

Rm. 715, MSC 5452, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-8843, stanfibr@nidk.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Advisory Council; Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolic Diseases Subcommittee.

Date: September 20-21, 2006.

Open: September 20, 2006, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Agenda: To review the Division's scientific and planning activities.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Building 31, 31 Center Drive, Conference Room 10, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Closed: September 21, 2006, 8 to 9:30 a.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Building 31, 31 Center Drive, Conference Room 10, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: Brent B. Stanfield, Ph.D., Director, Division of Extramural Activities, National Institutes of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, 6707 Democracy Blvd., Rm. 715, MSC 5452, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-8843, stanfibr@nidk.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Advisory Council; Digestive Diseases and Nutrition Subcommittee.

Date: September 20-21, 2006.

Closed: September 20, 2006, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Building 31, 31 Center Drive, Conference Room 9A22, Bethesda, MD 20892

Open: September 20, 2006, 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Agenda: To review the Division's scientific and planning activities.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Building 31, 31 Center Drive, Conference Room 9A22, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Open: September 21, 2006, 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Agenda: Continuation of the Division's scientific and planning activities.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Building 31, 31 Center Drive, Conference Room 9A22, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: Brent B. Stanfield, Ph.D., Director, Division of Extramural Activities, National Institutes of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, 6707 Democracy Blvd., Rm. 715, MSC 5452, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-8843, stanfibr@nidk.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Advisory Council; Kidney, Urologic, and Hematologic Diseases Subcommittee.

Date: September 20-21, 2006.

Open: September 20, 2006, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.847, Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Research; 93.848, Digestive Diseases and Nutrition Research; 98.849, Kidney Diseases, Urology and Hematology Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: August 28, 2006.

Anna Snouffer,

Acting Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 06-7435 Filed 9-5-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Agency Information Collection Activities: New Information Collection, Comment Request

ACTION: 30-day notice of information collection under review: CIS Ombudsman Case Problem Submission Worksheet, Form DHS-7001 (Previously published as Form G-1107). OMB Control No. 1615-NEW.

The Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) Ombudsman has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on June 29, 2006, at 71 FR 37085. The notice allowed for a 60-day public comment period. No comments were received on this information collection.

The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comments. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until October 6, 2006. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, should be directed to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), USCIS, Director, Regulatory

Management Division, Clearance Office, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, 3rd floor, Washington, DC 20529. Comments may also be submitted to DHS via facsimile to 202-272-8352 or via e-mail at rfs.regs@dhs.gov. When submitting comments by e-mail please make sure to add DHS-7001 in the subject box. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* New information collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* CIS Ombudsman Case Problem Submission Worksheet.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Homeland Security sponsoring the collection:* DHS-7001. Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Individuals or Households. This information collection is necessary for the CIS Ombudsman to identify problem areas, propose changes, and assist individuals experiencing problems during the processing of an immigration benefit with USCIS.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 2,600 responses at 1 hour per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 2,600 annual burden hours.

If you have comments, please submit them to DHS via facsimile to 202-272-8352 or via e-mail at rfs.regs@dhs.gov, and to the DHS desk officer at:

kastrich@omb.eop.gov, or fax to 202-395-6974. If you need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please visit the USCIS Web site at: <http://uscis.gov/graphics/formsfee/forms/pira/index.htm>.

If additional information is required contact: USCIS, Regulatory Management Division, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, 3rd Floor, Washington, DC 20529, (202) 272-8377.

Dated: August 31, 2006.

Richard A. Sloan,

Director, Regulatory Management Division,
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

[FR Doc. E6-14702 Filed 9-5-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Office of Grants and Training; Assistance To Firefighters Grant Program

AGENCY: Office of Grants and Training, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of guidance.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security is publishing this Notice to provide details and guidance regarding the 2006 program year Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. The program makes grants directly to fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical services organizations for the purpose of enhancing first-responders' ability to protect the health and safety of the public as well as that of first-responder personnel facing fire and fire-related hazards. As in prior years, this year's grants are awarded on a competitive basis to the applicants that best reflect the program's criteria and funding priorities and best address statutory award requirements. This Notice describes the criteria and funding priorities recommended by a panel of representatives from the Nation's fire service leadership (criteria development panel) and accepted by the Department of Homeland Security, unless otherwise noted herein. This Notice contains details regarding the guidance and competitive process descriptions that have been provided to applicants and also provides information on where and why the Department deviated from recommendations of the criteria development panel.

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 2229, 2229a.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Cowan, Director, Assistance to Firefighters Program Office, Office of

Grants and Training, 810 Seventh Street, NW., Washington, DC 20531

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Appropriations

For fiscal year 2006, Congress appropriated \$539,550,000 to carry out the activities of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG Program).¹ The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is authorized to spend up to \$26,977,500 for administration of the AFG program (five percent of the appropriated amount). In addition, DHS has set aside no less than \$26,977,500 of the funds (five percent of the appropriation) for the Fire Prevention and Safety Grants in order to make grants to, or enter into contracts or cooperative agreements with, national, State, local or community organizations or agencies, including fire departments, for the purpose of carrying out fire prevention and injury prevention programs. This leaves approximately \$485,595,000 for competitive grants to fire departments and nonaffiliated Emergency Medical Service (EMS) organizations. Within the portion of funding available for competitive grants, DHS must assure that no less than three and one-half percent of the appropriation, or \$18,884,250, is awarded for EMS equipment and training. However, awards to nonaffiliated emergency medical service (EMS) organizations are limited to no more than two percent of the appropriation or \$10,791,000. Therefore, at least the balance of the requisite awards for EMS equipment and training must go to fire departments.

Background

The purpose of the AFG program is to award grants directly to fire departments and nonaffiliated EMS organizations to enhance their ability to protect the health and safety of the public, as well as that of first-responder personnel, with respect to fire and fire related hazards. DHS awards the grants on a competitive basis to the applicants that best address the AFG program's priorities and provide the most compelling justification. Applicants whose requests best address the program's priorities were reviewed by a panel made up of fire service personnel. The panel reviewed the narrative and assessed the application with respect to the clarity of the project to be funded, the organization's financial need, the benefit to be derived from their project, and the extent to which the grant would

enhance the applicant's daily operations and/or how the grant would positively impact the applicant's ability to protect life and property.

The AFG Program for fiscal year 2006 generally mirrors previous years' programs with only one significant change. The only significant change is in the formulation of what the program has referred to as a "regional project." A regional project, generally, is a project undertaken by an applicant to provide services and support to a number of other regional participants, such as training for multiple mutual-aid jurisdictions. For the 2006 program year, organizations that applied as a host of a regional project were not able to include activities unrelated to the regional project, *e.g.*, activities to address specific needs of the host applicant versus the region. Also, the host applicant was required to reflect the general characteristics of the entire represented region. The population covered by the regional project affected the amount of required local contribution to the project, *i.e.* the cost-share required for the project.

The 2006 program will again segregate the Fire Prevention and Safety Grant (FP&S) program from the AFG. DHS will have a separate application period devoted solely to Fire Prevention and Safety in the Fall of 2006. The AFG Web site (www.firegrantsupport.com) will provide updated information on this program.

Congress has enacted statutory limits to the amount of funding that a grantee may receive from the AFG Program in any fiscal year.² 15 U.S.C. 2229(b)(10). These limits are based on population served. A grantee that serves a jurisdiction with 500,000 people or less may not receive grant funding in excess of \$1,000,000 in any fiscal year. A grantee that serves a jurisdiction with more than 500,000 but not more than 1,000,000 people may not receive grants in excess of \$1,750,000 in any fiscal year. A grantee that serves a jurisdiction with more than 1,000,000 people may not receive grants in excess of \$2,750,000 in any fiscal year. DHS may waive these established limits to any grantee serving a jurisdiction of 1,000,000 people or less if DHS determines that extraordinary need for assistance warrants the waiver. No

² Federal Fire Protection and Control Act of 1974, Pub. L. 93-498, § 33, as added Pub. L. 106-398, § 1 [Div. A, Title XVII, § 1701(a)] 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-360 (2000), as amended Pub. L. 107-107, Div. A, Title X, § 1061, 115 Stat. 1231 (2001); Pub. L. 108-7, Div. K, Title IV, § 421, 117 Stat. 526 (2003); Pub. L. 108-169, Title II, § 205, 117 Stat. 2040 (2003); Pub. L. 108-375, Div. C, Title XXXVI, § 3602, 118 Stat. 2195 (2004), found at and hereafter cited as 15 U.S.C. 2229.

¹ All appropriated fund amounts are net of rescissions after enactment of the original appropriation.