

schools in a timely and effective manner. Additional information about NIMS implementation is available at <http://www.fema.gov/nims>.

4. *Individuals with Disabilities.* The applicant's plan must demonstrate that the applicant has taken into consideration the communication, transportation, and medical needs of individuals with disabilities within the school district.

#### *Executive Order 12866*

This notice of final priority and other application requirements has been reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 12866. Under the terms of the order, we have assessed the potential costs and benefits of this regulatory action.

The potential costs associated with the notice of final priority are those resulting from statutory requirements and those we have determined as necessary for administering this program effectively and efficiently.

In assessing the potential costs and benefits—both quantitative and qualitative—of this notice of final priority and other application requirements, we have determined that the benefits of the final priority and other application requirements justify the costs.

We have also determined that this regulatory action does not unduly interfere with State, local, and tribal governments in the exercise of their governmental functions.

We summarized the costs and benefits in the notice of proposed priority and other application requirements.

#### *Intergovernmental Review*

This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. One of the objectives of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism. The Executive order relies on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

This document provides early notification of our specific plans and actions for this program.

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(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.184.E-Emergency Response and Crisis Management Grant program.)

**Program Authority:** 20 U.S.C. 7131.

Dated: June 16, 2005.

**Deborah A. Price,**

*Assistant Deputy Secretary for Safe and Drug-Free Schools.*

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**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Notice of Final Extension of Project Period and Waiver for the Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems Centers

**AGENCY:** National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of final extension of project period and waiver for the Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems Centers (SCIMS).

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary waives the requirements in Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), in 34 CFR 75.250 and 75.261(c)(2), respectively, that generally prohibit project periods exceeding five years and project period extensions involving the obligation of additional Federal funds. This extension of project period and waiver enables the current SCIMS (a total of 16), which provide assistance to establish innovative projects for the delivery, demonstration, and evaluation of comprehensive medical, vocational, and other rehabilitation services to meet the wide range of needs of individuals with Spinal Cord Injury (SCI), to receive an additional 12-month Federal funding period ranging from September 1, 2005, until December 1, 2006, a period exceeding the original project period of five years.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* This priority is effective June 21, 2005.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Donna Nangle, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 6030, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 245-7462 or by e-mail: [donna.nangle@ed.gov](mailto:donna.nangle@ed.gov)

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 this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On April 25, 2005, we published a notice in the **Federal Register** (70 FR 21188) proposing an extension of project period and waiver in order to—

(1) Enable the Secretary to provide additional funds to the currently funded centers for an additional 12-month period ranging from September 1, 2005, until December 1, 2006; and

(2) Request comments on the proposed extension and waiver.

There are no substantive differences between the notice of proposed extension of project period and waiver and this notice of final extension of project period and waiver.

#### **Public Comment**

In the notice of proposed extension of project period and waiver, we invited comments. One party submitted a comment agreeing with the proposal to extend the grant period of the current grantees. We did not receive any comments opposing the proposed extension of project period and waiver. Generally, we do not address technical and other minor changes, as well as suggested changes the law does not authorize us to make.

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

The Administrative Procedure Act requires that a substantive rule shall be published at least 30 days before its effective date, except as otherwise provided for good cause (5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3)). During the 30-day public comment period on the notice of proposed extension of project period and waiver, one party submitted a comment in support of the proposed extension and waiver. There were no objections received on the proposed extension and waiver, and therefore, no substantive changes have been made. In addition, given the fact that the additional period of funding is only for a 12-month period, and in order to make

timely continuation grants to the 16 entities affected, the Secretary has determined that a delayed effective date is unnecessary and contrary to the public interest.

### Background

NIDRR supports the goals of the President's New Freedom Initiative (NFI) and the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research Long-Range Plan (Plan), which are designed to help improve rehabilitation research and outcomes for individuals with disabilities.

**Note:** The NFI can be accessed on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/newfreedom>.

The Plan can be accessed on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/rschstat/research/pubs/index.html>.

In accordance with the goals of the NFI and the Plan, and as authorized under section 204(a)(1) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, through NIDRR, the Department provides funding for projects to improve research and outcomes for individuals with disabilities. The Conference Report accompanying the 2005 Appropriations Act noted that NIDRR received additional funding for the SCIMS program and stated that the conferees intended that the additional funds should be used to support investments that could facilitate multi-center research on therapies, interventions, and the use of technology. NIDRR is conducting background work to inform the competition and plans to defer new awards, formerly scheduled for 2005, until 2006 in order to use the background information to guide development of competition priorities, allow applicants sufficient time to prepare proposals, and place all SCIMS grants on the same funding schedule.

The grants for 16 SCIMS at University of Alabama/Birmingham, Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, Los Amigos Research and Education Institute, Inc., Craig Hospital, University of Miami, Shepherd Center, Inc., Boston University Medical Center Hospital, University of Michigan, University of Missouri/Columbia, Kessler Medical Rehabilitation Research and Education Corporation, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, University of Pittsburgh, The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research, Virginia Commonwealth University, and the University of Washington are scheduled to expire on various dates between August 31, 2005, and November 30, 2005. It would be contrary to the public interest, however, to have a lapse in these SCI research

activities before the new awards are made in FY 2006.

To avoid a lapse in research and related activities, the Secretary will fund each of these projects for an additional 12 months. Accordingly, the Secretary waives the requirements in 34 CFR 75.250 and 75.261(c)(2), which prohibit project periods exceeding five years and extensions of project periods that involve the obligation of additional Federal funds.

### Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

The Secretary certifies that the final extension of the project period and waiver would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The only entities that would be affected are the 16 SCIMS.

### Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

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

### Intergovernmental Review

This program is not subject to the requirements of Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79.

### Electronic Access to This Document

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Dated: June 15, 2005.

**John H. Hager,**

*Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.*

[FR Doc. 05-12223 Filed 6-20-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records—Impact Evaluation of Academic Instruction for After-School Programs

**AGENCY:** Institute of Education Sciences, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of a new system of records.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (Privacy Act), the Department of Education (Department) publishes this notice of a new system of records entitled "Impact Evaluation of Academic Instruction for After-School Programs" (18-13-13).

The National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance at the Department's Institute of Education Sciences (IES) commissioned this evaluation. It will address the following two questions:

(1) What is the effectiveness of offering intensive research-based reading support in an after-school program?

(2) Is it more effective than offering more general academic support such as homework help?

The system will contain information about approximately 4,000 elementary school students and their teachers (approximately 600 teachers—12 teachers in each of the studied centers) in 40 to 50 after-school centers in 20 to 25 school districts yet to be determined. One quarter of these students will be participants using a mathematics curriculum, one quarter will be participants using a reading curriculum, and half will be in a control group. The system will include these students' names and demographic information, such as race/ethnicity, age, gender, and educational background, their results on reading or math assessments, and some of their school records data such as attendance and academic history. The system will also include responses to student and teacher surveys.

**DATES:** The Department seeks comment on this new system of records described in this notice, in accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Act. We must receive your comments on the proposed routine uses for the system of records described in this notice on or before July 21, 2005.

The Department filed a report describing the new system of records covered by this notice with the Chair of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Chair of the House Committee on Government Reform, and the