

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Postsecondary Education; Overview Information; Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

*Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance
(CFDA) Number: 84.200A*

DATES: *Applications Available:* August 29, 2005.

*Deadline for Transmittal of
Applications:* November 14, 2005.

*Deadline for Intergovernmental
Review:* January 16, 2006.

Eligible Applicants: Academic departments of institutions of higher education that meet the requirements in 34 CFR 648.2.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration has requested \$20,340,000 for new awards under this program for FY 2006. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$126,000—\$253,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$211,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 96.

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

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: This program provides fellowships in areas of national need to assist graduate students with excellent academic records who demonstrate financial need and plan to pursue the highest degree available in their courses of study.

Priority: In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(ii), this priority is from the regulations for this program (34 CFR 648.33(a) and Appendix to Part 648—Academic Areas).

Absolute Priority: For FY 2006 this priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) we consider only applications that meet this priority.

This priority is:

Areas of National Need

A project must provide fellowships in one or more of the following areas of national need: Biology, chemistry, computer and information sciences, engineering, geological and related sciences, mathematics, nursing, and physics.

Within this absolute priority the Secretary is particularly interested in applications that address the following invitational priority:

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

This priority is:

A nursing program that focuses on the preparation of nurse scholars at the PhD level for educational leadership roles. Graduates of this type of program will become the teachers preparing students for careers in nursing, and will disseminate to the public new knowledge gained from disciplined inquiry related to nursing and nursing education.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1135.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 648.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants, redistributed as fellowships to individual fellows.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration has requested \$20,340,000 for new awards under this program for FY 2006. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

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

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Stipend Level: The Secretary will determine the fellowship stipend for Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need for the academic year 2006–2007 based on the level of support provided by the graduate fellowships of the National Science Foundation as of February 1, 2006. However, the Secretary will adjust the amount, as necessary, so as not to exceed the fellow's demonstrated level of financial need as calculated for purposes of the Federal student financial aid programs under Title IV, part F of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

Institutional Payment: The Secretary will determine the institutional

payment for the academic year 2006–2007 by adjusting the previous academic year institutional payment, which is \$11,822 per fellow, by the U.S. Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index for the 2005 calendar year.

III. Eligibility Information

1. *Eligible Applicants:* Academic departments of institutions of higher education that meet the requirements in 34 CFR 648.2.

2. *Cost Sharing or Matching:* This program involves matching (See 34 CFR 648.7).

3. *Other:* For requirements relating to selecting fellows, see 34 CFR 648.40.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. *Address To Request Application Package:* Applications can only be accessed electronically on the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need Web site: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/gaann/applicant.html>.

An applicant who is unable to obtain an electronic copy of the application package may submit a written request to obtain a hard copy. In the request, the applicant should explain the reason or reasons that prevent the applicant from using the Internet to obtain a copy of the application. If you mail your written request to the Department, it must be postmarked no later than two weeks before the application deadline date. If you fax your written request to the Department, we must receive the faxed request no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.

Address and mail or fax your request to: Rebecca Green, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., room 6096, Washington, DC 20006–8524. Fax (202) 502–7859.

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

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the program contact person listed in this section.

2. *Content and Form of Application Submission:* Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for this program.

Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III as follows:

An application in a single discipline must be limited to the equivalent of no more than 40 pages.

An interdisciplinary application must be limited to the equivalent of no more than 60 pages. An interdisciplinary application must request funding for a single proposed program of study that involves two or more academic disciplines.

A multidisciplinary application must be limited to the equivalent of no more than 40 pages for each academic discipline included in the proposal. A multidisciplinary application must request funding for two or more proposed programs of study that are independent and unrelated to one another.

- A "page" is 8.5" x 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. However, you may single space all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs. Charts, tables, figures, and graphs presented in the application narrative count toward the page limit.

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

- You may use a 10-point font in charts, tables, figures, graphs, footnotes, and endnotes. However, these items are included as part of the narrative and counted within the specified page limit.

- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New or Arial. Applications submitted in any other font (including Times Roman, Arial Narrow) will not be accepted.

- Appendices are limited to the following: Curriculum vitae—no more than two pages per faculty member; a course listing; letters of support; bibliography; and one additional optional appendix relevant to the support of the proposal, not to exceed five pages.

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section; the assurances and certifications; the one-page abstract; or the appendices. 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.

3. Submission Dates and Times:

Applications Available: August 29, 2005.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: November 14, 2005.

Applications for grants under this program must be submitted electronically using the Electronic Grant Application System (e-Application) available through the Department's e-Grants system. For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically or by mail or hand delivery if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, please refer to section IV. 6. *Other Submission Requirements* in this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: January 16, 2006.

4. *Intergovernmental Review:* This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for this program.

5. *Funding Restrictions:* We specify unallowable costs in 34 CFR 648.64. We reference additional regulations outlining funding restrictions in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

6. *Other Submission Requirements:* Applications for grants under this program must be submitted electronically, unless you qualify for an exception to this requirement in accordance with the instructions in this section.

We will reject your application if you submit it in paper format unless, as described elsewhere in this section, you qualify for one of the exceptions to the electronic submission requirement and submit, no later than two weeks before the application deadline date, a written statement to the Department that you qualify for one of these exceptions. Further information regarding calculation of the date that is two weeks before the application deadline date is provided later in this section under *Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement*.

a. *Electronic Submission of Applications.* Applications for grants under the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need Competition—CFDA Number 84.200A must be submitted electronically using e-Application available through the Department's e-Grants system, accessible through the e-Grants portal page at: <http://e-grants.ed.gov>.

While completing your electronic application, you will be entering data

online that will be saved into a database. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

Please note the following:

- You must complete the electronic submission of your grant application by 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. The e-Application system will not accept an application for this program after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the application process.

- The regular hours of operation of the e-Grants Web site are 6 a.m. Monday until 7 p.m. Wednesday; and 6 a.m. Thursday until midnight Saturday, Washington, DC time. Please note that the system is unavailable on Sundays, and between 7 p.m. on Wednesdays and 6 a.m. on Thursdays, Washington, DC time, for maintenance. Any modifications to these hours are posted on the e-Grants Web site.

- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, as described elsewhere in this section, and submit your application in paper format.

- You must submit all documents electronically, including the Application for Federal Education Assistance (ED 424), Budget Information Sheet, and all necessary assurances and certifications. You must attach any narrative sections of your application as files in a .DOC (document), .RTF (rich text), or .PDF (Portable Document) format. If you upload a file type other than the three file types specified above or submit a password protected file, we will not review that material.

- Your electronic application must comply with any page limit requirements described in this notice.

- Prior to submitting your electronic application, you may wish to print a copy of it for your records.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgment that 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 ED 424 to the Application Control Center after following these steps:

- (1) Print ED 424 from e-Application.

- (2) The applicant'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) 245-6272.

- We may request that you provide us original signatures on other forms at a later date.

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of e-Application System Unavailability:

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline 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. We will grant this extension if—

(1) You are a registered user of e-Application and you have initiated an electronic application for this competition; and

(2) (a) The e-Application system is unavailable for 60 minutes or more between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date; or

(b) The e-Application system is unavailable for any period of time between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.

We must acknowledge and confirm these periods of unavailability before granting you an extension. To request this extension or to confirm our acknowledgment of any system unavailability, you may contact either (1) the person listed elsewhere in this notice under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** (see VII. Agency Contact) or (2) the e-Grants help desk at 1-888-336-8930. If the system is down and therefore the application deadline is extended, an e-mail will be sent to all registered users who have initiated an e-Application. Extensions referred to in this section apply only to the unavailability of the Department's e-Application system.

Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement: You qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, and may submit your application in paper format, if you are unable to submit an application through the e-Application system because—

- You do not have access to the Internet; or
- You do not have the capacity to upload large documents to the Department's e-Application system; and
- No later than two weeks before the application deadline date (14 calendar days or, if the fourteenth calendar day before the application deadline date

falls on a Federal holiday, the next business day following the Federal holiday), you mail or fax a written statement to the Department, explaining which of the two grounds for an exception prevent you from using the Internet to submit your application. If you mail your written statement to the Department, it must be postmarked no later than two weeks before the application deadline date. If you fax your written statement to the Department, we must receive the faxed statement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.

Address and mail or fax your statement to: Cosette Ryan, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., room 6008, Washington, DC 20006-8521. Fax: (202) 502-7860.

Your paper application must be submitted in accordance with the mail or hand delivery instructions described in this notice.

b. *Submission of Paper Applications by Mail.* If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you may mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier) your application to the Department. You must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the applicable following address:

By mail through the U.S. Postal Service: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.200A), 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-4260; or

By mail through a commercial carrier: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center—Stop 4260, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.200A), 7100 Old Landover Road, Landover, MD 20785-1506.

Regardless of which address you use, you must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark,
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service,
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier, or
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark, or
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

c. *Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.* If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you (or a courier service) may deliver your paper application to the Department by hand. You must deliver the original and two copies of your application, by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.200A), 550 12th Street, SW., Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-4260.

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications: If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department:

(1) You must indicate on the envelope and—if not provided by the Department—in Item 4 of the ED 424 the CFDA number—and suffix letter, if any—of the competition under which you are submitting your application.

(2) The Application Control Center will mail a grant application receipt acknowledgment to you. If you do not receive the grant application receipt acknowledgment within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245-6288.

V. Application Review Information

1. *Selection Criteria:* The selection criteria for this program are in 34 CFR 648.31.

2. *Review and Selection Process:* Additional factors we consider in selecting an application for an award are in 34 CFR 648.32.

VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN). We may also notify you informally.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* We identify administrative and national policy

requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Reporting:* At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as specified by the Secretary in 34 CFR 75.118 and in 34 CFR 648.66.

4. *Performance Measures:* Under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), three measures have been developed for evaluating the overall effectiveness of the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need program: (1) The percentage of fellows in the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need program who obtain a terminal degree in an area of national need, compared to the national average; (2) the percentage of fellows in the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need program from traditionally underrepresented populations who obtain a terminal degree in an area of national need, compared to the national average; and (3) the median duration of time from entering graduate school until degree completion compared to comparable doctoral students as identified annually in the Survey of Earned Doctorates.

All grantees will be expected to submit an annual performance report documenting their success in addressing these performance measures.

VII. Agency Contact

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cosette Ryan, U.S. Department of Education, Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need Program, 1990 K Street

NW., room 6008, Washington, DC 20006-8521. Telephone: (202) 502-7637 or by e-mail: ope_gaann@ed.gov.

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VIII. Other Information

Electronic Access to This Document: You may view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: www.ed.gov/news/fedregister.

To use PDF you must have adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using 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 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.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Dated: August 17, 2005.
Sally L. Stroup,
Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.
 [FR Doc. 05-16607 Filed 8-19-05; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Fossil Energy; Order Vacating Authorizations

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy (FE), Department of Energy (DOE).
ACTION: Notice of vacating orders.

SUMMARY: DOE is vacating unused natural gas import and export authorizations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Larine Moore, Allyson C. Reilly, Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply, P.O. Box 44375, Washington, DC 20026-4375. (202) 586-9478. (202) 586-9394.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: DOE's FE is delegated the authority to regulate natural gas import and export under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act of 1938, 15 U.S.C. 717b. Persons seeking to import or export natural gas are required to file with FE an application containing basic information about the scope and nature of a proposed import or export. Most applications are approved automatically and the orders granting approval require those authorized to report import and export activity on a periodic basis. The data collected is used to monitor the North American natural gas trade and facilitate market analysis.

Over the years many two-year, blanket authorizations have been issued with no start date and terms to be triggered by reporting activity. There has been no reported activity for some of these outstanding authorizations, and more often than not FE attempts to contact authorization holders have been unsuccessful. FE is vacating these authorizations in order to remove unused authorizations from the FE database and improve information collection and trade monitoring.

Order

In accordance with DOE policy and pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, it is ordered that the authorizations listed in the attached Appendix are vacated effective the date of the issuance of this notice.

Issued in Washington, DC, August 5, 2005.
R.F. Corbin,
Manager, Natural Gas Regulatory Activities, Office of Oil and Gas Global Security and Supply, Office of Fossil Energy.

Appendix—Authorizations To Be Vacated

Docket No.	Order No.	Importer/exporter	Date issued
85-28-NG	101	Citizens Energy Corp. & Citizens Resources Corp.	14-Jan-86
86-2-NG	115	Carson Water Company	25-Mar-86
86-15-NG	121	282126 Alberta Inc	15-May-86
86-15-NG	121-A	282126 Alberta Inc	13-May-87
86-15-NG	121-B	282126 Alberta Inc	06-May-88
86-17-NG	120	Community Gas Acquisition, Inc	15-May-86
86-30-NG	134	ANR-TransCanada Energy Company	03-Jul-86