

Invitational Priority 1

Cooperative arrangements between two-year and four-year institution partners aiming to increase transfer and retention of Hispanic students.

Invitational Priority 2

Cooperative arrangements that develop and share technological resources in order to enhance the institution's partners' ability to serve the needs of low-income communities and/or minority populations, especially in rural areas.

Invitational Priority 3

Cooperative arrangements that include at least one HSI partner that does not currently have funding under the Title V HSI program.

Invitational Priority 4

Cooperative arrangements that involve the institutional partners from more than one university or college system.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) we do not give an application that meets one or more of these invitational priorities a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

Special Funding Consideration: In tie-breaking situations described in 34 CFR 606.23 of the HSI Program regulations, the Secretary awards one additional point to an application from an institution that has an endowment fund for which the current market value per FTE student is less than the average endowment fund value per FTE student at the same type of institution (two-year or four-year). The Secretary also awards one additional point to an application from an institution that currently has library material expenditures per FTE student less than the average library material expenditure per FTE student at the same type of institution (two-year or four-year).

If a tie still remains after applying the additional points specified above, we use a combined ranking of library expenditures and endowment fund values per FTE student as a final tiebreaker. The institutions with the lowest combined library expenditures per FTE student and endowment fund values per FTE student are ranked higher in strict numerical order.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND FURTHER

INFORMATION CONTACT: Jessie DeAro, Carnisia Proctor, or Sophia McArdle, Title V-Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street NW., 6th floor, Washington DC 20006-8501. Telephone: (202) 502-7777, or via Internet: title_five@ed.gov

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

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

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Program Authority: 20 USC 1059c.

Dated: January 18, 2001.

A. Lee Fritschler,

Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation; Meeting**

AGENCY: National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation, Department of Education.

What Is the Purpose of This Notice?

The purpose of this notice is to announce the upcoming meeting of the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation. Parts of this meeting will be open to the public, and the public is invited to attend those portions.

When and Where Will the Meeting Take Place?

We will hold the meeting on March 9, 2000 beginning at 9 a.m. at the U.S. Department of Education, in the 8th Floor Conference Center, 1990 K Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20006.

What Access Does the Conference Center Provide for Individuals With Disabilities?

The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting (e.g., interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format), notify the contact person listed in this notice at least two weeks before the scheduled meeting date. Although we will attempt to meet a request received after that date, we may not be able to make available the requested auxiliary aid or service because of insufficient time to arrange it.

What Are the Functions of the Committee?

The National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation was established by the Secretary of Education under section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. The Committee's responsibilities are to (1) evaluate the standards of accreditation applied to applicant foreign medical schools; and (2) determine the comparability of those standards to standards for accreditation applied to United States medical schools.

What Are the Issues To Be Considered at This Meeting?

The National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation will review the standards of accreditation applied to medical schools by several foreign countries to determine whether those standards are comparable to the standards of accreditation applied to medical schools in the United States. Discussions of the standards of accreditation will be held in sessions open to the public. Discussions that focus on specific determinations of comparability are closed to the public in order that each country may be properly notified of the decision. Beginning February 19, you may call to obtain the identity of the countries whose standards are to be evaluated during this meeting.

Who Is the Contact Person for the Meeting?

Please contact Bonnie LeBold, who is the Executive Director of the National Committee on Foreign Medical

Education and Accreditation, if you have questions about the meeting. You may contact her at the U.S. Department of Education, 7th Floor—Rm. 7007, 1990 K St. NW., Washington, DC 20006–7563, telephone: (202) 219–7009, fax: (202) 219–7008, e-mail: Bonnie_LeBold@ed.gov. Individuals who use telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339.

Dated: January 18, 2001.

A. Lee Fritschler,

Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC01–542–000, FERC Form 542]

Proposed Information Collection and Request for Comments

January 18, 2001.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of proposed information collection and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of section 3506(c)(2)(a) of

the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104–13), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described below.

DATES: Consideration will be given to comments submitted on or before March 26, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained from and written comments may be submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Attn: Michael Miller, Office of the Chief Information Officer, CI–1, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Miller may be reached by telephone at (202) 208–1415, by fax at (202) 208–2425, and by e-mail at mike.miller@ferc.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The information collected under FERC Form 542 “Gas Pipeline Rates: Rate Tracking” (OMB No. 1902–0070) is used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions governed by Title IV of the Natural Gas Policy Act (NGPA), 15 U.S.C. 3301–3432, and sections 4, 5, and 16 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) (15 U.S.C. 717–717w). These statutes empower the Commission to collect natural gas transmission cost information from interstate natural gas transporters for the purposes of verifying that these costs, which are

passed on to pipeline customers, are just and reasonable. The Commission implements FERC 542 filing requirements in 18 CFR Parts 154.4, 154.7, 154.101, 154.107, 154.201, 154.207–.209 and 154.401–.403.

Interstate natural gas pipelines are required by the Commission to track their transportation associated costs to allow for the Commission’s review and where appropriate, approval of the pass through of these costs to pipeline customers. Most of these FERC 542 tracking filings are monthly accountings of the cost of fuel or electric power necessary to operate compressor stations. Others track the costs of: (1) Gas Research Institute fees; (2) annual charges of various types, and (3) other types of rate adjustments.

Tracking filings may be submitted at any time or on a regularly scheduled basis in accordance with the pipeline company’s tariff. Filings may be either: (1) Accepted; (2) suspended and set for hearing; (3) suspended, but not set for hearing; or (4) suspended for further review, such as a technical conference or some other type of Commission action.

Action: The Commission is requesting a three-year extension of the current expiration date, with no changes to the existing collection of data.

Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated as:

Number of respondents annually (1)	Number of responses per respondent (2)	Average burden hours per response (3)	Total annual burden hours (1)×(2)×(3)
55	3	140	23,100

Estimated Cost Burden to Respondents: 23,100 hours/2,080 hours per year × \$115,357¹ per year=\$1,281,128. The cost per respondent is equal to \$23,293.

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to assemble and disseminate the information including: (1) Reviewing the instructions; (2) developing, or acquiring appropriate technological support systems necessary for the purposes of collecting, validating, processing, and disseminating the information; (3) administration; and (4) transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information.

The cost estimate for respondents is based upon salaries for professional and clerical support, as well as direct and indirect overhead costs. Direct costs include all costs directly attributable to providing this information, such as administrative costs and the cost for information technology. Indirect or overhead costs are costs incurred by an organization in support of its mission. These costs apply to activities which benefit the whole organization rather than any one particular function or activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency’s burden estimate of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the

methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including 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.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

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¹ The cost per year per average employee estimate is based on the annual allocated cost per Commission employee for fiscal year 2001. The estimated \$115,357 cost consists of approximately \$92,286 in salary and \$23,071 in benefits and overhead.