Other Requirements

Paperwork Reduction Act

Projects funded through a cooperative agreement that involve collection of information from ten or more individuals will be subject to review under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Human Subjects

If the proposed project involves research on human subjects, the applicant must comply with the Department of Health and Human Services Regulation, 45 CFR Part 46, regarding the protection of human subjects. Assurance must be provided to demonstrate that the project will be subject to initial and continuing review by an appropriate institutional review committee. In addition to other applicable committees, Indian Health Service (IHS) institutional review committees also must review the project if any component of IHS will be involved or will support the research. If any American Indian community is involved, its tribal government must also approve that portion of the project applicable to it. The applicant will be responsible for providing assurance in accordance with the appropriate guidelines provided in the application kit.

Women and Minority Inclusion Policy

It is the policy of the CDC to ensure that women and racial and ethnic groups will be included in CDC supported research projects involving human subjects, whenever feasible and appropriate. Racial and ethnic groups are those defined in OMB Directive No. 15 and include American Indian, Alaskan Native, Asian, Pacific Islander, Black and Hispanic. Applicants shall ensure that women, racial and ethnic minority population are appropriately represented for research involving human subjects. Where clear and compelling rationale exist that inclusion is inappropriate or not feasible, this situation must be explained as part of the application. In conducting the review of applications for scientific merit, review groups will evaluate proposed plans for inclusion of minorities and both sexes as part of the scientific assessment and assigned score. This policy does not apply to research studies when the investigator cannot control the race, ethnicity and/or sex of subjects. Further guidance on this policy is contained in the Federal Register, Vol. 60, No. 179, Friday, September 15, 1995, pages 47947–47951.

Application Submission and Deadline

The original and two copies of the application PHS Form 5161–1 (Revised 7/92, OMB Control Number 0937–0189) must be submitted to Ron Van Duyne, Grants Management Officer, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Mailstop E13, 255 East Paces Ferry Road, NE., Room 300, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, on or before July 10, 1996.

1. Deadline: Applications shall be considered as meeting the deadline if they are either:

(a) Received on or before the deadline date; or

(b) Sent on or before the deadline date and received in time for submission to the independent review group. (Applicants must request a legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark or obtain a legibly dated receipt from a commercial carrier or U.S. Postal Service. Private metered postmarks shall not be acceptable as proof of timely mailing.)

2. Late Applications: Applications which do not meet the criteria in 1. (a) or 1. (b) above are considered late applications. Late applications will not be considered in the current competition and will be returned to the applicant.

Where To Obtain Additional Information

To receive additional written information call (404) 332–4561. You will be asked to leave your name, address, and telephone number and will need to refer to Announcement 646. You will receive a complete program description and information on application procedures and application forms. If you have questions after reviewing the contents of all the documents, business management technical assistance may be obtained from Oppie Byrd, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 255 East Paces Ferry Road, NE., Room 300, Mailstop E–13, Atlanta, GA 30305, telephone (404) 842–6546, Internet: oxb3@opspgo1.em.cdc.gov, fax (404) 842–6513.

Programmatic technical assistance for surveillance may be obtained from Janet Ehlers, R.N., M.S.N., Occupational Health Nurse, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC), Division of Surveillance, Hazard Evaluations and Field Studies, 4676 Columbia Parkway, R–21, Cincinnati, OH 45226, telephone (513) 841–4205, fax (513) 841–4489, Internet: jje0@nioshe2.em.cdc.gov.

Programmatic technical assistance for intervention may be obtained from Teri Palermo, R.N., Public Health Advisor, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of Respiratory Disease Studies, Office of the Director, 1095 Willowdale Road, Mailstop 219, Morgantown, WV 26505–2888, telephone (304) 285–5836, fax (304) 285–5723, Internet: btp0@niords1.em.cdc.gov.

Please refer to Announcement 646 when requesting information and submitting an application.

There may be delays in mail delivery as well as difficulty in reaching the CDC Atlanta offices during the 1996 Summer Olympics (July 19 - August 4). Therefore, CDC suggests the following to get more timely responses to any questions: use Internet/email, follow all instructions in this announcement, and leave messages on the contact person's voice mail.

Potential applicants may obtain a copy of Healthy People 2000 (Full Report, Stock No. 017–001–00474–0) or Healthy People 2000 (Summary Report, Stock No. 017–001–00473–1) referenced in the Introduction through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402–9325, telephone (202) 512–1800.

Dated: May 30, 1996.

Diane D. Porter,

Acting Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

[FR Doc. 96–14172 Filed 6–5–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163–19–P

[Announcement 649]

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; Prevention of Silicosis in Surface Miners

Introduction

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 1996 funds for a cooperative agreement program for prevention of silicosis in surface miners. The CDC is committed to achieving the health promotion and disease prevention objectives of Healthy People 2000, a national activity to reduce morbidity and mortality and improve the quality of life. This announcement is related to the priority area of Occupational Safety and Health. (For ordering a copy of Healthy People 2000, see the Section Where to Obtain Additional Information.)

Authority

This program is authorized under Section 22(e)(7) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 671(e)(7)) and Section 501(g) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act (30 U.S.C. 951(g)).

Smoke-Free Workplace

The CDC strongly encourages all grant recipients to provide a smoke-free workplace and promote the nonuse of all tobacco products, and Public Law 103–227, the Pro-Children Act of 1994, prohibits smoking in certain facilities that receive Federal funds in which education, library, day care, health care, and early childhood development services are provided to children.

Eligible Applicants

Applications may be submitted by public and private, non-profit and for-profit organizations and governments and their agencies. Thus, universities, colleges, research institutions, hospitals, other public and private organizations, State and local governments or their bona fide agents, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, Indian tribes or Indian tribal organizations, and small, minority- and/or women-owned businesses are eligible to apply.

Note: Organizations described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 which engage in lobbying activities are not eligible for the receipt of Federal grants or cooperative agreements.

Availability of Funds

Approximately $85,000 is available in FY 1996 to fund one award. It is expected that the award will begin on or about September 30, 1996, and will be made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of up to three years. The funding estimate may vary and is subject to change.

Continuation awards within the project period will be made on the basis of satisfactory progress and the availability of funds.

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to contribute to silicosis prevention efforts through:

1. Identification of high silicosis-risk populations in both the metal/nonmetal and coal surface mining communities;

2. Identification and assessment of effectiveness of interventions to limit or prevent silica exposure that have been implemented in the mines with high silicosis risk (e.g.worker training programs, changes in work practices, modifications of maintenance practices, engineering controls, etc.) ; and

3. Development of recommendations for modifications of existing interventions and/or innovative new interventions to prevent silica exposure, with a plan for evaluating intervention effectiveness.

Program Requirements

In conducting activities to achieve the purpose of this program, the recipient will be responsible for the activities under A. (Recipient Activities), and CDC/NIOSH will be responsible for the activities listed under B. (CDC/NIOSH Activities).

A. Recipient Activities

1. Conduct a study to identify high silicosis-risk populations of metal/nonmetal and surface miners; including small and large employers, contractors, unionized and nonunionized operations.

2. Evaluate current work practices and exposure conditions at targeted operations where silicosis risk is high. This evaluation should include an assessment of the effectiveness of current training efforts, maintenance programs, engineering controls and work practices.

3. Recommend new or modified training efforts, maintenance programs, engineering controls or driller work practices which will reduce worker exposures to silica.

4. Evaluate the effectiveness of new interventions.

5. Publish results of the study.

B. CDC/NIOSH Activities

1. Provide scientific, epidemiologic, engineering, environmental, and clinical technical assistance (as needed) to the recipient for successful completion of this project.

2. Assist in the development of the overall plan or study design for this project.

3. Collaborate with the recipient on the methods for collection, tabulation, analysis, and publication of data related to the project.

4. In consultation with Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) obtain and provide available, relevant information on MSHA sampling results, survey data, training videos, etc.

5. Assist in development of recommendations for interventions.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be reviewed and evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. The qualifications and efficient use of current and proposed project personnel, with assurance of a major time commitment of the program director to the program. Technical qualifications of importance include, but are not limited to, experience in conducting investigations of the mining industry, knowledge of the technical aspects of drilling, and experience with worker education and training (to include evaluations of worker training program effectiveness). (35%)

2. The adequacy of the applicant's facilities and resources for purposes of evaluating surface mine driller training. Important qualifications include program/facility history of developing and implementing worker training programs. (10%)

3. The adequacy of the project plan or methodology. The proposed plan and methods should demonstrate a clear understanding and application of the goals and objectives for this program. Novel approaches and ideas that contribute to attainment of the program's goals and objectives are encouraged. Important components include the method of identification of high silicosis-risk surface mine drilling operations, identification of case study subjects, the plan for assessment of effectiveness of the intervention strategies being used and how closely the project's objectives fit the objectives for which applications were invited. (40%)

The degree to which the applicant has met the CDC policy requirements regarding the inclusion of women, ethnic, and racial groups in the proposed research. This includes:

a. The proposed plan for the inclusion of both sexes and racial and ethnic minority populations for appropriate representation.

b. The proposed justification when representation is limited or absent.

c. A statement as to whether the design of the study is adequate to measure differences when warranted.

d. A statement as to whether the plans for recruitment and outreach for study participants include the process of establishing partnerships with community(ies) and recognition of mutual benefits will be documented.

4. Efficient use of resources and uniqueness of program. Evidence of collaboration with outside organizations (e.g., labor, universities, government agencies) using shared resources towards common goals and the demonstrated ability to solicit and receive financial resources from outside the organization. (15%)

5. Human Subjects (Not Scored)

Whether or not exempt from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) regulations, are procedures adequate for protection of human subjects? Recommendations on

the adequacy of protections include: (1) Protections appear adequate, and there are no comments to make or concerns to raise, or (2) protections appear adequate, but there are comments regarding the protocol, or (3) protections appear inadequate and the Objective Review Group has concerns related to human subjects; or (4) disapproval of the application is recommended because the research risks are sufficiently serious and protection against the risks are inadequate as to make the entire application unacceptable.

6. Budget and Justification. (Not Scored)

The budget will be evaluated to the extent that it is reasonable, clearly justified, and consistent with the intended use of the funds.

Executive Order 12372 Review

This program is not subject to the Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

Public Health System Reporting Requirements

This program is not subject to the Public Health System Reporting Requirements.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for this program is 93.283.

Other Requirements

Paperwork Reduction Act

Projects that involve the collection of information from ten or more individuals and funded by this cooperative agreement will be subject to review and approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Human Subjects

If the proposed project involves research on human subjects, the applicant must comply with the Department of Health and Human Services Regulations, 45 CFR Part 46, regarding the protection of human subjects. Assurance must be provided to demonstrate the project will be subject to initial and continuing review by an appropriate institutional review committee. The applicant will be responsible for providing assurance in accordance with the appropriate guidelines and form provided in the application kit.

In addition to other applicable committees, Indian Health Service (IHS) institutional review committees also must review the project if any component of IHS will be involved or will support the research. If any American Indian community is involved, its tribal government must also approve that portion of the project applicable to it.

Women and Minority Inclusion Policy

It is the policy of the CDC to ensure that women and racial and ethnic groups will be included in CDC supported research projects involving human subjects, whenever feasible and appropriate. Racial and ethnic groups are those defined in OMB Directive No. 15 and include American Indian, Alaskan Native, Asian, Pacific Islander, Black and Hispanic. Applicants shall ensure that women, racial and ethnic minority populations are appropriately represented in applications for research involving human subjects. Where clear and compelling rationale exist that inclusion is inappropriate or not feasible, this situation must be explained as part of the application. In conducting the review of applications for scientific merit, review groups will evaluate proposed plans for inclusion of minorities and both sexes as part of the scientific assessment and assigned score. This policy does not apply to research studies when the investigator cannot control the race, ethnicity and/or sex of subjects. Further guidance to this policy is contained the Federal Register, Vol. 60, No. 179, Friday, September 15, 1995, pages 47947–47951.

Application Submission and Deadline

The original and two copies of the application PHS Form 5161–1 (Revised 7/92, OMB Number 0937–0189) must be submitted to Ron Van Duyne, Grants Management Officer, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 255 East Paces Ferry Road, NE., Room 300, Mailstop E–13, Atlanta, GA 30305, on or before July 26, 1996.

1. Deadline: Applications shall be considered as meeting the deadline if they are either:

(a) Received on or before the deadline date; or

(b) Sent on or before the deadline date and received in time for submission to the objective review group. (Applicants must request a legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark or obtain a legibly dated receipt from a commercial carrier or U.S. Postal Service. Private metered postmarks shall not be acceptable as proof of timely mailing.)

2. Late Applications: Applications which do not meet the criteria in 1.(a) or 1.(b) above are considered late applications. Late applications will not be considered in the current competition and will be returned to the applicant.

Where To Obtain Additional Information

To receive additional written information call (404) 332–4561. You will be asked to leave your name, address, and telephone number and will need to refer to Announcement 649. You will receive a complete program description and information on application procedures and application forms. If you have questions after reviewing the contents of the package, business management technical assistance may be obtained from Oppie Byrd, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 255 East Paces Ferry Road, NE., Room 300, Mailstop E–13, Atlanta, GA 30305, telephone (404) 842–6546, Internet: oxb3@opspgo1.em.cdc.gov, fax (404) 842–6513.

Programmatic technical assistance may be obtained from Joseph Cocalis, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease and Control Prevention (CDC), 1095 Willowdale Road, Mailstop H–120, Morgantown, WV 26505–2888, telephone (304) 285–5754, Internet: jgc6@niords1.em.cdc.gov, fax (304) 285–5820.

Please refer to Announcement 649 when requesting information and submitting an application.

There may be delays in mail delivery as well as difficulty in reaching the CDC Atlanta offices during the 1996 Summer Olympics (July 19—August 4). Therefore, CDC suggests the following to get more timely responses to any questions: use Internet/email, follow all instructions in this announcement, and leave messages on the contact person's voice mail.

Copies of the NIOSH Alert, Preventing Silicosis and Deaths in Rock Drillers, can be obtained by contacting the NIOSH Publications Dissemination Office, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226, telephone (513) 533–8287.

Potential applicants may obtain a copy of Healthy People 2000 (Full Report, Stock No. 017–001–00474–0) or Healthy People 2000 (Summary Report, Stock No. 017–001–00473–1) referenced in the Introduction Section through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402–9325, telephone (202) 512–1800.

Dated: May 30, 1996.

Diane D. Porter,

Acting Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

[FR Doc. 96–14170 Filed 6–5–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163–19–P

[Announcement 624]

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Work Organization Interventions To Prevent Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders in Office and Video Display Terminal Work

Introduction

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 1996 funds for a cooperative agreement program to develop work organization interventions to prevent musculoskeletal disorders in office and video display terminal (VDT) workers.

The CDC is committed to achieving the health promotion and disease prevention objectives of Healthy People 2000, national activity to reduce morbidity and mortality and improve the quality of life. This announcement is related to the priority area of Occupational Safety and Health. (For ordering a copy of Healthy People 2000, see the section WHERE TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.)

Authority

This program is authorized under Sections 20(a) and 22(e)(7) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act [29 U.S.C. 669(a) and 671(e)(7)].

Smoke-Free Workplace

The CDC strongly encourages all grant recipients to provide a smoke-free workplace and promote the nonuse of all tobacco products, and Public Law 103–227, the Pro-Children Act of 1994, prohibits smoking in certain facilities that receive Federal funds in which education, library, day care, health care, and early childhood development services are provided to children.

Eligible Applicants

Applications may be submitted by public and private, non-profit and for-profit organizations and governments, and their agencies. Thus, universities, colleges, research institutions, hospitals, other public and private organizations, State and local health departments or their bona fide agents, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, Indian tribes or Indian tribal organizations, and small, minority- and/or women-owned businesses are eligible to apply.

Availability of Funds

Approximately $140,000 is available in FY 1996 to fund one award. It is expected that the award will begin on or about September 30, 1996, and will be made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of one year. The funding estimate is subject to change.

Applications should be focused on the research priorities described in the section ''FUNDING PRIORITIES'' that includes new research priorities developed in a process which resulted in defining a National Occupational Research Agenda. Proposals in these areas will compete for the available funds as noted in the previous paragraph.

Purpose

The purpose of this cooperative agreement is to utilize the special resources of the extramural research community to conduct studies. The funded project will focus on worksite primary prevention efforts, replicating and extending the CDC/NIOSH interventions described in the BACKGROUND Section of the Program Announcement. This could include: (a) replication/validation of CDC/NIOSH findings on work-rest schedules and task rotation, (b) extension of these interventions to other types of VDT and office tasks, and (c) examination of other types of work organization interventions.

Prior studies have indicated that some types of VDT jobs may pose higher risk for stress and work-related musculoskeletal disorders (WRMD), particularly jobs involving highly repetitive and narrow tasks (e.g., data entry or teleoperator tasks). Such jobs are of particular interest for this project. Project results, in combination with NIOSH findings, will provide the basis for recommendations regarding effective work organization strategies for reducing WRMDs, and improving performance in repetitive VDT work. Project results will also improve our understanding of mechanisms mediating between work organization variables and musculoskeletal disorders in VDT work.

Program Requirements

In conducting activities to achieve the purpose of this program, the recipient will be responsible for the activities under A. (Recipient Activities) and CDC/NIOSH will be responsible for activities under B. (CDC/NIOSH Activities):

A. Recipient Activities

1. Evaluate the effectiveness of work organization interventions in reducing WRMDs and in improving productivity among VDT workers. Both physical and psychological symptoms will be evaluated.

2. Develop a study protocol that reviews the pertinent literature on VDT-related musculoskeletal disorders and work organization, describes the study methodology, the data to be collected, and the proposed analysis of the data. Present the protocol to a panel of peer reviewers and revise the protocol as required for final approval.

3. Prepare necessary documentation for reviews and/or clearances required by CDC/NIOSH. (Depending on what is proposed, it may be necessary to obtain NIOSH peer review, Human Subjects Review Board, or OMB approvals on some protocols.)

4. Perform data collection and management. Data is to include measures of worker symptomatology and performance and can additionally include records data on factors such as absenteeism, health care utilization, etc. Symptomatology can include musculoskeletal discomfort, upper extremity musculoskeletal disorders, and indicators of negative mental health (e.g., depression, anxiety, tension). Performance indicators can include measures such as keystrokes/hour, forms/hour, and errors.

5. Prepare a final report summarizing the study methodology, results obtained, and conclusions reached. Develop recommendations regarding effective work organization interventions to reduce stress, fatigue, and WRMDs among VDT workers.

6. Report study results to the scientific community via presentations at professional conferences and articles in peer-reviewed journals.

B. CDC/NIOSH Activities

1. Provide scientific, epidemiologic, work organization, ergonomic, and medical collaboration for the successful completion of this project.

2. Identify reviews and/or clearances that must be fulfilled by the recipient, and identify and convene a Peer Review Panel to review draft study protocol.

3. Provide assistance in all stages of the study including study design, survey instrument design, collection, tabulation, and analysis of data, interpretation of the results and preparation of the written reports.

4. Provide electromyograph (EMG) or other instrumentation and data collection assistance in investigating physiological mechanisms in VDT WRMDs.