

(1) A private metered postmark.

(2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

**Note:** The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

#### c. *Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.*

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you (or a courier service) may deliver your paper application to the Department by hand. You must deliver the original and two copies of your application by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.153A), 550 12th Street, SW., Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-4260.

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

**Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications:** If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department—

(1) You must indicate on the envelope and—if not provided by the Department—in Item 11 of the SF 424 the CFDA number, including suffix letter, if any, of the competition under which you are submitting your application; and

(2) The Application Control Center will mail to you a notification of receipt of your grant application. If you do not receive this notification within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245-6288.

#### V. Application Review Information

1. *General:* For FY 2008, applications are randomly divided into seven groupings. International business and outreach experts, organized into seven panels of three, will review each application. Each panel reviews, scores, and ranks its applications separately from the applications assigned to the other panels. However, ultimately, all applications, without being divided into groups, will be ranked from the highest to the lowest score for funding purposes.

2. *Selection Criteria:* The selection criteria for this program are in 34 CFR 661.31 and are as follows: (a) Need for the project (25 points); (b) plan of operation (20 points); (c) qualifications of the key personnel (10 points); (d) budget and cost effectiveness (15

points); (e) evaluation plan (25 points); and (f) adequacy of resources (5 points).

#### VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notice (GAN). We may notify you informally, also.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section in this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section in this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Reporting:* At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as directed by the Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. Grantees are required to use the electronic data instrument, *International Resource Information System* (IRIS), to complete both the annual and final reports. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html>.

4. *Performance Measures:* Under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), the objective for the Business and International Education Program (BIE) is to meet the nation's security and economic needs through the development of a national capacity in foreign languages, and area and international studies.

The Department will use the following measures to evaluate its success in meeting this objective.

BIE Performance Measures: (1) The number of outreach activities that are adopted or disseminated within a year, divided by the total number of BIE outreach activities conducted in the reporting period. (2) Percentage of BIE projects judged to be successful by the program officer, based on a review of information provided in annual performance reports.

The information provided by grantees in their performance reports submitted via IRIS will be the source of data for this measure. Reporting screens for institutions can be viewed at: <http://www.ieps-iris.org/iris/pdfs/BIE.pdf>.

#### VII. Agency Contact

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Tanyelle Richardson, International Education Programs Service, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K. Street, NW., Room 6017, Washington, DC 20006-8521. Telephone: (202) 502-7626 or by e-mail: [tanyelle.richardson@ed.gov](mailto:tanyelle.richardson@ed.gov). If you use a TDD, call the FRS, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

#### VIII. Other Information

*Alternative Format:* Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact person listed under *For Further Information Contact* in section VII in this notice.

*Electronic Access to This Document:* You can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>.

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

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Dated: October 31, 2007.

**Diane Auer Jones,**  
*Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.*

[FR Doc. E7-21695 Filed 11-2-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

##### National Assessment Governing Board; Meeting

**AGENCY:** Department of Education, National Assessment Governing Board.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting and partially closed meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the National Assessment Governing Board. This notice also describes the functions of the Board. Notice of this meeting is required under Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This document is intended to notify members of the general public of their opportunity to attend. Individuals who will need special accommodations in order to attend the meeting (i.e.; interpreting services, assistive listening devices, materials in alternative format) should notify Munira Mwalimu at 202-357-6938 or at [Munira.Mwalimu@ed.gov](mailto:Munira.Mwalimu@ed.gov) no later than November 5, 2007. We will attempt to meet requests after this date, but cannot guarantee availability of the requested accommodation. The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

**DATES:** November 15–17, 2007.

#### Times

##### November 15

##### Committee Meeting

*Executive Committee:* Open Session—4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Closed Session—4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

##### November 16

*Full Board:* Open Session—8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.; Closed Session—12:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.; Open Session—2:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Closed Session—3:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

##### Committee Meetings

*Assessment Development Committee:* Closed Session—9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Open Session—11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.;

*Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology:* Open Session—9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.;

*Reporting and Dissemination Committee:* Open Session—9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.;

##### November 17

*Nominations Committee:* Closed Session—7:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

*Full Board:* Open Session—9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

*Location:* The Ritz Carlton Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Boulevard, McLean, VA 22102.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Munira Mwalimu, Operations Officer, National Assessment Governing Board, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Suite 825, Washington, DC, 20002-4233, Telephone: (202) 357-6938.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Assessment Governing Board

is established under section 412 of the National Education Statistics Act of 1994, as amended.

The Board is established to formulate policy guidelines for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The Board's responsibilities include selecting subject areas to be assessed, developing assessment objectives, developing appropriate student achievement levels for each grade and subject tested, developing guidelines for reporting and disseminating results, and developing standards and procedures for interstate and national comparisons.

On November 15, the Executive Committee will meet in closed session from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. to receive a briefing from the National Center for Education Statistics on contractor costs and contract options under National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) contracts awarded in Fiscal Year 2007, covering the 2008–2012 assessment years. The discussion of contractor costs and contract options will address the implications for congressionally mandated goals and adherence to Board policies on NAEP assessments. This part of the meeting must be conducted in closed session because public discussion of this information would disclose proprietary information submitted by the successful contractors and have an adverse effect on the confidentiality of the contracting process. The meeting must therefore be conducted in closed session as disclosure of technical and cost data would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP contract awards, and is therefore protected by exemption 9(B) of section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C.

On November 16, the full Board will meet in open session from 8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. The Board will approve the agenda and new Board members will be administered the Oath of Office. The Governing Board will receive a report from the Executive Director and hear an update on the work of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

The Assessment Development Committee will meet in closed session on November 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to review secure science pilot items for grades 4, 8, and 12 for the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The meeting must be conducted in closed session as disclosure of proposed test items for the science pilot would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP program, and is therefore protected by exemption 9(B) of section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C. From 11:30 a.m. to 12:30

p.m., the Committee will meet in open session.

On November 16, the Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology, and the Reporting and Dissemination Committee will meet in open session from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

On November 16, the full Board will meet in closed session from 12:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. to receive a briefing on results of the 2007 NAEP Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA) Reading and Mathematics Report Card. The Governing Board will be provided with embargoed data on the report that cannot be discussed in an open meeting prior to their official release. The meeting must therefore be conducted in closed session as premature disclosure of data would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP program, and is therefore protected by exemption 9(B) of section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C.

On November 16 from 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. the Board will receive an update from the Chair of the Technical Panel on 12th Grade Preparedness Research. Thereafter, Board members will receive a closed session briefing on Ethics from the Office of General Counsel from 3:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

On November 17, the Nominations Committee will meet in closed session from 7:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. to review and discuss confidential information regarding nominees received for Board vacancies for terms beginning on October 1, 2008. These discussions pertain solely to internal personnel rules and practices of an agency and will disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. As such, the discussions are protected by exemptions 2 and 6 of section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C.

The full Board will meet in open session on November 17 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. From 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., the Board will receive a briefing on developing NAEP Frameworks and Test Questions. Board actions on policies and Committee reports are scheduled to take place between 10:15 a.m. and 12 p.m., upon which the November 17, 2007 session of the Board meeting will adjourn.

Detailed minutes of the meeting, including summaries of the activities of the closed sessions and related matters that are informative to the public and consistent with the policy of section 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) will be available to the public within 14 days of the meeting. Records are kept of all Board proceedings and are available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment

Governing Board, Suite #825, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Washington, DC, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

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Dated: October 30, 2007.

**Charles E. Smith,**

*Executive Director, National Assessment Governing Board, U.S. Department of Education.*

[FR Doc. E7-21678 Filed 11-2-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance: Symposium

**AGENCY:** Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of an Opening Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming symposium of the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance (The Advisory Committee). This notice also describes the functions of the Advisory Committee. Notice of this symposium is required under section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This document is intended to notify the general public.

**Date and Time:** Monday, December 10, 2007, beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at approximately 5 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Holiday Inn on the Hill, Federal Ballroom, Lobby Level, 415 New Jersey Avenue, NW., Washington DC 20001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Michelle Asha Cooper, Deputy Director, Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, Capitol Place, 80 F Street, NW., Suite 413, Washington, DC 20202-7582, (202) 219-2099.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance is established under section 491 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended by Public Law 100-50 (20 U.S.C. 1098). The Advisory Committee serves as an independent source of advice and counsel to the Congress and the Secretary of Education on student financial aid policy. Since its inception, the congressional mandate requires the Advisory Committee to conduct objective, nonpartisan, and independent analyses on important aspects of the student assistance programs under Title IV of the Higher Education Act, and to make recommendations that will result in the maintenance of access to postsecondary education for low- and middle-income students. In addition, Congress expanded the Advisory Committee's mission in the Higher Education Amendments of 1998 to include several important areas: Access, Title IV modernization, distance education, and early information and needs assessment. Specifically, the Advisory Committee is to review, monitor and evaluate the Department of Education's progress in these areas and report recommended improvements to Congress and the Secretary.

The Advisory Committee has scheduled this one-day symposium to discuss issues affecting community colleges, particularly as they relate to enrollment, persistence, and transfer between two- and four-year institutions.

The proposed agenda will include testimony and discussion by community college leaders, policymakers, researchers and practitioners on (a) best practices used to inform students about college and help students prepare to enroll in community colleges; (b) the types of programs and efforts needed to better ensure the persistence and degree completion of community college students; and (c) innovative programs that facilitate the transfer process from two-year to four-year institutions. The Advisory Committee will also conduct a public comment and discussion session.

Individuals who will need accommodations for a disability in order to attend the Symposium (i.e., interpreting services, assistive listening devices, and/or materials in alternative format) should notify the Advisory Committee no later than Thursday, November 29, 2007 by contacting Ms. Hope Gray at (202) 219-2099 or via e-mail at [hope.gray@ed.gov](mailto:hope.gray@ed.gov). We will

attempt to meet requests after this date, but cannot guarantee availability of the requested accommodation. The symposium site is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

The Advisory Committee invites the public to submit written comments on the agenda topics to the following e-mail address: [ACSFA@ed.gov](mailto:ACSFA@ed.gov). Information regarding the topics covered at the symposium will also be available on the Advisory Committee's Web site, <http://www.ed.gov/ACSFA>. We must receive your comments *on or before Friday, November 30, 2007 to be included in the symposium materials.*

Space for the symposium is limited and you are encouraged to register early if you plan to attend. You may register by sending an e-mail to the following address: [ACSFA@ed.gov](mailto:ACSFA@ed.gov) or [Tracy.Deanna.Jones@ed.gov](mailto:Tracy.Deanna.Jones@ed.gov). Please include your name, title, affiliation, complete address (including internet and e-mail address, if available), and telephone and fax numbers. If you are unable to register electronically, you may fax your registration information to the Advisory Committee staff office at (202) 219-3032. You may also contact the Advisory Committee staff directly at (202) 219-2099. The registration deadline is Friday, November 30, 2007.

Records are kept for Advisory Committee proceedings, and are available for inspection at the Office of the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, Capitol Place, 80 F Street, NW., Suite 413, Washington, DC from the hours of 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Information regarding the Advisory Committee is available on the Committee's Web site, <http://www.ed.gov/ACSFA>.

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