

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army****Notice of Intent (NOI) to Prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for Implementation of the Army Transformation Campaign Plan (ATCP)****AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Army announces its intent to prepare a PEIS to identify and evaluate the environmental effects associated with implementation of the ATCP.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Colonel Mealer at (703) 614-5050.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The prospect of a rapidly changing and more turbulent, unpredictable, global security environment underscores the need for a high level of defense preparedness. To meet the challenges of a wider range of threats and a more complex set of operating environments, the United States will require a world class Army capable of rapid response and dominance across the entire spectrum of operations in a joint, interagency and multinational environment. Today's Army force structure and supporting systems were designed for a different era and enemy. They lack the capability to operate optimally across the full range of likely future operations. The Army's superb heavy forces are unequalled in their ability to gain and hold terrain in the most intense, direct fire combat imaginable; and, once deployed, they are the decisive element in major theater wars. The current heavy forces, however, are challenged to get to contingencies where we have not laid the deployment groundwork and, once deployed, these forces have a large logistical footprint. On the other hand, the Army's current light forces can strike quickly but once inserted lack survivability, lethality and tactical mobility. Therefore, to meet the defense challenges of the future and provide the National Command Authority the decisive landpower forces necessary to support the National Security Strategy and National Military Strategy, the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Army have articulated a clear Army Vision that includes transforming all aspects of the most respected Army in the world into a strategically responsive force that is dominant across the full spectrum of operations.

The Army will implement transformation as rapidly as possible,

while continually maintaining the warfighting readiness of its operational forces and taking care of its people. The ATCP will be the mechanism used to integrate and synchronize the implementation of the Army Vision. Indeed, Army transformation has already begun with the establishment of the Initial Force at Fort Lewis, Washington. The Initial Force is a two-brigade combat team force that will transform and will receive off-the-shelf equipment to support evaluation and refinement of the doctrinal Organizational and Operational concepts. This will be followed by the Interim Force consisting of six to eight brigades. The Interim Force is a transition force—one that seeks the Objective Force state-of-the-art technology, but leverages today's technology together with modernized legacy forces as a bridge to the future. The Objective Force is the force that achieves our transformation objective. It is a future force that will be strategically responsive Army, capable of dominating at every point across the full spectrum of operations and which can rapidly transition across mission requirements without loss of momentum. It will be able to operate as an integral member of the joint, multinational, interagency team and will be dominant against the asymmetric application of conventional, unconventional and weapons of mass destruction threat capabilities.

The PEIS is being prepared to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. Implementation of the ATCP, as envisioned, will be a major undertaking entailing a series of changes to equipment, force structure and training practices. When all the changes are proposed for specific sites and for equipment acquisition and testing, there will undoubtedly be a range of effects on the environment. The PEIS will inform the public, regulators, concerned groups and Army decision-makers about potential environmental concerns that should be factored into any final decisions to implement the ATCP. In addition, it will provide these groups with a meaningful opportunity to present their views on significant environmental issues and concerns to Army decision-makers.

Alternatives:

1. No Action Alternative: Whereby the ATCP would not be implemented and needed changes to Army equipment, force structure and training practices would be separately analyzed on a piecemeal basis.

2. Action Alternative 1: Whereby the program for transformation of the Army to better meet present and future national security requirements and

fulfill the Army Vision would be initiated in accordance with the ATCP including:

a. A comparison of the likely environmental effects at candidate (alternative) sites for placement of the brigades planned for the Interim Force.

b. Identification and analysis of the types of major actions contained in the ATCP leading to the Objective Force and their associated activities and consequential types and magnitude of effects.

3. Action Alternative 2: Whereby the ATCP would only be partially implemented because of budgetary or other constraints.

Significant issues: The issues to be analyzed in this PEIS include noise, impacts to wetlands and riparian areas, soil erosion, air and water quality, endangered species, cultural resources and other issues.

Scoping: Comments received as a result of the NOI will be used to assist the Army in identifying potential impacts to the quality of human and natural environments. Individuals or organizations may participate in the scoping process by providing written comment by mail or by facsimile through the Scoping Page on the Army Homepage web site (www.army.mil). The time and location for scoping via the web site will be announced by public notice in the national news media. To be considered in the draft PEIS, comments and suggestions should be received no later than 30 days following activation of the Scoping Page. Questions regarding this PEIS may be directed to Headquarters, Department of the Army, ATTN: ODCSOPS (DAMO-FMF), 400 Army Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20310-0400 or by facsimile transmission to (703) 614-3601.

Dated: December 11, 2000.

Raymond J. Fatz,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army, (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health), OASA (I&E).

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.342]

Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers To Use Technology

Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education Notice of requirements and invitation for applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2001.

Purpose of Program: The Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use

Technology program provides grants to consortia that are helping future teachers become proficient in the use of modern learning technologies. This program addresses looming teacher shortages by developing well-qualified, technology-proficient teachers, who are prepared to teach in 21st century schools. This program provides support for two types of grants: implementation grants and catalyst grants.

Eligible Applicants: Only consortia may receive grants under this program. A consortium must include at least two members. Consortium members may include institutions of higher education (IHEs), schools of education, State educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), private schools, professional associations, foundations, museums, libraries, for profit agencies and organizations, nonprofit organizations, community-based organizations, and others.

Note: In each consortium a participating nonprofit member must be designated as the "applicant" for purposes of 34 CFR 75.128 and must act as the fiscal agent.

Applications Available: December 15, 2000.

Deadline for Receipt of Applications: February 22, 2001.

Note: All application materials must be received on or before the deadline date. Pursuant to 34 CFR 614.8 an application for a grant under this program must be received by the deadline date announced in this notice.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 8, 2001.

Estimated Available Funds: \$31,750,000. 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 before the end of the fiscal year, if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$200,000–\$500,000 for implementation grants, and \$500,000–\$700,000 for catalyst grants.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$350,000 for implementation grants, and \$600,000 for catalyst grants.

Estimated Number of Awards: 65 implementation grants, and 15 catalyst grants.

Project Period: 36 months for implementation grants, and 36 months for catalyst grants.

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

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75 (except for 75.102), 77, 79, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; (b)

The regulation for this program is 34 CFR part 614. The selection criteria and factors to be used for this competition will be provided in the application package.

Application Review Procedures: The Secretary announces the use of a multi-tier review process to evaluate all applications submitted for new awards under the FY 2001 Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology program. The Secretary takes this action to ensure a thorough review and assessment of the large number of applications that are expected to be received under the FY 2001 competition. This multi-tier review process does not affect the contents of applications in this competition.

For Applications Contact: Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology, U.S. Department of Education, 1900 K Street, NW, Suite 6160, Washington DC 20202–5131. Telephone: (202) 502–7788. Fax: (202) 502–7775. Via Internet: <http://www.ed.gov/teachtech>

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pat Pilkerton, Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology, U.S. Department of Education, 1900 K Street, NW, Suite 6160, Washington DC 20202–5131. Telephone: (202) 502–7788. E-mail: pat_pilkerton@ed.gov

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

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

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format by contacting that person. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternative format the standard forms included in the application package.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at either of the following sites: <http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm> <http://www.ed.gov/news.html>

To use PDF you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1–888–293–6498; or in 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.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6832.

Dated: December 11, 2000.

A. Lee Frischler,

Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Use of Tests as Part of High-Stakes Decision-Making for Students: A Resource Guide for Educators and Policymakers

AGENCY: Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of availability of final document.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights announces the availability of a final document entitled "The Use of Tests as Part of High-Stakes Decision-Making for Students: A Resource Guide for Educators and Policymakers." The resource guide is designed to provide educators and policymakers with an informative and practical tool that will assist in their development and implementation of policies that involve the use of tests in making high-stakes decisions for students. The guide provides information about relevant Federal non-discrimination standards and professionally recognized test measurement principles, as well as a collection of resources related to the non-discrimination and test measurement principles discussed in the guide.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Address requests for copies of the final document to Jeanette J. Lim, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 5212 Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202–1100. Telephone: 1–800–421–3481. For all requests submitted by letter, you must include the term "Testing Guide." If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the TDD number at 1–877–521–2172. The final document is also available through the