

The small entities that would be affected by this extension of project period and waiver are the FY 2000 grantees currently receiving Federal funds and the following entities that are eligible for an award under the NAVTEP:

- (1) A Federally recognized Indian tribe.
- (2) A tribal organization.
- (3) An Alaska Native entity.
- (4) A Bureau-funded school (as defined in the January 3, 2001, notice inviting applications (66 FR 560)), except for a Bureau-funded school proposing to use its award to support secondary school vocational and technical education programs.

However, this extension of project period and waiver is not likely to have a significant economic impact on these entities because the extension of project period and waiver and the activities required to support the additional years of funding will not impose excessive regulatory burdens or require unnecessary Federal supervision. This extension of project period and waiver will impose minimal requirements to ensure the proper expenditure of program funds, including requirements that are standard to continuation awards.

Instructions for Requesting a Continuation Award

Generally, in order to receive a continuation grant, a grantee must submit an annual program narrative that describes the activities it intends to carry out during the year of the continuation award. The activities must be consistent with, or be a logical extension of, the scope, goals, and objectives of the grantee's application approved under the FY 2000 competition. A grantee must also submit a budget and budget narrative for each year it requests a continuation award. (34 CFR 75.253(c)(2)). A grantee should request a continuation award at least 30 days before its current grant expires. A grantee may request a continuation award for any year for which Congress appropriates funds under the current statutory authority, unless the Department holds a grant competition under the NAVTEP.

Amount of New Awards Under Continuation Grant

The actual amount of any continuation award depends on factors such as: (1) The grantee's written statement describing how the funds made available under the continuation award will be used, (2) a cost analysis of the grantee's budget by the Department, and (3) whether the

unobligated funds made available are needed to complete activities that were planned for completion in the prior budget period. (34 CFR 75.232 and 75.253(c)(2)(ii) and (3)).

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This extension of project period and waiver do not contain any information collection requirements.

Intergovernmental Review

The NAVTEP is not subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79.

Assessment of Educational Impact

In the April 9, 2004, notice of proposed extension of project period and waiver (69 FR 18887) we requested comments on whether the proposed extension of project period and waiver would require transmission of information that any other agency or authority of the United States gathers or makes available.

Based on the responses to that notice, and our own review, we have determined that this final notice of extension of project period and waiver does not require transmission of information that any other agency or authority of the United States gathers or makes available.

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(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.101 Native American Vocational and Technical Education Program.)

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 2326(a) through (g).

Dated: July 13, 2004.

Susan Sclafani,

Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Assessment Governing Board; Meeting

AGENCY: National Assessment Governing Board; Education.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting and closed meetings.

SUMMARY: The notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the National Assessment Governing Board. This notice also describes the functions of the Board. Notice of this meeting is required under section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This document is intended to notify members of the general public of their opportunity to attend. Individuals who will need special accommodations in order to attend the meeting (*i.e.*; interpreting services, assistive listening devices, materials in alternative format) should notify Munira Mwalimu at 202-357-6938 or at Munira.Mwalimu@ed.gov no later than July 30, 2004. We will attempt to meet requests after this date, but cannot guarantee availability of the requested accommodation. The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

DATES: August 5–August 7, 2004.

Times:

August 5: Committee Meetings: Assessment Development Committee: closed session—9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Ad Hoc Committee on NAEP 12th Grade Participation: open session—2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Executive Committee: open session—4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.; closed session—5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

August 6: Full Board: open session—8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Committee Meetings: Assessment Development Committee: open session—10 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Committee on Standards, Design, and Methodology; open session—10 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Reporting and Dissemination Committee: open session—10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

August 7: Full Board: open session—8:15 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Location: The St. Regis Hotel, 923 16th and K Streets, NW., Washington, DC 20006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Munira Mwalimu, Operations Officer, National Assessment Government Board, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Suite 825, Washington, DC, 20002-4233, telephone: (202) 357-6938.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Assessment Governing Board is established under section 412 of the National Education Statistics Act of 1994, as amended.

The Board is established to formulate policy guidelines for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The Board's responsibilities include selecting subject areas to be assessed, developing assessment objectives, developing appropriate student achievement levels for each grade and subject tested, developing guidelines for reporting and disseminating results, and developing standards and procedures for interstate and national comparisons.

The Assessment Development Committee will meet in closed session on August 5 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. to review secure test items for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2006 assessments in U.S. History and Civics, and the NAEP 2007 Reading Assessment. The meeting must be conducted in closed session as disclosure of proposed test items from the NAEP assessments would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP program, and is therefore protected by exemption 9(B) of section 552b(c) of title 5 U.S.C.

On August 5, the Ad Hoc Committee on NAEP 12th Grade Participation and Motivation will meet in open session from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. The Execution Committee will meet in open session on August 5 from 4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. The committee will then meet in closed session from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. to discuss independent government cost estimates for contracts related to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). This part of the meeting must be conducted in closed session because public disclosure of this information would likely have an adverse financial effect on the NAEP program and will provide an advantage to potential bidders attending the meeting. The discussion of this information would be likely to significantly impede implementation of a proposed agency action if conducted in open session. Such matters are protected by exemption 9(B) of section 552b(c) of title 5 U.S.C.

On August 6, the full Board will meet in open session from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Board will approve the agenda; recognize departing Board members; hear the Executive Director's report; receive an update on the work of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) from the Commissioner of NCES, Robert Lerner; and discuss NAEP inclusion and accommodation issues.

From 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on August 6, the Board's standing committees—the Assessment Development Committee; the Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology; and the Reporting

and Dissemination Committee—will meet in open session.

From 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m., Board members will receive an ethics briefing from staff of the Office of General Counsel. This will be followed by Board discussion and action on the NAEP 2009 Reading Framework from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The Board will then receive a briefing on models for describing "readiness" for postsecondary education from 3:15 p.m. to 5 p.m., after which the August 6 session of the Board meeting will adjourn.

On August 7, the full Board will meet in open session from 8:15 a.m. to 12 p.m. At 8:15 a.m., the Board will receive a briefing on pre-conference sessions that took place at the Large-Scale Assessment Conference. From 8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., the Board will discuss NAEP Reporting Guidelines. This item will be followed by a presentation on student "readiness" for postsecondary options from 9:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

From 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., the Board will discuss issues related to 12th Grade NAEP. Board actions on policies and Committee reports are scheduled to take place between 11 a.m. and 11:45 a.m., Board members will elect the Vice Chair from 11:45 to 12 noon, upon which the August 7, 2004, session of the Board meeting will adjourn.

Detailed minutes of the meeting, including summaries of the activities of the closed sessions and related matters that are informative to the public and consistent with the policy of section 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) will be available to the public within 14 days of the meeting. Records are kept of all Board proceedings and are available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment Governing Board, Suite #825, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Washington, DC, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. eastern standard time.

Dated: July 13, 2004.

Charles E. Smith,

Executive Director, National Assessment Governing Board.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Recognition of Accrediting Agencies, State Agencies for the Approval of Public Postsecondary Vocational Education, and State Agencies for the Approval of Nurse Education

AGENCY: National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity, Department of Education (The Advisory Committee).

What Is the Purpose of This Notice?

The purpose of this notice is to invite written comments on accrediting agencies and State approval agencies whose applications to the Secretary for initial or renewed recognition or whose interim reports will be reviewed at the Advisory Committee meeting to be held on December 13-15, 2004.

Where Should I Submit My Comments?

Please submit your written comments by August 30, 2004 to Ms. Carol Griffiths, Accreditation and State Liaison. You may contact her at the U.S. Department of Education, room 7105, MS 8509, 1990 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006, telephone: (202) 219-7011. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

What Is the Authority for the Advisory Committee?

The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity is established under Section 114 of the Higher Education Act (HEA), as amended, 20 U.S.C. 1011c. One of the purposes of the Advisory Committee is to advise the Secretary of Education on the recognition of accrediting agencies and State approval agencies.

Will This Be My Only Opportunity To Submit Written Comments?

Yes, this notice announces the only opportunity you will have to submit written comments. However, a subsequent **Federal Register** notice will announce the meeting and invite individuals and/or groups to submit requests to make oral presentations before the Advisory Committee on the agencies that the Committee will review. That notice, however, does not offer a second opportunity to submit written comment.

What Happens to the Comments That I Submit?

We will review your comments, in response to this notice, as part of our evaluation of the agencies' compliance with the Secretary's Criteria for Recognition of Accrediting Agencies and State Approval Agencies. The Criteria are regulations found in 34 CFR Part 602 (for accrediting agencies) and in 34 CFR Part 603 (for State approval agencies) and are found at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred>.

We will also include your comments with the staff analyses we present to the Advisory Committee at its December 2004 meeting. Therefore, in order for us to give full consideration to your