

Army educational programs. At this meeting the subcommittee will review the Army historical program and discuss ways to improve the provision of historical support to the Army. The subcommittee will also discuss ways to increase cooperation between the historical and military professions in advancing the purpose of the Army Historical Program, and the furtherance of the mission of the U.S. Army Center of Military History to promote the study and use of military history in both civilian and military Schools.

*Public Accessibility to the Meeting:*

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended, and 41 CFR 102–3.140 through 102–3.165, and subject to the availability of space, this meeting is open to the public. Seating is on a first to arrive basis. Attendees are requested to submit their name, affiliation, and daytime phone number seven business days prior to the meeting to Dr. Schlosser, via electronic mail, the preferred mode of submission, at the address listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Members of the public attending the committee meetings will not be permitted to present questions from the floor or speak to any issue under consideration by the committee. Because the meeting of the committee will be held in a Federal Government facility on a military post, security screening is required. A photo ID is required to enter post. Please note that security and gate guards have the right to inspect vehicles and persons seeking to enter and exit the installation. The U.S. Army Center of Military History is fully handicapped accessible. Wheelchair access is available in front at the main entrance of the building. For additional information about public access procedures, contact Dr. Schlosser, the committee's Alternate Designated Federal Officer, at the email address or telephone number listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

*Written Comments or Statements:*

Pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.105(j) and 102–3.140 and section 10(a)(3) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the public or interested organizations may submit written comments or statements to the committee, in response to the stated agenda of the open meeting or in regard to the committee's mission in general. Written comments or statements should be submitted to Dr. Nicholas J. Schlosser, the committee Alternate Designated Federal Officer, via electronic mail, the preferred mode of submission, at the address listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Each page of the comment or statement must include the author's

name, title or affiliation, address, and daytime phone number. Written comments or statements being submitted in response to the agenda set forth in this notice must be received by the Alternate Designated Federal Official at least seven business days prior to the meeting to be considered by the committee. The Alternate Designated Federal Official will review all timely submitted written comments or statements with the committee Chairperson, and ensure the comments are provided to all members of the committee before the meeting. Written comments or statements received after this date may not be provided to the committee until its next meeting. Members of the public will be permitted to make verbal comments during the Committee meeting only at the time and in the manner described below. If a member of the public is interested in making a verbal comment at the open meeting, that individual must submit a request, with a brief statement of the subject matter to be addressed by the comment, at least seven (7) days in advance to the Committee's Alternate Designated Federal Official, via electronic mail, the preferred mode of submission, at the address listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. The Alternate Designated Federal Official will log each request, in the order received, and in consultation with the committee Chairperson determine whether the subject matter of each comment is relevant to the Committee's mission and/or the topics to be addressed in this public meeting. A 15-minute period near the end of the meeting will be available for verbal public comments. Members of the public who have requested to make a verbal comment and whose comments have been deemed relevant under the process described above, will be allotted no more than three (3) minutes during the period, and will be invited to speak in the order in which their requests were received by the Alternate Designated Federal Official.

**Brenda S. Bowen,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

[Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.259A]

**Final Waiver and Extension of the Project Period for the Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program**

**AGENCY:** Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Final waiver and extension of the project period.

**SUMMARY:** For the 24-month projects originally funded in fiscal year (FY) 2013 and extended for an additional 24-months in FY 2015 under the Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program (NHCTEP), the Secretary: Waives the requirements in Education Department regulations that generally prohibit project period extensions involving the obligation of additional Federal funds; and extends the project period for the current seven NHCTEP grantees for an additional 12 months under the existing program authority. This waiver and extension will allow the seven current NHCTEP grantees to seek FY 2017 continuation awards for the project period through FY 2018.

**DATES:** As of July 17, 2017, the waiver and extension of the project period are finalized.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Linda Mayo by telephone at (202) 245–7792 or by email at: [linda.mayo@ed.gov](mailto:linda.mayo@ed.gov).

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service, toll free, at 1–800–877–8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On April 14, 2017, we published a notice in the **Federal Register** (82 FR 17986) proposing to waive the requirements of 34 CFR 75.261(a) and (c)(2) that generally prohibit project period extensions involving the obligation of additional Federal funds. In that notice, the Secretary also proposed to extend the NHCTEP project period for up to an additional 12 months. The proposed waiver and extension of the project period would enable the Secretary to provide continuation awards to the current NHCTEP grantees through FY 2018 under the existing program authority.

That notice contained background information and our reasons for proposing the waiver and extension of the project period. This notice makes the waiver and extension of the project period final. Any activities carried out during the period of a NHCTEP

continuation award will have to be consistent with, or a logical extension of, the scope, goals, and objectives of the grantee's application as approved in the FY 2013 NHCTEP competition. The requirements applicable to continuation awards for this competition set forth in the 2013 notice inviting applications and the requirements in 34 CFR 75.253 will apply to any continuation awards sought by the current NHCTEP grantees.

We will make decisions regarding the continuation awards based on grantee program narratives, budgets and budget narratives, and program performance reports and the requirements in 34 CFR 75.253. We will not announce a new competition or make new awards in FY 2017.

The final waiver and project period extension will not exempt the current NHCTEP grantees from the appropriation account closing provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1552(a), nor would they extend the availability of funds previously awarded to current NHCTEP grantees. As a result of 31 U.S.C. 1552(a), appropriations available for a limited period may be used for payment of valid obligations for only five years after the expiration of their period of availability for Federal obligation. After that time, the unexpended balance of those funds is canceled and returned to the U.S. Department of the Treasury and is unavailable for restoration for any purpose (31 U.S.C. 1552(b)).

**Public Comment:** In the April 14, 2017 notice, the Secretary invited comments on the proposed waiver and extension of the project period. We received two comments in response to the notice. There are no substantive differences between the proposed waiver and extension and the final waiver and extension. Generally, we do not address technical and other minor changes. In addition, we do not address general comments that raise concerns not directly related to the proposed waiver and extension.

#### **Analysis of Comments and Discussion**

**Comments:** All commenters supported the proposed waiver and extension of the NHCTEP project period. The commenters provided various reasons for their support.

One commenter, a CTE director, stated that a competitive grant process would delay the current NHCTEP grantees' training services, as well as outreach, recruitment, academic, and retention efforts, and would cause a lapse in services to Native Hawaiian students. The commenter further stated that issuing a waiver and extension would allow educators and staff to

continue providing specialized CTE training, including certifications, internships, and well-paying job placements, which would maximize the participation and completion of Native Hawaiian students in Perkins-supported CTE programs. The commenter also stated that an extension would help maintain continuity to provide career and technical services to the Native Hawaiian community and students, some of whom have special needs or are at-risk students.

Another commenter, a teacher, stated that because of the NHCTEP grant, certain high school students graduated on time, were placed in postsecondary education, and are now successfully working in their chosen professions. Also, the commenter stated that teachers benefit from the NHCTEP through professional development opportunities. The commenter further stated that students are able to learn skills using the tools needed to be proficient according to industry standards and that the extension would ensure continuation and continuity of CTE for Native Hawaiian students, who would otherwise be subject to a decrease in educational support and support services.

**Discussion:** We appreciate the support of the commenters and agree that extending the current NHCTEP grant period will allow current NHCTEP grantees to continue to work toward accomplishing the goals and objectives stated in their 2013 NHCTEP grant applications, including providing specialized CTE training to Native Hawaiian students. We agree that it is important that there not be a lapse in programming provided by NHCTEP grantees to CTE students.

**Changes:** None.

#### **Waiver of Delayed Effective Date**

The Administrative Procedure Act (APA) requires that a substantive rule must be published at least 30 days before its effective date, except as otherwise provided for good cause (5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3)). The Secretary has determined that a delayed effective date is unnecessary and contrary to the public interest. It is unnecessary because we received only two public comments on this action, both of which supported our proposal, and we have not made any substantive changes to the proposal. It is contrary to public interest because we would not be able to make timely continuation grants to the seven affected entities with the delay. Therefore, the Secretary waives the APA's delayed effective date provision for good cause.

#### **Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification**

The Secretary certifies that the final waiver and extension and the activities required to support additional months of funding would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The small entities that would be affected by this final waiver and extension are the seven currently funded NHCTEP grantees and any other potential applicants. The extension of an existing project imposes minimal compliance costs, and the activities required to support the additional year of funding would not impose additional regulatory burdens or require unnecessary Federal supervision.

#### **Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995**

This notice of final waiver and extension does not contain any information collection requirements.

#### **Intergovernmental Review**

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

**Accessible Format:** Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

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Dated: July 11, 2017.

**Kim R. Ford,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Career, Technical, and Adult Education, delegated the duties of the Assistant Secretary for Career, Technical, and Adult Education.*

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