

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**[CFDA No.: 84.275C]****Partnership Training; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 1997**

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM: To support the formation of consortia or partnerships of public or nonprofit private entities for the purpose of providing opportunities for career advancement or competency-based training to current employees of public or nonprofit private agencies that provide services to individuals with disabilities. Those opportunities must include certificate or degree granting programs in vocational rehabilitation services and related services.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: States, public or nonprofit private agencies and organizations, and institutions of higher education.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Congress expressed a concern that led to the inclusion of the partnership training program effort in the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1992. The following is an excerpt from the U.S. House of Representatives report on the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1992, H.R. Rep. No. 102-973, page 117, (1992): "The recruitment, training and retention of personnel continues to be a problem in the provision of vocational rehabilitation services to individuals with disabilities. The personnel training initiative (e.g., demonstration grants and technical assistance) provides an opportunity to train and retain workers who currently hold entry level or paraprofessional positions in public and private agencies that serve individuals with disabilities and have demonstrated a commitment to remaining in the field of vocational rehabilitation."

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 4, 1997.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 4, 1997.

Applications Available: February 5, 1997.

Available Funds: \$400,000.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$150,000-\$200,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$200,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 2.

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

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86.

Statutory Authorizations: The statutory authorizations in section

302(e) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, apply to this program.

An entity that receives a grant under this program may use the grant for purposes including—

(1) Establishing a program with an institution of higher education to develop creative new programs and coursework options, or to expand existing programs, in the fields of vocational rehabilitation services and related services including—

(a) Providing release time for faculty and staff for curriculum development;

(b) Paying for instructional costs and start-up and other program development costs;

(2) Establishing a career development mentoring program using faculty and professional staff members of participating agencies as role models, career sponsors, and academic advisors for experienced State, city, and county employees, and volunteers who—

(a) Have demonstrated a commitment to working in the fields described in paragraph (1)(a) above; and

(b) Are enrolled in a program relating to such a field at an institution of higher education;

(3) Supporting a wide range of programmatic and research activities aimed at increasing opportunities for career advancement and competency-based training in fields related to vocational rehabilitation and related services; and

(4) Identifying existing public or private agency and labor union personnel policies and benefit programs that may facilitate the ability of employees to take advantage of higher education opportunities, such as leave time and tuition reimbursement.

In awarding grants for these projects, the Commissioner ensures that the projects are geographically distributed throughout the United States in urban and rural areas.

FOR APPLICATIONS: To request an application package, please write to U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 3038, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2649, Attention Joyce R. Jones; or call (202) 205-8351.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Beverly Brightly, U.S. Department of Education, Room 3322, Switzer Building, 600 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-2649. Telephone: (202) 205-9561. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Information about the Department's funding opportunities, including copies of application notices for discretionary grant competitions, can be viewed on the Department's electronic bulletin board (ED Board), telephone (202) 260-9950; on the Internet Gopher Server (at gopher://gcs.ed.gov); or on the World Wide Web (at http://gcs.ed.gov). However, the official application notice for a discretionary grant competition is the notice published in the Federal Register.

Program Authority: 29 U.S.C. 774.

Dated: January 29, 1997.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 97-2562 Filed 1-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

[CFDA No.: 84.264B]**Rehabilitation Continuing Education Programs; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 1997**

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM: To support cooperative agreements for training centers that serve either a Federal region or another geographic area and provide a broad, integrated sequence of training activities throughout a multi-State geographical area.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: States and public or nonprofit agencies and organizations, including Indian tribes and institutions of higher education.

Note: Applications are invited for the provision of training for Department of Education Regions II, IV, and X only.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 4, 1997.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 4, 1997.

Applications Available: February 5, 1997.

Available Funds: \$1,500,000.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$475,000-\$500,000

Estimated Average Size of Award: \$500,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 3.

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

Maximum Award: In no case does the Secretary make an initial award greater than \$500,000 for a single budget period of 12 months. The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that proposes a budget exceeding this maximum amount.

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in

34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, and 86; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR parts 385 and 389.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian tribes.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

FOR APPLICATIONS: To request an application package, please write to U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 3038 Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2649, Attention Joyce R. Jones; or call (202) 205-8351.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Steburg, U.S. Department of Education, Region IV, PO Box 1691, Atlanta, Georgia 30301. Telephone: (404) 331-0530. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Information about the Department's funding opportunities, including copies of application notices for discretionary grant competitions, can be viewed on the Department's electronic bulletin board (ED Board), telephone (202) 260-9950; on the Internet Gopher Server (at gopher://gcs.ed.gov); or on the World Wide Web (at <http://gcs.ed.gov>). However, the official application notice for a discretionary grant competition is the notice published in the Federal Register.

Program Authority: 29 U.S.C. 774.

Dated: January 29, 1997.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 97-2563 Filed 1-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Reopening of the Public Comment Period for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Disposal Phase Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Reopening of the Public Comment Period.

SUMMARY: This notice reopens the public comment period for the Department of Energy's (DOE) Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Disposal Phase Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS-II) until February 27, 1997. All comments received by that date will be considered

in preparing the final SEIS-II. A Notice of Availability of the draft was published on November 29, 1996 (61 FR 60690). All other information contained in the Notice of Availability remains unchanged.

ADDRESSES: *Written comments* on the draft SEIS-II should be mailed to the following address: Harold Johnson, NEPA Compliance Officer, Att: SEIS Comments, P.O. Box 9800, Albuquerque, NM 87119.

Although some written comments mailed to this address were mistakenly returned by the U.S. Postal Service to sender, this situation has been rectified and individuals are requested to resubmit their comments to the above address. Comments may also be submitted by electronic mail to WIPPSEIS@battelle.org or by fax to Harold Johnson, NEPA Compliance Officer at (505) 224-8030. For more information on WIPP and the SEIS-II, contact the WIPP Information Center at 1-800-336-WIPP (1-800-336-9477).

For information on the DOE National Environmental Policy Act process, contact: Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-4600 or leave a message at 1-800-472-2756.

DATES: The comment period on the draft SEIS-II will be reopened until February 27, 1997. Comments postmarked after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 29, 1996, the Department issued a Notice of Availability (61 FR 60690) on the draft SEIS-II that included: A brief description of the contents of the document and alternatives analyzed; a list of reading rooms where the full document is available to the public; information on how to obtain additional copies of the document and submit public comments; and a schedule of public hearings. This Notice also announced a sixty-day public comment period extending from November 29, 1996 to January 28, 1997.

The public comment period is being reopened until February 27, 1997, in response to public requests for additional time to review the document and prepare comments. The Department has individually notified interested stakeholders of the reopened comment period. Except for the end of the comment period, all information contained in the November 29, 1996, Notice of Availability remains unchanged. Please note that some written comments on the draft SEIS-II that were mailed to the Department

were mistakenly returned by the U.S. Postal Service to sender. This situation has been rectified and these comments may be resubmitted to the address above. Comments postmarked after February 27, 1997, will be considered to the extent practicable. Further information on the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant and on the SEIS-II is contained in the November 29, 1996, Notice of Availability.

Issued in Washington, DC., this 27 day of January, 1997.

Mark W. Frei,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Waste Management Environmental Management.

[FR Doc. 97-2554 Filed 1-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Floodplain Statement of Findings for Operable Unit 5 Remedial Action at the Fernald Environmental Management Project

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE), Fernald Environmental Management Project.

ACTION: Floodplain statement of findings.

SUMMARY: This is to give notice of DOE's planned actions for the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP), located approximately 18 miles (29 kilometers) northwest of downtown Cincinnati, Ohio. The subject of this Floodplain Statement of Findings is the Operable Unit 5 Remedial Action. DOE proposes to protect human health and the environment by excavating and consolidating contaminated soil and sediment within an on-property, above-grade disposal facility. Excavation and construction activities associated with implementation of this action would involve the floodplain along Paddys Run in Hamilton County, Ohio. In accordance with Executive Order 11988 and 10 CFR part 1022, DOE prepared a floodplain/wetland assessment describing the effects, alternatives and measures designed to avoid or minimize potential harm to or within the affected floodplain. The assessment found that the proposed action would have minimal temporary or long-term impacts on the floodplain.

DATES: Written comments must be received by the DOE at the following address on or before February 18, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Mail comments and/or requests for further information, including a site map, to: Mr. David Kozlowski, Associate Director, Office of Safety & Assessment, U.S. Department of Energy, Fernald Environmental Management Project, PO. Box 538705,