

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Teacher Quality Enhancement Grants for States and Partnerships Program

AGENCY: Office of Postsecondary Education; Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice inviting individuals to serve as field readers.

SUMMARY: The Office of Higher Education Programs invites interested individuals to apply to serve as field readers evaluating grant applications submitted for funding in fiscal year 1999 for the Teacher Quality Enhancement Grants for States and Partnerships Program. This program includes three new competitive grant programs that, together, are intended to improve teacher quality in America by effectively addressing the Nation's need to recruit and prepare teachers who have the skills and content knowledge needed to teach all children to high academic standards. The three programs include—State Grants to support the implementation of comprehensive statewide reforms to improve teacher quality, Partnership Grants to bring about fundamental change and improvement in traditional teacher education programs, and Teacher Recruitment Grants to reduce shortages of qualified teachers in high-need school districts.

DATES: Any individual interested in serving as a field reader should mail or fax two copies of his or her resume to the address listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice no later than April 2, 1999, indicating the program in which he or she is interested in serving as a field reader. Résumés should not exceed two pages.

Duties and Compensation of Field Readers: Field readers will review applications according to the applicable published selection criteria. Each field reader will serve for a period of approximately five days. Each field reader who is selected will receive compensation for certain travel expenses and an honorarium.

Field Reader Qualifications: The Department is seeking experienced and knowledgeable professionals who collectively can review program applications from a variety of perspectives on what is needed to successfully prepare highly competent K-12 teachers. In this regard, the Department seeks the help of interested professionals with expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- State reforms in K-12 education, and teacher licensing, certification, and testing of teachers.

- The accreditation of teacher preparation programs, and how these programs can provide prospective teachers with both strong teaching skills and academic content in the areas in which they will teach.

- The teaching needs of K-12 school districts, and particularly those with schools in high-poverty areas or that face large teacher shortages.

- The support that new teachers need in their first few years of teaching.

- Activities that can foster strong working relationships between teacher preparation programs and the school districts and schools in which teaching graduates will teach.

- The particular teaching needs of high-need school districts.

- Management and governance issues related to the development and sustainability of partnerships among teacher preparation programs, schools of arts and sciences, and high-need school districts.

- Other issues related to teacher licensure, certification, preparation, and recruitment that must be addressed if new teachers are to be able to enable all of their students to achieve high academic standards.

Prospective field readers may come from State agencies, institutions of higher education, local K-12 school districts, private organizations, community service agencies, and other entities. Each field reader must have the expertise necessary to assess accurately the quality of a program application on the basis of the applicable selection criteria. Application packages for prospective applicants that include the program selection criteria may be accessed at the following Internet site: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/heatqp/index.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Louis Venuto, Teacher Quality Enhancement Program, Post Office Box 23764, Washington, D.C. 20026-3764. Telephone: (202) 708-8847. Inquiries may be sent by e-mail to Louis_Venuto@ed.gov or by fax to (202) 708-9272. 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.

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 in the preceding paragraph.

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Note: The official version of a document is the document published in the **Federal Register**.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1021 *et seq.*

Dated: March 17, 1999.

Maureen A. McLaughlin,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 99-6935 Filed 3-19-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Oak Ridge Reservation

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Oak Ridge Reservation. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Wednesday, April 7, 1999, 6:00 p.m.–9:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Garden Plaza, 215 S. Illinois Avenue, Oak Ridge, TN 37830.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marianne Heiskell, Federal Coordinator/Ex-Officio Officer, Department of Energy Oak Ridge Operations Office, P.O. Box 2001, EM-90, Oak Ridge, TN 37831, (423) 576-0314.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Purpose of the Board:* The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.