

(4) Review of information on project activities.

(5) Assistance with the establishment of contacts with Federal and State agencies, grant projects and other contacts that may be relevant to the project's mission and referrals to these agencies.

One project will be approved for three years. Up to \$600,000 in fiscal year 2002 funds will be used to fund the first year. Additional funding of up to \$600,000 annually in years two and three will be contingent on the availability of funds and grantee performance.

Review Criteria

Applications that are complete and responsive to the guidance will be evaluated by an objective review panel specifically convened for this solicitation and in accordance with HRSA grants management policies and procedures.

Applications will be reviewed using the following criteria:

1. Knowledge and Understanding of the Issues relating to Rural Health and Rural Social Services (Weight: 20%) and the Challenges Facing Providers and Beneficiaries in Rural Areas

- The degree of understanding of the evolution of rural health and social services and the historical challenges facing rural communities in terms of resources and demographics (including populations experiencing cultural and linguistic barriers to care).

- The degree of thoroughness in describing how the RAC will address information gaps for rural communities.

- The extent of applicant knowledge of rural health and social service issues.

- The extent of applicant knowledge of the individuals and organizations involved in the rural health and social services.

2. Soundness and Adequacy of Project Plan (Weight: 30%)

- The extent to which the project objectives address the program purpose and are measurable, time-framed, and appropriate in relation to both the program requirements and identified needs.

- The degree to which the program areas outlined in the grant guidance have been addressed, prioritized and justified.

- The quality and feasibility of the project plan or methodology and its relation to the project's goals and objectives.

- The extent to which the proposed approach identifies the resources that will be used to implement the strategies.
- The degree to which the approaches are technically sound and appropriate to the project goals and objectives.

3. Soundness of Implementation Plan (Weight: 10%)

- The soundness of the plan for creating and implementing the RAC.

- The extent to which the applicant describes how the project staff will determine the degree to which proposed activities are being successfully conducted and completed, based on the objectives outlined.

4. Applicant's Capability and Capacity (Weight: 30%)

- The extent to which the applicant has demonstrated expertise and its capability to oversee and successfully carry out the project.

- Evidence that a sufficient number of project personnel and resources are proposed. Biographical sketches/curricula vitae document education, skills and experience that are relevant and necessary for the proposed project.

5. Appropriateness of Budget (Weight: 10%)

- The extent to which the proposed budget is realistic, adequately justified, and consistent with the proposed project plan.

- The extent to which the costs of administration and monitoring/evaluation are reasonable and proportionate to the costs of service provision.

- The degree to which the costs of the proposed project are economical in relation to the proposed service utilization.

Additional criteria may be used in the review of applications for this competition. Any such criteria will be identified in the program guidance included in the application kit.

Applicants should pay strict attention to addressing these criteria, in addition to those referenced above.

This program is not subject to the provision of Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs (as implemented through 45 CFR part 100). This program is also not subject to the Public Health Systems Reporting Requirements.

Paperwork Reduction Act

OMB approval for any data collection in connection with this cooperative agreement will be sought, as required under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

Dated: August 15, 2002.

Elizabeth M. Duke,
Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel, Development of High-Yield Technologies for Isolating Exfoliated Cells in Body Fluids.

Dated: September 18, 2002.

Time: 8 AM to 5 PM.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: 6130 Executive Boulevard, Executive Plaza North, Room H, Rockville, MD 20852.

Contact Person: Kenneth L. Bielak, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Division of Extramural Activities, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6116 Executive Boulevard, Room 7147, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 496-7576, bielatk@mail.nih.gov.

Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.392, Cancer Construction; 93.393, Cancer Cause and Prevention Research; 93.394, Cancer Detection and Diagnosis Research; 93.395, Cancer Treatment Research; 93.396, Cancer Biology Research; 93.397, Cancer Centers Support; 93.398, Cancer Research Manpower; 93.399, Cancer Control, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: August 13, 2002.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as