

Computation

Under the formula, the domestic employee coverage threshold amount for 2009 shall be equal to the 1995 amount of \$1,000 multiplied by the ratio of the national average wage index for 2007 to that for 1993. If the resulting amount is not a multiple of \$100, it shall be rounded to the next lower multiple of \$100.

Domestic Employee Coverage Threshold Amount

Multiplying the 1995 domestic employee coverage threshold amount (\$1,000) by the ratio of the national average wage index for 2007 (\$40,405.48) to that for 1993 (\$23,132.67) produces the amount of \$1,746.68. We then round this amount to \$1,700. Accordingly, the domestic employee coverage threshold amount is \$1,700 for 2009.

Election Worker Coverage Threshold*General*

The minimum amount an election worker must earn so that such earnings are covered under Social Security or Medicare is the election worker coverage threshold. For 2009, this threshold is \$1,500. Section 218(c)(8)(B) of the Act provides the formula for increasing the threshold.

Computation

Under the formula, the election worker coverage threshold amount for 2009 shall be equal to the 1999 amount of \$1,000 multiplied by the ratio of the national average wage index for 2007 (\$40,405.48) to that for 1997 (\$27,426.00) produces the amount of \$1,473.25. We then round this amount to \$1,500. Accordingly, the election worker coverage threshold amount is \$1,500 for 2009.

Election Worker Coverage Threshold Amount

Multiplying the 1999 election worker coverage threshold amount (\$1,000) by the ratio of the national average wage index for 2007 (\$40,405.48) to that for 1997 (\$27,426.00) produces the amount of \$1,473.25. We then round this amount to \$1,500. Accordingly, the election worker coverage threshold amount is \$1,500 for 2009.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance: Program Nos. 96.001, Social Security-Disability Insurance; 96.002, Social Security-Retirement Insurance; 96.004, Social Security-Survivors Insurance; 96.006, Supplemental Security Income)

Dated: October 24, 2008.

Michael J. Astrue,

Commissioner of Social Security.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE**[Public Notice 6418]**

United States-Egypt Science and Technology Joint Board; Public Announcement of a Science and Technology Program for Competitive Grants To Support International, Collaborative Projects in Science and Technology Between U.S. and Egyptian Cooperators

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Notice.

DATES: *Effective Date:* September 11, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Ahson, PhD, Program Administrator, U.S.-Egypt Science and Technology Grants Program, USAID/Cairo, Unit 64902, Box 5, APO AE 09839-4902; *phone:* 011-(20-2) 2522-6887; *fax:* 011-(20-2) 2522-7041; *E-mail:* stfund@usaid.gov.

The 2008 Program Announcement, including proposal guidelines for Competitive Grants to Support International, Collaborative Projects, will be available starting September 11, 2008 on the Joint Board Web site: <http://cairo.usembassy.gov/usegypt/grants.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: This program is established under 22 U.S.C. 2656d and the Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

A solicitation for this program will begin September 11, 2008. This program will provide modest grants for successfully competitive proposals for bi-national collaborative projects and other activities submitted by U.S. and Egyptian experts. Projects must help the United States and Egypt utilize science and apply technology by providing opportunities to exchange ideas, information, skills, and techniques, and to collaborate on scientific and technological endeavors of mutual interest and benefit. Proposals which fully meet the submission requirements as outlined in the Program Announcement will receive peer reviews. Proposals considered for funding in fiscal year 2009 must be postmarked by November 15, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Please contact Chair of U.S.-Egypt S&T Joint Board, William Lawrence, Office of Science and Technology Cooperation, Bureau of Oceans, Environment and Science, U.S. Department of State at (202) 663-2619 or *e-mail:* LawrenceWA@state.gov.

Dated: October 23, 2008.

Robert S. Senseney,

Acting Director, Office of Science and Technology Cooperation, Bureau of Oceans, Environment and Science, Department of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE**[Public Notice 6416]**

United States-Egypt Science and Technology Joint Board; Public Announcement of a Science and Technology Program for Competitive Grants To Support Junior Scientist Development Visits by U.S. and Egyptian Scientists

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Notice.

DATES: *Effective Date:* September 11, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Ahson, PhD, Program Administrator, U.S.-Egypt Science and Technology Grants Program, USAID/Cairo, Unit 64902, Box 5, APO AE 09839-4902; *phone:* 011 (20-2) 2522-6887; *fax:* 011 (20-2) 2522-7041; *E-mail:* stfund@usaid.gov.

The 2008 Program guidelines for Junior Scientist Development visits will be available starting September 11, 2008 on the Joint Board Web site: <http://cairo.usembassy.gov/usegypt/jrgrants.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: This program is established under 22 U.S.C. 2656d and the Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

A solicitation for this program will begin September 11, 2008. This program will provide modest grants for successfully competitive proposals for development visits by U.S. Junior Scientists to Egypt and Junior Egyptian Scientists to the United States. Applicants must be scientists who have received their PhD within the past ten years. U.S. applicants only may have a Master's degree or be currently enrolled in a PhD program. Applications considered for funding must be postmarked by November 15, 2008. All proposals which fully meet the submission requirements will be considered. More information and copies of the Program Announcement and Application may be obtained upon request.