Alaska: Juneau*
Arizona: Arizona Border* (Cochise, Santa Cruz and Yuma Counties), Phoenix, Window Rock*
Arkansas: East Central* (Cross, Lee, Monroe, and St. Francis Counties), Mississippi County*, Pulaski County
California: Imperial County*, Los Angeles, Huntington Park, San Diego, San Francisco, Bayview, Hunter's Point, Watonsville*, Orange Cove*
Colorado: Denver
Connecticut: Bridgeport, New Haven
Delaware: Wilmington
District of Columbia: Washington
Florida: Jackson County*, Miami, Dade County, Tampa, Immokalee*
Georgia: Albany, Central Savannah River* (Burke, Hancock, Jefferson, McDuffie, Tallafero, and Warren Counties), Crisp County*, Dooley County*
Hawaii: Kaunakakai*
Illinois: East St. Louis, Springfield
Indiana: Indianapolis, Austin*
Iowa: Des Moines
Kansas: Leoti*
Kentucky: Louisville, Bowling Green*
Louisiana: Macon Ridge* (Catahoula, Concordia, Franklin, Morehouse, and Tensas Parishes), New Orleans, Northeast Louisiana Delta* (Madison Parish), Ouachita Parish
Maine: Lewiston*
Massachusetts: Lowell, Springfield
Michigan: Five Cap*, Flint, Muskegon, Harrison*
Minnesota: Minneapolis, St. Paul
Mississippi: Jackson, North Delta Area* (Panola, Quitman, and Tallahatchie Counties)
Missouri: East Prairie*, St. Louis
Montana: Poplar*
Nebraska: Omaha
Nevada: Clarke County, Las Vegas
New Hampshire: Manchester
New Jersey: Newark
New Mexico: Albuquerque, La Jicarita* (Mora, Rio Arriba, Taos Counties), Deming*
New York: Albany, Schenectady, Troy, Buffalo, Newburg, Kingston, Rochester
North Carolina: Charlotte, Edgecombe, Halifax, Wilson*, Robeson Counties
Ohio: Akron, Columbus, Greater Portsmouth* (Scioto County)
Oklahoma: Choctaw, McCurtain Counties*, Oklahoma City, Ada*
Oregon: Josephine County*, Portland
Pennsylvania: Lock Haven*, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Uniontown*
Rhode Island: Providence
South Carolina: Hallandale*, Charleston, Williamsburg, Florence County*
South Dakota: Beadle, Spink Counties*
Tennessee: Fayette*, Haywood Counties*, Memphis, Nashville, Rutledge*
Tennessee/Kentucky: Scott, McCreary Counties*
Texas: Dallas, El Paso, San Antonio, Waco, Uvalde*
Utah: Ogden
Vermont: Burlington
Virginia: Accomack* (Northhampton County), Norfolk
Washington: Lower Yakima County*, Seattle, Tacoma, Collie*
West Virginia: Charleston*, Huntington, McDowell County*, West Central Appalachia* (Braxton, Clay, Fayette, Nicholas, and Roane)
Wisconsin: Milwaukee, Keshena*

[FR Doc. 01–128 Filed 1–2–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.120A]

Office of Postsecondary Education; Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001

Purpose of Program: The Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program (MSEIP) is designed to effect long-range improvement in science and engineering education at predominantly minority institutions and to increase the flow of underrepresented ethnic minorities, particularly minority women, into scientific careers.

Eligibility for Grants: Under Section 361 of Title III of the Higher Education Act (HEA), as amended, the following entities are eligible to receive a grant under the MSEIP:

(1) Public and private nonprofit institutions of higher education that:

(A) Award baccalaureate degrees; and

(B) Are minority institutions;

(2) Public or private nonprofit institutions of higher education that:

(A) Award associate degrees; and

(B) Are minority institutions that:

(i) Have a curriculum that includes science or engineering subjects; and

(ii) Enter into a partnership with public or private nonprofit institutions of higher education that award baccalaureate degrees in science and engineering;

(3) Nonprofit science-oriented organizations, professional scientific societies, and institutions of higher education that award baccalaureate degrees, that:

(A) Provide a needed service to a group of minority institutions; or

(B) Provide in-service training for project directors, scientists, and engineers from minority institutions;

(4) Consortia of organizations that provide needed services to one or more minority institutions, the membership of which may include:

(A) Institutions of higher education that have a curriculum in science and engineering;

(B) Institutions of higher education that have a graduate or professional program in science or engineering;

(C) Research laboratories of, or under contract with, the Department of Energy;

(D) Private organizations that have science or engineering facilities; or

(E) Quasi-governmental entities that have a significant scientific or engineering mission.

Eligible Applicants: (a) For institutional, design, and special projects described respectively in 34 CFR 637.14 (a), (b), and (c): public and nonprofit private minority institutions as defined in section 361 (1) and (2) of the HEA.

(b) For special projects described in 34 CFR 637.14 (b) and (c): nonprofit organizations, institutions, and consortia as defined in section 361(3) and (4) of the HEA.

(c) For cooperative projects described in 34 CFR 637.15: groups of nonprofit accredited colleges and universities whose primary fiscal agent is an eligible minority institution as defined in 34 CFR 637.4(b).

Notes: 1. A minority institution is defined in 34 CFR 637.4(b) as an accredited college or university whose enrollment of a single minority group or combination of minority groups, as defined in 34 CFR 637.4(b), exceeds 50 percent of the total enrollment.

2. Section 365(4) of the HEA now defines the term ''science'' to include ''behavior science.''

Applications Available: February 2, 2001.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 19, 2001.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 18, 2001.

Estimated Available Funds: $8,500,000.

Estimated Range of Awards: $15,000–$500,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: The amounts referenced are advisory and represent the Department's best estimate at this time. The average size of an award is the estimate for a single-year project or for the first budget period of a multi-year project.

Institutional

Estimated Range of Awards: $100,000–$200,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: $120,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 23.

Design

Estimated Range of Awards: $15,000–$20,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: $19,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 3.

Special

Estimated Range of Awards: $20,000–$150,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: $75,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 12.

Cooperative

Estimated Range of Awards: $100,00–$500,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: $280,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 3.

Estimated Number of Awards: 41.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 83, 86, 97, 98, and 99; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 637.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Kenneth Waters or Ms. Deborah Newkirk, Institutional Development and Undergraduate Education Service, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20006–8517. Telephone: (202) 502–7591 or via Internet: deborah_newkirk@ed.gov.

The government encourages applicants to FAX requests for applications to (202) 502–7861.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

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 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.

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 either of the following sites: *http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm; http://www.ed.gov/news.html.*

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at either of the previous sites. 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.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1067–1067k.

Dated: December 27, 2000.

A. Lee Fritschler,

Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 01–129 Filed 1–2–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science; Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 01–15: Energy Biosciences

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Basic Energy Sciences of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) invites preapplications from potential applicants for research funding in the Energy Biosciences program area. The intent in asking for a preapplication is to save the time and effort of applicants in preparing and submitting a formal project application that may be inappropriate for the program. The preapplication should consist of a two to three page concept paper that focuses on the scientific objectives and basic research approaches planned. No budget information or biographical data need be included; nor is an institutional endorsement necessary. The preapplication gives us the opportunity to advise potential applicants on the suitability of the scope of the research proposed to the mission of the DOE Energy Biosciences program. A response indicating the appropriateness of submitting a formal application will be sent from the Energy Biosciences program office in time to allow for an adequate preparation period for a formal application.

DATES: For timely consideration, all preapplications should be received by March 1, 2001. However, earlier submissions will be gladly accepted. A response to timely preapplications will be communicated to the applicant by April 12, 2001. The deadline for receipt of formal applications is June 13, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Preapplications referencing Program Notice 01–15 should be forwarded to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, SC–143, Chemical Sciences, Geosciences and Biosciences Division, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290, Attn: Program Notice 01–15. Fax submissions are acceptable (Fax Number (301) 903–1003).

Formal applications, referencing Program Notice 01–15, must be sent to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Grants and Contracts Division, SC–64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290, ATTN: Program Notice 01–15. This address must also be used when submitting applications by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail or any commercial overnight delivery service, or when hand-carried by the applicant.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Pat Snyder, Chemical Sciences, Geosciences and Biosciences Division, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, SC–143, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290, telephone (301) 903–2873; E-mail pat.snyder@science.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Potential applicants should submit a brief preapplication which consists of two to three pages of narrative describing research objectives. These will be reviewed relative to the scope and the research needs of the Energy Biosciences program. The principal purpose in using preapplications is to reduce the expenditure of time and effort of all parties.

The Energy Biosciences program has the mission of generating knowledge about plants and non-medical related microorganisms that provide scientific foundations for future energy related biotechnologies. The objective is to pursue basic biochemical, genetic and physiological investigations that may contribute towards providing alternate fuels, petroleum replacement products, energy conservation measures as well as other technologies related to DOE programs. Areas of interest include bioenergetic systems, including photosynthesis; control of plant growth and development, including metabolic, genetic, and hormonal and ambient factor regulation, metabolic diversity, ion uptake, transport and accumulation, stress physiology and adaptation; genetic transmission and expression; plant-microbial interactions; plant cell wall structure and function; lignocellulose degradative mechanisms; mechanisms of fermentations, genetics of neglected microorganisms, energetics and membrane phenomena; thermophily (molecular basis of high temperature tolerance); microbial interactions; and one-carbon metabolism, which is the basis of