

**Submitting comments:** If you submit a comment, please include your name and address, and identify the docket number for this rulemaking (USCG–2003–16696). You may submit your comments and material by electronic means, mail, fax, or delivery to the Docket Management Facility at the address under **ADDRESSES**; but please submit your comments and material by only one means. If you submit them by mail or delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit them by mail and would like to know that they reached the Facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope.

**Viewing comments and documents:** To view comments, as well as documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to <http://dms.dot.gov> at any time and conduct a simple search using the docket number. You may also visit the Docket Management Facility in room PL–401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**Privacy Act:** Anyone can search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review the Department of Transportation's Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477), or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

**Authority:** 46 U.S.C. 3306, 3703, E.O. 11735, 38 FR 21243; 3 CFR, 1971–1975 Comp., p. 793; 46 CFR 159.001–7 and 159.005–7; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1.

Dated: December 12, 2003.

**Joseph J. Angelo,**

*Director of Standards, Marine Safety, Security & Environmental Protection.*

[FR Doc. 03–32078 Filed 12–30–03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–15–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Federal Emergency Management Agency

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Emergency Management Agency, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed continuing information collections. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), this notice seeks comments on two forms used by FEMA's National Emergency Training Center (NETC) to approve and coordinate the use of the NETC facility for extracurricular training activities.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NETC is a FEMA facility that houses the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) and the National Fire Academy (NFA). NETC provides training and educational programs for Federal, State, and local personnel in hazard mitigation, emergency response and preparedness, fire prevention and control, disaster response, and long-term disaster recovery. Special groups sponsored by EMI, NFA or other FEMA organizations may use NETC facilities to conduct activities closely related to and in direct

support of their activities. Such groups include other Federal departments and agencies, groups chartered by Congress such as the American Red Cross, State and local governments, volunteer groups, and national and international associations representing State and local governments.

#### Collection of Information

**Title:** Approval and Coordination of Requirements to use NETC for Extracurricular Training Activities.

**Type of Information Collection:** Revision of a currently approved collection.

**OMB Number:** 1660–0029.

**Form Numbers:** FEMA Form 75–10, Request for Housing Accommodations; and FEMA Form 75–11, Request for Use of NETC Facilities.

**Abstract:** Data will be obtained from special groups that request to use NETC facilities for extracurricular training activities. Extracurricular training is training over and above regularly scheduled training sessions of NFA and EMI. The policy of NETC is to accommodate other training activities on a space-available basis at the Emmitsburg campus. In order for NETC to approve and schedule the use of its facilities, information must be provided by special group organizations. A written, e-mail or telephone request for use of NETC facilities is initially made to determine availability of the facilities. If space is available, the contact person for the special group must follow up by completing FEMA Form 75–11 to provide information on the number of participants, meals, and special requirements. The information is used to assign classrooms, schedule equipment, and arrange for food service.

**Affected Public:** Not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government; State, local or tribal government; individuals or households; and business or other for-profit.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:** 142 hrs.

FEMA forms	No. of respondents (A)	Frequency of response (B)	Hours per response (C) (minutes)	Annual burden hours (A × B × C) (hours)
75–10 .....	1500	1	5	125
75–11 .....	100	1	10	17
Total .....	1600	1	15	142

**Comments:** Written comments are solicited to (a) Evaluate whether the proposed data collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information shall

have practical utility; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through

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. Comments should be received within 60 days of the date of this notice.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons should submit written comments to Muriel B. Anderson, Chief, Records Management Branch, Information Resources Management Division, Information Technology Services Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security, 500 C Street, SW., Room 316, Washington, DC 20472; e-mail address: [InformationCollections@fema.gov](mailto:InformationCollections@fema.gov); or, facsimile (202) 646-3347.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Merrill Sollenberger, Special Groups and Visitors Coordinator, U.S. Fire Administration, telephone number (301) 447-1179, facsimile number (301) 447-1366, or e-mail address: [merril.sollenberger@dhs.gov](mailto:merril.sollenberger@dhs.gov) for additional information. You may contact Ms. Anderson for copies of the proposed information collection.

Dated: December 22, 2003.

**Edward W. Kernan,**

*Division Director, Information Resources Management Division, Information Technology Services Directorate.*

[FR Doc. 03-32199 Filed 12-30-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110-17-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Federal Emergency Management Agency

#### Pre-Disaster Mitigation Disaster Resistant University Grants

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of Pre-Disaster Mitigation Disaster Resistant University grants.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) gives notice of the availability of Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Disaster Resistant University (DRU) grants. FEMA will provide PDM funds to assist universities, through State and local governments, to implement a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program to reduce overall risk to

facilities, research assets, students and faculty.

These funds will be competitively awarded with a National priority of ensuring that program funds benefit a representative range of universities, based on hazard type, size, geography, and academic community served, which includes consideration of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Tribal Colleges and Universities. Funds are available for hazard mitigation project and planning activities at universities that have demonstrated commitment to such activities through prior DRU efforts, and for planning and project activities for universities that have not undertaken DRU activities.

**DATES:** States, and federally recognized Indian Tribal governments that complete grant applications must submit them on paper to the appropriate FEMA Regional Office on or before midnight, eastern time, March 1, 2004. If the non-Federal cost share requirement cannot be met by the application deadline due to pending State and/or local legislative approval or fiscal year timelines, the Applicant still must submit the application by March 1, 2004, including a notation in the Budget Narrative and a letter to the FEMA Regional Director providing an explanation and stating that the cost share will be available by March 30, 2004. The Applicant must follow-up with a written certification to the FEMA Regional Director by March 30, 2004, to verify that non-Federal cost share funding is approved and available for immediate use if the application is selected by FEMA.

**ADDRESSES:** FEMA Regional Offices:

FEMA Region I—*Serving Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Massachusetts:* J.W. McCormack POCH Building, Boston, MA 02109.

FEMA Region II—*Serving New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands:* 26 Federal Plaza, Rm. 1307, New York, NY 10278-0001.

FEMA Region III—*Serving the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia:* 1 Independence Mall, 6th Floor, 615 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106-4404.

FEMA Region IV—*Serving Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee:* 3003 Chamblee Tucker Road, Atlanta, GA 30341.

FEMA Region V—*Serving Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin:* 536 S. Clark Street, 6th Floor, Chicago, IL 60605.

FEMA Region VI—*Serving Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas:* FRC 800 North Loop 288, Denton, TX 76209-3698.

FEMA Region VII—*Serving Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska:* 2323 Grand Avenue, Suite 900, Kansas City, MO 64108-2670.

FEMA Region VIII—*Serving Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming:* Denver Federal Center, Building 710, Box 25267, Denver, CO 80225-0267.

FEMA Region IX—*Serving Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, the Territory of American Samoa, the Territory of Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:* 1111 Broadway, Suite 1200, Oakland, CA 94607-4052.

FEMA Region X—*Serving Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington:* Federal Regional Center, 130 228th Street, SW., Bothell, WA 98021-9796.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

LaBrina Jones, Office of the Director/Administrator, Mitigation Division, FEMA, 500 C Street, SW., Room 404A, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-4331 or E-mail: [LaBrina.Jones@dhs.gov](mailto:LaBrina.Jones@dhs.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Authority and Appropriations

The PDM program was authorized by section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), 42 U.S.C. 5133, as amended by section 102 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA), Public Law 106-390, 114 Stat. 1552, to assist States and communities to implement a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program to reduce overall risk to population, buildings and infrastructure, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

\$150 million was made available for the PDM grant program under the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003, Public Law 108-7, to be awarded generally on a competitive basis and without reference to State allocations, quotas, or other formula-based allocation of funds. A Notice of Funds Availability for the PDM planning grants was published on March 3, 2003, at 68 FR 10018. A Notice of Funds Availability for the PDM competitive grant program was published on July 7, 2003 at 68 FR 40284.

FEMA is now making available approximately \$3.6 million of PDM funds as Disaster Resistant University (DRU) grants to State, local and Tribal governments for pre-disaster mitigation activities that benefit universities.