

A. Each ELVIS transmission shall include the following information:

i. The visa number: The visa number shall be in the standard nine digit letter format beginning with one numeric digit for the last digit of the year of export, followed by the two character alpha code specified by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) (The code for Maldives is MV), and a six digit numerical serial number identifying the shipment; e.g., 4MV123456.

ii. The date of issuance: The date of issuance shall be the day, month and year on which the visa was issued.

iii. The correct category(s), merged category(s), part category(s), quantity(s), and unit(s) of quantity of the shipment in the unit(s) of quantity provided for in the U.S. Department of Commerce Correlation and in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States. Quantities must be stated in whole numbers. Decimals or fractions will not be accepted.

iv. The quantity of the shipment in the correct units of quantity

v. The manufacturer ID number (MID)

B. Entry of a shipment shall not be permitted:

I. if an ELVIS transmission has not been received for the shipment from the Government of the Republic of Maldives;

II. if the ELVIS transmission for that shipment is missing any of the following information:

i) visa number

ii) category, part category, or merged category

iii) quantity

iv) unit of measure

v) date of issuance

vi) manufacturer ID number

III. if the ELVIS transmission for the shipment does not match the information supplied by the importer, or the Customs broker acting as an agent on behalf of the importer, with regard to any of the following:

i) visa number

ii) category, part category, or merged category

iii) unit of measure

IV. If the quantity being entered is greater than the quantity transmitted.

V. If the visa number has previously been used, except in the case of a split shipment, or cancelled, except when entry has already been made using the visa number.

C. A new, correct ELVIS transmission from the Government of the Republic of Maldives is required before a shipment that has been denied entry for one of the circumstances mentioned above will be released.

D. Visa waivers will only be accepted if the shipment qualifies for a one-time special purpose shipment that is not part of an ongoing commercial enterprise. A visa waiver may be issued by the Department of Commerce at the request of the Government of the Republic of Maldives. A visa waiver only waives the requirements to present an ELVIS transmission at the time of entry, and does not waive any quota requirements.

E. In the event of a systems failure, shipments will not be released for twenty-four hours or 1 calendar day. If system failure exceeds twenty-four hours or 1 calendar day,

for the remaining period of the system failure the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection will release shipments on the basis of the visa data provided by the Government of the Republic of Maldives. The Republic of Maldives will retransmit all data that was affected by the systems failure when the system is functioning normally.

**Shipments not requiring visas or ELVIS transmission:**

Merchandise imported for the personal use of the importer and not for resale, regardless of value, and properly marked commercial sample shipments valued at U.S. \$800 or less do not require a visa or an ELVIS transmission for entry and shall not be charged to Agreement levels.

**Other Provisions:**

The visa stamp remains unchanged.

Goods integrated into GATT 1994 in Stages II and III by the United States will not require a visa or ELVIS transmission (see Federal Register notices 63 FR 53881, published on October 7, 1998 and 66 FR 63225, published on December 5, 2001, respectively). A visa and ELVIS transmission will continue to be required for non-integrated products.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that this action fall with the foreign affairs exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

D. Michael Hutchinson,  
Chairman, Committee for the  
Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. E4-1953 Filed 8-26-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-Dr-S**

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**RIN 1820-ZA36**

### National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

**AGENCY:** Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed priorities for knowledge dissemination and utilization projects.

**SUMMARY:** The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services proposes priorities for three knowledge dissemination and utilization projects under the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects (DRRP) Program. The Assistant Secretary may use these priorities for competitions in fiscal year (FY) 2005 and later years. We take this action to focus attention on an identified national need. We intend these priorities to improve rehabilitation outcomes for individuals with disabilities.

**DATES:** We must receive your comments on or before September 27, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Address all comments about this proposed priority to Donna Nangle, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 6030, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-2600. If you prefer to send your comments through the Internet, use the following address:  
[donna.nangle@ed.gov](mailto:donna.nangle@ed.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Donna Nangle. Telephone: (202) 245-7462.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 or via Internet: [donna.nangle@ed.gov](mailto:donna.nangle@ed.gov).

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### Invitation To Comment

We invite you to submit comments regarding these proposed priorities. To ensure that your comments have maximum effect in developing the notice of final priorities, we urge you to identify clearly the specific proposed priority or topic that each comment addresses.

We invite you to assist us in complying with the specific requirements of Executive Order 12866 and its overall requirement of reducing regulatory burden that might result from these proposed priorities. Please let us know of any further opportunities we should take to reduce potential costs or increase potential benefits while preserving the effective and efficient administration of the program.

During and after the comment period, you may inspect all public comments about these priorities in Room 6032, 550 12th Street, SW., Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., eastern time, Monday through Friday of each week except Federal holidays.

#### Assistance to Individuals With Disabilities in Reviewing the Rulemaking Record

On request, we will supply an appropriate aid, such as a reader or print magnifier, to an individual with a disability who needs assistance to review the comments or other documents in the public rulemaking record for these proposed priorities. If you want to schedule an appointment for this type of aid, please contact the

person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

We will announce the final priorities in a notice in the **Federal Register**. We will determine the final priorities after considering responses to this notice and other information available to the Department. This notice does not preclude us from proposing or funding additional priorities, subject to meeting applicable rulemaking requirements.

*Note:* This notice does **not** solicit applications. In any year in which we choose to use any of these proposed priorities, we invite applications through a notice in the **Federal Register**. When inviting applications we designate each priority as absolute, competitive preference, or invitational. The effect of each type of priority follows:

*Absolute priority:* Under an absolute priority, we consider only applications that meet the priority (34 CFR 75.105(c)(3)).

*Competitive preference priority:* Under a competitive preference priority, we give competitive preference to an application by either (1) Awarding additional points, depending on how well or the extent to which the application meets the competitive priority (34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i)); or (2) selecting an application that meets the competitive priority over an application of comparable merit that does not meet the priority (34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(ii)).

*Invitational priority:* Under an invitational priority, we are particularly interested in applications that meet the invitational priority. However, we do not give an application that meets the invitational priority a competitive or absolute preference over other applications (34 CFR 75.105(c)(1)).

*Note:* NIDRR supports the goals of President Bush's New Freedom Initiative (NFI). The NFI can be accessed on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/newfreedom/>.

These proposed priorities are in concert with NIDRR's 1999-2003 Long-Range Plan (Plan). The Plan is comprehensive and integrates many issues relating to disability and rehabilitation research topics. While applicants will find many sections throughout the Plan that support the activities to be conducted under these proposed priorities, specific references are included for the topics presented in this notice. The Plan can be accessed on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/rschstat/research/pubs/index.html>.

Through the implementation of the Plan, NIDRR seeks to: (1) Improve the quality and utility of disability and

rehabilitation research; (2) foster an exchange of expertise, information, and training to facilitate the advancement of knowledge and understanding of the unique needs of traditionally underserved populations; (3) determine best strategies and programs to improve rehabilitation outcomes for underserved populations; (4) identify research gaps; (5) identify mechanisms of integrating research and practice; and (6) disseminate findings.

#### **Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects (DRRP) Program**

The purpose of the DRRP Program is to plan and conduct research, demonstration projects, training, and related activities that help to maximize the full inclusion and integration of individuals with disabilities into society and to improve the effectiveness of services authorized under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Act).

Under the DRRP program, we define a development activity as using knowledge and understanding gained from research to create materials, devices, systems, or methods beneficial to the target population, including design and development of prototypes and processes. We define a dissemination activity as the systematic distribution of information or knowledge through a variety of ways to potential users or beneficiaries. We define a technical assistance activity as the provision of expertise or information for use in problem-solving.

#### **Background**

##### *Priorities*

Knowledge Dissemination and Utilization (KDU) projects ensure widespread distribution, in usable formats, of practical scientific and technological information generated by research, development, and demonstration projects. The effective dissemination and utilization of disability and rehabilitation research results are critical to achieving NIDRR's mission. Research findings can improve the quality of life of people with disabilities and further their full inclusion into society. These benefits are feasible only if the findings and technologies are available to, known by, and accessible to potential users.

NIDRR is particularly interested in ensuring that information to be disseminated is of high quality and is based on scientifically rigorous research and development and that potential users have the information they need to judge the quality of research and development findings and products and

the relevance of these findings and products to their particular needs. End-users with limited scientific training, in particular, may need assistance in order to understand competing research claims or determine the relevance of particular findings to their individual situations. In addition, given the nature of scientific study, practical information often is based on cumulative knowledge, not upon the results of any one study. Therefore, we encourage potential applicants to examine procedures used by such organizations as the Campbell Collaboration (<http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/>), the Cochrane Collaboration (<http://www.cochrane.org/>), and the Department of Education What Works Clearinghouse (<http://www.w-w-c.org/>) when designing synthesis and dissemination activities.

#### **Proposed Priorities**

The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services proposes to fund up to three DRRPs to develop dissemination methods and provide technical assistance that focus on innovative knowledge sharing solutions to improve the lives of persons with disabilities. The goal of the projects is to provide end-users with the information they need to make choices based on high-quality scientific research and development. Under each of these topics, the KDU project must:

- (1) Identify topic areas and target audiences, which must include people with disabilities and their families;
- (2) Develop standards to guide the systematic review and synthesis of disability and rehabilitation research and development studies;
- (3) Identify or develop effective outreach strategies for the target audiences;
- (4) Develop research syntheses in selected topic areas and make this information available, in preferred formats, to the target audiences; and
- (5) Develop cost-effective outreach strategies to provide target audiences with research-based information, and determine whether and how the information is used.

In carrying out these project requirements, in consultation with the NIDRR project officer, each project must:

- Involve, as appropriate, individuals with disabilities or their family members, or both, in all aspects of the design and development of dissemination activities;
- Demonstrate how the project will yield measurable results for people with disabilities; and

- Identify specific performance targets and propose outcome indicators, along with timelines to reach these targets.

A project must focus on one of the following priority topic areas:

(a) *Dissemination Using the Mainstream Media*: The purpose of a project under this topic area is to improve dissemination of disability and rehabilitation research and development information via the mainstream media and the disability press. Chapter 8 of the Plan calls upon NIDRR to “address general audiences that influence the opportunities available to people with disabilities. These general audiences include: Employers, manufacturers, educators at all levels, economic development and planning personnel, service establishments, the media and policy makers at local, state and national levels”. Dissemination of research and development information through the mainstream media—*e.g.*, newspapers, popular magazines, radio, television, and internet news and information sites—has the promise of being an effective means of communication to these diverse audiences. To provide information that ultimately will be used by the media, the grantee must work with representatives from the mainstream media and with researchers to establish strategies for providing timely information on research and development activities and findings to the media.

The reference to this topic may be found in the Plan, Chapter 8, Knowledge Dissemination and Utilization, and Chapter 10, Enhancing NIDRR’s Management of Research.

(b) *International Exchange of Information and Experts in Rehabilitation and Independent Living*: The purpose of a project under this topic area is to improve the exchange of disability and rehabilitation research and development information between the United States and other countries in order to develop new knowledge and methods in the rehabilitation of individuals with disabilities in the United States, share information found useful in other nations, and increase the skill levels of rehabilitation personnel. This project must:

- Develop innovative methods for compiling and exchanging information between the United States and other nations on rehabilitation research and development, as well as information on disability policies that maximize the full inclusion, social integration, employment, and independent living of individuals of all ages with disabilities.

- Provide targeted outreach to and obtain insight from researchers; consumers; and voluntary, non-profit, and philanthropic organizations that are operating programs related to disability and rehabilitation research in other nations.

- Conduct at least one rehabilitation research information conference per funding cycle involving participants from the United States and other countries to provide state-of-the-art information on international rehabilitation research efforts and policies that affect people with disabilities.

- Conduct an international exchange of researchers and technical assistance experts between other countries and the United States to provide firsthand experiences in cross-cultural communication and to form alliances for collaborative research or information sharing.

The reference to this topic may be found in the Plan, Chapter 10, Enhancing NIDRR’s Management of Research.

(c) *Innovative KDU for Disability and Professional Organizations and Stakeholders*: The purpose of a project under this topic is to disseminate information on disability and rehabilitation research and development findings to a particular constituency by using organizations that serve that constituency as intermediaries. Such organizations, because they have established strategies for providing information to their constituencies—*e.g.*, conferences, newsletters, and workshops—may represent an effective means of dissemination. The project must produce information digests that will be suitable for further dissemination through the partner organizations. The project must be knowledgeable about the target audiences represented by the organizations and must develop innovative means of communication with the publics served by the organizations. The project must serve as an information conduit for interactive discussions with the organizations that will help inform future NIDRR research priorities and disseminate the findings of NIDRR-sponsored research.

The reference to this topic may be found in the Plan, Chapter 8, Knowledge Dissemination and Utilization, and Chapter 10, Enhancing NIDRR’s Management of Research.

#### Executive Order 12866

This notice of proposed priorities has been reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 12866. Under the terms of the order, we have assessed the

potential costs and benefits of this regulatory action.

The potential costs associated with the notice of proposed priorities are those resulting from statutory requirements and those we have determined as necessary for administering this program effectively and efficiently.

In assessing the potential costs and benefits—both quantitative and qualitative—of this notice of proposed priorities, we have determined that the benefits of the proposed priorities justify the costs.

#### Summary of Potential Costs and Benefits

The potential costs associated with these proposed priorities are minimal, while the benefits are significant. Grantees may anticipate costs associated with completing the application process in terms of staff time, copying, and mailing or delivery. The use of e-Application technology reduces mailing and copying costs significantly.

The benefits of the DRRP Program have been well established over the years. Similar projects have been completed successfully and have produced findings that help improve the lives of individuals with disabilities. These proposed priority will generate new strategies for disseminating findings from disability and rehabilitation research and development that will improve the full integration of individuals with disabilities into society.

*Applicable Program Regulations*: 34 CFR part 350.

#### 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 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.

*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.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.133A, Disability Rehabilitation Research Project)

**Program Authority:** 29 U.S.C. 762(g) and 764(a).

Dated: August 24, 2004.

**Troy R. Justesen,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.*

[FR Doc. E4-1955 Filed 8-26-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

### Request for Proposals for the Help America Vote College Poll Worker Recruitment Program

**AGENCY:** Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

**ACTION:** Notice of Request for Applications—Federal Grant Opportunity.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Sections 501–503 of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), Public Law 107–252, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC or Commission) is hereby publishing in the **Federal Register** a Request for Proposals for the Help America Vote College Poll Worker Recruitment Program.

**DATES:** This notice is effective upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Phone: Karen Lynn-Dyson at (202) 566–3100 or 1–866–747–1471 (toll-free).

*Federal Agency Name:* United States Election Assistance Commission.

*Funding Opportunity Title:* Help America Vote College Program.

*Announcement Type:* Competitive Grant—Initial.

*Funding Opportunity Number:* EAC—04—001.

*CFDA Number:* 90.400.

*Due Date:* Applications are due by Thursday, September 9, 2004.

#### I. Funding Opportunity Description

This announcement is covered under the Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law (Pub. L.) 107–252, Title V. Provisions under this title allow the U.S. Election Assistance Commission to award grants for the development of a program to encourage students enrolled at institutions of higher education (including community colleges) to assist State and local governments in the administration of elections by serving as nonpartisan poll workers or assistants.

Project funds must be used for projects and activities which are carried out without partisan bias or without promoting any particular point of view regarding any issue.

*Purpose of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission*

The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (“EAC” or “Commission”) was established by the Help America

Vote Act of 2002 (“HAVA”). Central to its role, the Commission serves as a national clearinghouse and resource for information and review of procedures with respect to the administration of federal elections.

*HAVA requires the EAC to, among other things:*

- Generate technical guidance on the administration of federal elections.
- Produce voluntary voting systems guidelines.
- Research and report on matters that affect the administration of federal elections.
- Otherwise provide information and guidance with respect to laws, procedures, and technologies affecting the administration of federal elections.
- Administer payments to States to meet HAVA requirements.
- Provide grants for election technology development and for pilot programs to test election technology.
- Develop a national program for the testing, certification, and decertification of voting systems.
- Maintain the national mail voter registration form that was developed in accordance with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (“NVRA”), report to Congress every two years on the impact of the NVRA on the administration of federal elections, and provide information to States on their responsibilities under that law.
- Audit entities who receive federal funds authorized by HAVA from the General Services Administration or the EAC.

• Submit an annual report to Congress describing EAC activities for the previous fiscal year.

Additionally, the EAC is required, not later than one year after the appointment of its members, to develop a program to be known as the “Help America Vote College Program.”

#### *Help America Vote College Program*

The EAC is seeking proposals which will assist the Commission in developing and implementing the Help America Vote College Program (“College Program”).

The purpose of the College Program is to encourage students enrolled at institutions of higher education (including community colleges) to assist state and local governments in the administration of elections by serving as nonpartisan poll workers or assistants, and to encourage state and local governments to use the services of the students participating in the College Program.

While laws regarding eligibility for poll worker service vary somewhat from

state to state, in all states, poll worker service requires dedication. Poll workers are required to attend a training session conducted by the local election jurisdiction prior to Election Day. Most training sessions occur in the month prior to Election Day (*i.e.*, October for this project period), and generally last, on average, 2 to 3 hours. Through coordination between the local election jurisdiction and the prospective grantee, on-site poll worker training may be arranged.

Applicants also should be aware that poll workers generally are required to be at polling locations to help set up prior to the opening of polls, and should plan to stay at least 45 minutes after the close of polls on Election Day. In some jurisdictions options to split a shift are available. Applicants should understand that college poll workers may be required to remain at the polling location the entire day on Election Day. It should be noted that poll workers are paid a stipend both for attending training and for their service on Election Day. The stipend amounts, paid by the election jurisdiction, vary widely.

Applicants should be aware that most states require that poll workers be registered voters in the state in which they serve. Other states require that poll workers be registered voters in the county in which they serve. In some cases, however, students are exempt from these requirements and may serve under various titles such as assistants or interpreters.

In making grants under the College Program, the EAC requires that the funds provided are spent for projects and activities which are carried out without partisan bias or without promoting any particular point of view regarding any issue, and that each grant recipient is governed in a balanced manner which does not reflect any partisan bias.

Applicants should be informed that the EAC will require all grant recipients to submit a final written report discussing outcomes and/or related qualitative data, which the EAC will use to develop recommendations to the U.S. Congress, States and local governments about future involvement of college students as poll workers and/or “best practices” information.

#### *General Guidelines for Application*

- Outline a plan of action which describes the scope and detail of how the proposed work will be accomplished, given the description and purpose detailed above regarding the College Program;
- Describe any unusual features of the project such as design or technological