pubs at its e-mail address: edpubs@inet.ed.gov.

If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this competition as follows: 84.364A.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Margaret McNeely or Beth Fine, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 5C130, FOB-6, Washington, DC 20202-6200. Telephone: (202) 260-1335 (Margaret McNeely) or (202) 260-1091 (Beth Fine) or via Internet: LSL@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339. Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

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Note: The official version of this 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 U.S.C. 6383.

Dated: March 3, 2003.

Eugene W. Hickok,

Under Secretary of Education.

[FR Doc. 03-5284 Filed 3-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.344]

Office of Postsecondary Education; TRIO Dissemination Partnership (TRIO Dissemination) Program; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2003

Purpose of Program: The TRIO Dissemination Program provides grants to TRIO Program grantees to enable them to work with institutions and organizations that are serving low-income and first-generation college students, but do not have TRIO Program grants. The purpose of the TRIO Dissemination Program is to promote the replication or adaptation of successful TRIO Program components, practices, strategies, and activities by institutions and organizations that are not TRIO Program grantees. The TRIO Programs consist of Talent Search, Educational Opportunity Centers, Upward Bound, Student Support Services, Ronald E. McNair

Postbaccalaureate Achievement Programs, and the Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs.

For FY 2003, we encourage applicants to design projects that focus on the invitational priorities in the Priorities section of this application notice.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education and private and public institutions and organizations that were carrying out a Federal TRIO grant before October 7, 1998, the date of enactment of the Higher Education Amendments of 1998.

Applications Available: March 6, 2003.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 7, 2003.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 9, 2003.

Estimated Available Funds: \$5,500,000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: All previously funded grantees under this program are eligible to apply under this competition. However, no prior experience points will be awarded. In addition, as the purpose of the Dissemination Program is to increase the impact of the TRIO Programs in order to reach more TRIO-eligible students, previously funded grantees must identify new partners and, as appropriate, select a new component or strategy.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$150,000–\$200,000 for Year 1 of the project period.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$179,000 per year.

Maximum Award: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding \$200,000 for Year 1 of the project period. The Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the **Federal Register**.

Estimated Number of Awards: 25–30.

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

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 45 pages, using the following standards:

- A “page” is 8.5” by 11”, on one side only, with 1” margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- 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.

- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (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.

We will reject your application if—

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99.

Priorities

Invitational Priorities: We are particularly interested in applications that meet one or more of the following invitational priorities.

Invitational Priority 1—Advance the Awareness of Underserved Groups in the Benefits of TRIO Programs

Projects that have developed successful partnerships with institutions and organizations serving significant numbers or percentages of TRIO-eligible students in economically depressed areas for the purposes of increasing access, retention and completion rates of these students in secondary and postsecondary education. TRIO institutions and organizations that have been successful in making the TRIO programs more visible and accessible to these potential participants are encouraged to assist other institutions in adopting successful intervention models.

Invitational Priority 2—Effective Use of Educational Technology

Projects designed to share effective strategies for using technology in a variety of ways, including innovative technology-based instructional programs; use of technology to provide better access to educational opportunities; and technology-based programs to equip disadvantaged students with the knowledge and skills to compete for jobs in the emerging world economy that require the use of new and sophisticated technologies.

Invitational Priority 3—Business and Community Partnerships and K–12 Collaborations

Projects to assist communities with large numbers of low-income, first-generation college students to develop effective business and community partnerships and K–12 collaborations.

Invitational Priority 4—Increased Participation of Underrepresented Groups in Graduate Study

Projects designed to share successful TRIO strategies for increasing the access, retention, and completion rates of low-income, first generation college students and students from the following ethnic and racial groups that are currently underrepresented in graduate education: Black (non-Hispanic), Hispanic, American Indian, and Alaska Native.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) we do not give an application that meets the invitational priorities a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND FURTHER

INFORMATION CONTACT: Eileen S. Bland or Virginia Mason, Office of Federal TRIO Programs, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., Suite 7000, Washington, DC 20006–8510. Telephone: (202) 502–7600 or via Internet: TRIO@ed.gov.

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

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

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-11 and 1070a-18.

Dated: March 3, 2003.

Sally L. Stroup,

Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 03-5283 Filed 3-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science

Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee Renewal

Pursuant to section 14(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and in accordance with title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, section 102-3.65, and following consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration, notice is hereby given that the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee has been renewed for a two-year period beginning in February 2003. The Committee will provide advice to the Director, Office of Science, on the basic energy sciences program.

The Secretary has determined that the renewal of the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee is essential to the conduct of the Department's business and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed upon the Department of Energy by law. The Committee will continue to operate in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Department of Energy Organization Act (Pub. L. 95-91), and rules and regulations issued in implementation of those Acts.

Further information regarding this advisory committee can be obtained from Rachel Samuel at (202) 586-3279.

Issued in Washington, DC on February 25, 2003.

James N. Solit,

Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-5262 Filed 3-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Hanford

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Hanford. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Thursday, April 3, 2003, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, April 4, 2003, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: West Coast Ridpath Hotel, 515 Sprague Avenue, Spokane, WA. Phone: (509) 838-2711, Fax: (509) 747-6970.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Yvonne Sherman, Public Involvement Program Manager, Department of Energy Richland Operations Office, 825 Jadwin, MSIN A7-75, Richland, WA, 99352; Phone: (509) 376-6216; Fax: (509) 376-1563.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Purpose of the Board:* The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

Tentative Agenda:

Thursday, April 3, 2003

- Presentation on the Hanford Systems Assessment Capability (SAC) Tool;
- Discussion and introduction of draft advice on the Proposed Elimination of Technetium-99 (Tc-99) Removal from Tank Waste Pretreatment;
- Presentation and discussion of the DOE-HQ draft policy and guidance on the risk-based end state vision;
- Discussion and introduction of draft advice on FY03, FY04 and FY05 budget;
- Discussion and draft advice on the Disposition of Transuranic Waste in the Tanks;
- Introduction of draft advice on the Hanford Groundwater Strategic Plan (tentative);

Friday, April 4, 2003.

- Adoption of draft advice;
- Elimination of Technetium-99 (Tc-99) Removal from Tank Waste Pretreatment, FY03, FY04, FY05 budgets, Disposition of Transuranic Waste in the Tanks, Hanford Groundwater Strategic Plan (tentative).
- Update on the Hanford Solid Waste Environmental Impact Statement (HSW EIS)—second draft.
- Status of M-91 Tri-Party Agreement negotiations. (These negotiations focused on the cleanup of DOE Transuranic and Mixed Transuranic Wastes and associated low-level and mixed low-level wastes.)

- Introduction of a letter to the Tri-Party Agreement Agencies on the recent state of the site meetings;
- Additional ground rules;
- Public comment.

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Yvonne Sherman's office at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Deputy Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Each individual wishing to make public comment will be provided equal time to present their comments.

Minutes: The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, except Federal holidays. Minutes will also be available by writing to Yvonne Sherman, Department of Energy Richland Operation Office, 825 Jadwin, MSIN A7-75, Richland, WA 99352, or by calling her at (509) 376-1563.

Issued in Washington, DC on February 28, 2003.

Rachel M. Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-5259 Filed 3-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board Chairs Meeting

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) Chairs Meeting. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of this meeting be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: March 28-29, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Adams Mark Hotel, 1550 Court Place, Denver, CO 80202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken Korkia, Board/Staff Coordinator, Rocky