SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:


Amount of the Award: $100,000.

Authority: Section 1271 et seq. of the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 300d–71 et seq. as amended by the Poison Center Stabilization and Enhancement Grant Program.

Project Period: The period of the award will begin on September 1, 2006, through August 31, 2007.

Justification for the Exception to Competition

This project will be implemented through a single source cooperative agreement because the HSC is uniquely positioned to immediately undertake and complete the activities within one year. The HSC has existing organizational knowledge and experience in developing materials for the low literacy population through its Home Safety Literacy Project, which this project will be a component; the HSC has an existing relationship with key stakeholders in place for reaching this vulnerable population; and the HSC project director has extensive expertise in poison prevention education.


Elizabeth M. Duke,
Administrator.
[FR Doc. E6–12178 Filed 7–28–06; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4165–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Request for Information (RFI): Change in Grant Appendix Materials

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) are evaluating guidelines for grant application appendixes in an effort to streamline the application and review processes. This RFI requests input from interested applicants, reviewers and other members of the research community regarding the way appendix materials should be used in the grant submission, review and management process. Comments will be considered in the development of new policies on appendix materials for various grant programs.

DATES: Responses must be received by September 14, 2006 in order to ensure that NIH and AHRQ will be able to consider the comments in developing new policies on appendix materials for various grant programs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: E-mail inquiries will be accepted at appendix_comments@od.nih.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The goal of changing the guidelines for grant application appendix materials is to encourage applications to be as concise as possible while containing the information needed for expert scientific review. These changes should make application preparation and handling easier for both applicants and reviewers. Current NIH and AHRQ policy indicates that the Appendix may not be used to circumvent the page limitations of the Research Plan. Appended publications may not be used to provide further details of methodologies or preliminary data described in the Research Plan. All applications and proposals for NIH and AHRQ funding must be self-contained.

Current NIH and AHRQ policy guide instructions note that the Appendix is sent only to those members of the Scientific Review Group (SRG) assigned as primary reviewers of the application. Currently, unless otherwise stated in the solicitation, the following materials may be included in a grant application Appendix:

- Up to 10 publications or manuscripts accepted for publication, using URL links to publicly accessible journal articles.
- Surveys, questionnaires, data collection instruments, clinical protocols, and informed consent documents.
- Photographs or color images of gels, micrographs, etc., provided that a photocopy (may be reduced in size) is also included within the 25-page limit of Items a–d of the research plan. No photographs or color images may be included in the Appendix that are not also represented within the Research Plan.
- Investigators spend much time and energy developing applications to Federal Agencies. It is unclear whether appendix material which may or may not be read by members of the SRG improves current applications.
- Submission of unnecessary materials with grant applications wastes the time, energy and resources of investigators, applicant institutions, reviewers, and the NIH and AHRQ.

Proposed Changes

The following changes are being considered for publication, in a concurrent with NIH/AHRQ’s transition to the electronic grant application process and the SF–424 (R&R):

- Submission of photographs or color images of gels, micrographs, etc., will no longer be allowed as part of the Appendix. Use of the SF–424 (R&R) electronic grant application will permit insertion into the body of the Research Plan high resolution images of the same quality found in scientific publications.
- Materials currently submitted in the Appendix which are essential to the review of the application will be submitted as part of the grant application itself. For example, documents such as clinical protocols, informed consent forms, key questionnaires, surveys, and similar items which are needed by the SRG to adequately assess human subjects issues will be submitted as part of the ‘Protection of Human Subjects’ section of the grant application.
- Reprints or preprints of publications or their PDFs will no longer be allowed as part of the Appendix. Links (URLs) to PubMed Central or publicly available on-line journals will be permitted in the Biographical Sketches, Bibliography & References Cited, and the Research Plan sections of the grant application. Critical information and detail should be included within the Research Plan and cited in the Bibliography & References Cited section and/or figure or table legend(s) to indicate publication status.
- Materials specifically designated in the Funding Opportunity Announcement may be included in the Appendix, within identified page limits. It is anticipated that most FOAs will not permit materials to be included in the Appendix.
- All members of the SRG will receive copies of the full application including any permitted Appendix materials thereby increasing the equity of the review.

Information Requested

Information in the following areas will assist the NIH and AHRQ in developing new policies regarding submission of appendix materials.

Respondents will be asked to indicate what perspective(s) they represent, i.e. reviewer and/or applicant, institutional official, etc.

1. Is there a need to reduce the material submitted in the Appendix? If yes, please provide specific types of material that could be eliminated.

2. Is there information essential to the application’s review that cannot be included in the body of a grant application as proposed? If yes, please describe the material and identify applicable grant program(s).
3. Is it necessary to include reprint and preprint PDFs as appendix material? If yes, please explain.

4. Do you have concerns about discontinuing the submission of photographs or color images in the Appendix of electronic grant applications? If yes, please explain.

5. Will the proposed changes favor or disfavor any specific group of investigators? If yes, please explain.

Responses

Responses must be submitted electronically at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfi_files/rfi_appendix_add.htm. The responses for each item should be limited to 500 words. Acknowledgement of receipt of responses will not be made, nor will respondents be notified of the Government’s assessment of the information received. No basis for claims against the Government shall arise as a result of a response to this request for information or the Government’s use of such information as either part of our evaluation process or in developing specifications for any subsequent announcement. Individual responses will be confidential. Any proprietary information should be so marked.

Dated: July 24, 2006.

Norka Ruiz Bravo,
Deputy Director for Extramural Research, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. E6–12230 Filed 7–28–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–5039–N–03]

Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Comment Request; Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing (AHM) Plan

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

DATES: Comments Due Date: September 29, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposed information collection requirement. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Surrell Silverman, Reports Liaison Officer, Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Room 5216, Washington, DC 20410–2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shaye Hardy, Program Standards and Compliance Division, Office of Programs, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Room 5222, Washington, DC 20410–2000; telephone: (202) 708–2288 (this is not a toll-free number) for copies of the proposed forms and other available documents. Hearing- or speech-impaired individuals may access this number TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department is submitting the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

The notice solicits comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed information collection in order to:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the Department’s program functions;

2. Evaluate the accuracy of the Department’s assessment of the paperwork burden that may result from the proposed information collection;

3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information which must be collected; and

4. Minimize the burden of the information collection on responders, including the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology (e.g., electronic transmission of data).

Title of Regulation: Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Regulations and Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Compliance Regulations.

OMB Control Number, if applicable: 2529–0013.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: HUD uses this information to assess the adequacy of the applicant’s proposed actions to carry out the Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing requirements of 24 CFR part 108, the AFHM Compliance Regulations. Applicants for mortgage insurance under the Department’s insured single-family and multifamily subsidized and unsubsidized programs.

935.2B Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan (Single-Family).

Members of affected public: Applicants for mortgage insurance under the Department’s insured single-family and multifamily subsidized and unsubsidized programs.

Estimation of the total numbers of hours needed to prepare the information, collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response: On an annual basis, there are approximately 6,530 respondents, 1 response per respondent, which equals 6,530 total responses for both forms. Each new respondent (300 multifamily + 30 single-family = 330 new respondents annually) should take approximately 3 hours to complete, which equals approximately 990 hours for new respondents annually. HUD has approximately 31,000 multifamily housing insured and subsidized projects in its inventory. Since multifamily housing projects’ Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plans (Multifamily) (HUD 935.2A) should be reviewed and updated every 5 years, it is estimated that 20 percent of the multifamily housing project inventory (6,200) will review their plans each year. This review will take approximately 1 hour to complete, which equals 6,200 hours for the review of these plans annually. It is also estimated that slightly less than 20 percent of the reviewed plans (approximately 1,200) will need to be updated. The updating of these plans will take approximately 1 hour to complete, which equals approximately 1,200 hours for the updating of these plans annually. The total estimated number of hours needed to prepare this information collection is 8,390 hours.

Status of the proposed information collection: HUD revised Form HUD–935.2B Affirmative Fair Housing Plan.

This revision consists of creating a form to be used by Multifamily Housing (MFH) and a second form to be used by Single-Family Housing (SFH). This action was taken to make the completion of the form clearer for the MFH and SFH user. The current form has several instances where there are alternative directions. The major difference in the proposed form is that the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity will have approval authority for the Form HUD–935.2A to be completed by MFH users and the Office of Housing-Single-Family Housing will have approval authority for the Form HUD–935.2B to be completed by SFH users.