

proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.

(2) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.

(g) *Quality of the project evaluation.* (15 points)

The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(1) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project.

(2) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.

(3) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.

VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN). We may also notify you informally.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Reporting:* At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as specified by the Secretary in 34 CFR 75.118.

4. *Performance Measure:* In response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), the Department developed one measure for evaluating the overall effectiveness of the Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP). The measure assesses the percentage of FLAP projects that report improvements in foreign language proficiency for three-quarters of school participants. We will expect each SEA that carries out a school-based project funded under this competition to document how its project is helping the Department meet this performance measure, including data on the proficiency of students served by projects. Grantees will be expected to report on progress in meeting this performance measure for FLAP in their Annual Performance Report and in their Final Performance Report.

VII. Agency Contact

For Further Information Contact: You may contact either of the following:

Rebecca Richey, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 10080, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 245-7133, or by e-mail: rebecca.richey@ed.gov.

Sharon Manassa, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 10071, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 245-7124, or by e-mail: sharon.manassa@ed.gov.

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 person listed in this section.

VIII. Other Information

Electronic Access to This Document: You may view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: 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.

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of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Dated: February 4, 2005.

Kathleen Leos,

Associate Assistant Deputy Secretary, Office of English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement for Limited English Proficient Students.

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BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research; Grant Program

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

ACTION: Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Grants Program Standing Review Panels; recruiting peer reviewers.

SUMMARY: The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) is recruiting peer reviewers to serve on standing review panels for its Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Grants Program.

DATES: We must receive your nomination on or before March 11, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carol Cohen, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 6035, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-2700. Telephone: (202) 245-7303 or by email: carol.cohen@ed.gov.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The purpose of the SBIR program is to stimulate technological innovation in the private sector, strengthen the role of small business in meeting Federal research or research and development needs, increase the commercial application of Department of Education (ED) supported research results, and improve the return on investment from Federally-funded research for economic and social benefits to the Nation. This competitive grants program provides the

incentive for small businesses to profit from the commercialization of technology, products, and services developed through research and development activities funded under the NIDRR sponsored SBIR program. The SBIR program has three-phases: Phases I—startup, Phase II—evaluate commercialization potential, and Phase III—move from the laboratory into the marketplace. However, NIDRR only supports Phase I and Phase II SBIR projects. Phase I grants allow entities to determine, insofar as possible, the scientific or technical merit and feasibility of ideas submitted under the SBIR program. Applications for Phase I focus on research that will contribute to proving the scientific or technical feasibility of the approach, concept or product identified in the proposal, which is a prerequisite for continued ED support in Phase II. The purpose of Phase II is to expand on the results of and to further pursue the development of Phase I projects and to begin to explore the potential for commercialization.

What Are Standing Review Panels?

Phase I and II SBIR grant award decisions are made with the input of standing review panels. Standing review panels are groups of individuals with experience or expertise in specific scientific areas or areas of research. The standing review panels mechanism enhances consistency during a given review cycle and across review cycles. Panels evaluate the scientific and technical merit of grant applications. Individuals are assigned to panels based on their expertise and the priority area(s) assigned to review panels.

What Are the Qualifications of a Standing Review Panel Member?

NIDRR obtains the services of the best-qualified reviewers for standing review panels, including those with disabilities and those from diverse backgrounds. NIDRR is interested in obtaining the services of individuals with training, education, expertise and/or knowledge in a range of areas supported by the 1999–2003 NIDRR long-range research plan (Plan) (e.g., assistive technology, health and function, employment and vocational rehabilitation, independent living and community integration, education and transition activities, and engineering). The Plan can be accessed on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/rschstat/research/pubs/index.html>.

Individuals may qualify to be peer reviewers on the basis of education, training and professional expertise or some combination of personal and

professional experience. Employees of the Federal government are not eligible to serve as peer reviewers for the SBIR grants program.

How Long Will Members of the Standing Review Panel Serve?

Generally, reviewers serve for three-year terms on the Standing Panels with one review per year.

How Can I Become a Standing Review Panel Member?

Individuals are nominated to serve as a standing review panel peer reviewer through self-nomination or nomination by another individual. If you are interested in participating as a reviewer, we request that you submit the following information to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

1. A statement indicating an interest to serve on an SBIR standing review panel and the area(s) of expertise identified from the topic areas enumerated above as well as an indication of knowledge in the following: (1) Small Business Operations and Management; and (2) Product Design, Innovation, Evaluation and Commercialization.

2. Curriculum Vitae or resume detailing areas of expertise and experience.

If you nominate another individual, please contact that individual to determine if the prospective nominee is willing to serve and provide the same information as above.

Standing review panel nominees will be contacted by NIDRR by telephone or e-mail no later than June 15, 2005.

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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.

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Dated: February 3, 2005.

John H. Hager,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. E5–535 Filed 2–8–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Notice

AGENCY: Election Assistance Commission.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing.

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, February 23, 2005, 1 p.m.–5 p.m.

PLACE: Michael E. Moritz College of Law, The Ohio State University, 55 W. 12th Ave., Saxbe Auditorium, Columbus, OH 43210–1391.

AGENDA: The Commission will conduct a public hearing to identify the successes and problems involved with the use of provisional voting.

The following witness panels will be presented: Election Officials, Advocacy Organizations/Non-government Sector and Academics.

All public comments will be taken in writing via e-mail at testimony@eac.gov, or at the meeting or via mail addressed to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 1225 New York Ave., NW., Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bryan Whitener, Telephone: (202) 566–3100.

Ray Martinez III,

Commissioner, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

[FR Doc. 05–2563 Filed 2–7–05; 9:02 am]

BILLING CODE 6820–YN–M

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Notice

AGENCY: Election Assistance Commission.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

DATES & TIME: Wednesday, February 23, 2005, 10 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

PLACE: Michael E. Moritz college of Law, The Ohio State University, 55 W. 12th Ave., Saxbe Auditorium, Columbus, OH 43210–1391.

AGENDA: The Commission will receive reports on the following: Updates on Title II Requirements Payments and other administrative or programmatic matters. The Commission will receive presentations on the following: Transition of the voting System Certification Process to EAC and the