

Kawili Street, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933-3515.

Mr. Jeffrey Mitchell, State Director, Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, 620 East Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701, (217) 524-5856.

Ms. Elizabeth Lamoureux, State Director, University of New Hampshire, 108 McConnell Hall, Durham, NH 03824, (603) 862-2200.

Mr. Ronald Hall, State Director, Small Business Dev. Center, 2727 Second Avenue, Detroit, MI 48201, (313) 964-1798.

Mr. Scott Daugherty, State Director, University of North Carolina, 333 Fayetteville Street Mall, Suite 1150, Raleigh, NC 27514, (919) 715-7272.

Dr. Grady Pennington, State Director, SE Oklahoma State University, 517 West University, Durant, OK 74701, (405) 924-0277.

Mr. Greg Higgins, State Director, University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton School, 444 Vance Hall, Philadelphia, PA 19104, (215) 898-1219.

Mr. John Lenti, State Director, University of South Carolina, College of Business Admin., 1710 College Street, Columbia, SC 29208, (803) 777-4907.

Dr. Kenneth J. Burns, State Director, University of Memphis, South Campus, Building #1, Memphis, TN 38152, (901) 678-2500.

Dr. Stephen L. Marder, Executive Director, University of Guam, P.O. Box 5061, UOG Station, Mangilao, GU 96923, (671) 735-2590, 1,2,3.

Mr. Wally Kearns, State Director, University of North Dakota, Gamble Hall, University Station, Grand Forks, ND 58202-7308, (701) 777-3700.

Ms. Erica McIntyre, State Director, University of Wisconsin, 432 North Lake Street, Room 423, Madison, WI 53706, (608) 262-3878.

Mr. Douglas Jobling, State Director, Bryant College, 1150 Douglas Pike, Smithfield, RI 02917, (401) 232-6111.

Mr. Robert Ashley, State Director, University of South Dakota, School of Business, 414 East Clark, Vermillion, SD 57069, (605) 677-5498.

Ms. Carol Riesenberg, State Director, Washington State University, 501 Johnson Tower, Pullman, WA 99164-4851, (509) 335-1576.

[FR Doc. 96-25264 Filed 10-3-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2441]

Bureau of Intelligence and Research; Discretionary Grant Programs: Application Notice Establishing Closing Date for Transmittal of Certain Fiscal Year 1997 Applications

AGENCY: The Department of State invites applications from national organizations with interest and expertise in conducting research and training to serve as intermediaries administering national competitive programs concerning the countries of Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union. The grants will be awarded through an open, national competition among applicant organizations.

Authority for this Program for Research and Training on Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union is contained in the Soviet-Eastern European Research and Training Act of 1983 (22 U.S.C. 4501-4508, as amended).

SUMMARY: The purpose of this application notice is to inform potential applicant organizations of fiscal and programmatic information and closing dates for transmittal of applications for awards in Fiscal Year 1997 under a program administered by the Department of State.

ORGANIZATION OF NOTICE: This notice contains three parts. Part I lists the closing date covered by this notice. Part II consists of a statement of purpose and priorities of the program. Part III provides the fiscal data for the program.

Part I

Closing Date for Transmittal of Applications

An application for an award must be mailed or hand-delivered by January 17, 1997.

Applications Delivered by Mail

An application sent by mail must be addressed to Kenneth E. Roberts, Executive Director, Advisory Committee for Studies of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union, INR/RES, Room 6841, U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20520-6510.

An applicant must show proof of mailing consisting of *one* of the following:

(1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.

(2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.

(3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial center.

(4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Department of State.

If any application is sent through the U.S. Postal Service, the Department of State does not accept either of the following as proof of mailing: (1) A private metered postmark, or (2) a mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

An applicant should note that the U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, an applicant should check with the local post office.

An applicant is encouraged to use registered or at least first class mail. Late applications will not be considered and will be returned to the applicant.

Applications Delivered by Hand

An application that is hand delivered must be taken to Kenneth E. Roberts, Executive Director, Advisory Committee for Studies of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union, INR/RES, Room 6841, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC. Please phone first ((202) 736-4572) to ensure access to the building.

The Advisory Committee staff will accept hand-delivered applications between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. EST daily, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

An application that is hand delivered will not be accepted after 4:00 p.m. on the closing date.

Part II

Program Information

In the Soviet-Eastern European Research and Training Act of 1983 the Congress declared that independently verified factual knowledge about the countries of that area is "of utmost importance for the national security of the United States, for the furtherance of our national interests in the conduct of foreign relations, and for the prudent management of our domestic affairs." Congress also declared that the development and maintenance of such knowledge and expertise "depends upon the national capability for advanced research by highly trained and experienced specialists, available for service in and out of Government." The program provides financial support for advanced research, training and other related functions on the countries of the region. By strengthening and sustaining in the United States a cadre of experts on Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union, the program contributes to the overall objectives of the FREEDOM Support and SEED programs.

The full purpose of the Act and the eligibility requirements are set forth in

Pub. L. 98-164, 97 Stat. 1047-50, as amended. The countries include Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia (including Kosovo and Montenegro), and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The Act establishes an Advisory Committee to recommend grant policies and recipients. The Secretary of State, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, approves policies and makes final determination on awards.

Applications for funding under the Act are invited from U.S. organizations prepared to conduct competitive programs on the independent states of the former Soviet Union and the countries of Eastern Europe and related fields. Applying organizations or institutions should have the capability to conduct competitive award programs that are national in scope. Programs of this nature are those that make awards which are based upon an open, nationwide competitive, incorporating peer group review mechanisms. Individual end-users of these funds—those to whom the applicant organizations or institutions propose to make awards—must be at the graduate or post-doctoral levels, and must have demonstrated a likely career commitment to the study of Eastern Europe and/or the independent states of the former Soviet Union.

Applications sought in this competition among organizations or institutions are those that would contribute to the development of a stable, long-term, national program of unclassified, advanced research and training on the countries of Eastern Europe and/or the independent states of the former Soviet Union by proposing:

(1) *National programs* which award contracts or grants to American institutions of higher education or not-for-profit corporations in support of post-doctoral or equivalent level research projects, such contracts or grants to contain shared-cost provisions;

(2) *National programs* which offer graduate, post-doctoral and teaching fellowships for advanced training on the countries of Eastern Europe and the independent states of the Former Soviet Union, and in related studies, including training in the languages of the region, with such training to be conducted on a shared-cost basis, at American institutions of higher education;

(3) *National programs* which provide fellowships and other support for American specialists enabling them to conduct advanced research on the countries of Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union, and in related studies; and those which facilitate research collaboration between Government and private specialists in these areas;

(4) *National programs* which provide advanced training and research on a reciprocal basis in the countries of Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union by facilitating access for American specialists to research facilities and resources in those countries;

(5) *National programs* which facilitate the public dissemination of research methods, data and findings; and those which propose to strengthen the national capability for advanced research or training on the countries of Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union in ways not specified above.

Note: The Advisory Committee will not consider applications from individuals to further their own training or research, or from institutions or organizations whose proposals are not for competitive award programs that are national in scope as defined above.

Support for specific activities will be guided by the following policies:

—*Publications.* Funds awarded in this competition should not be used to subsidize journals, newsletters and other periodical publications except in special circumstances, in which cases the funds should be supplied through peer-review organizations with national competitive programs.

—*Conferences.* Proposals for conferences, like those for research projects and training programs, should be assessed according to their relative contribution to the advancement of knowledge and to the professional development of cadres in the fields. Therefore, requests for conference funding should be directed to one or more of the national peer-review organizations receiving program funds, with proposed conferences being evaluated competitively against research, fellowship or other proposals for achieving the purposes of the grant.

—*Library Activities.* Funds may be used for certain library activities which clearly strengthen research and training on the countries of Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union and benefit the fields as a whole. Such programs must make awards based upon open,

nationwide competition, incorporating peer group review mechanisms. Funds may not be used for activities such as modernization, acquisition, or preservation. Modest, cost-effective proposals to facilitate research, by eliminating serious cataloging backlogs or otherwise improving access to research materials, will be considered.

—*Language Support.* The Advisory Committee encourages attention to the non-Russian languages of the independent states of the former Soviet Union and the less commonly taught languages of the East European countries. Support provided for Russian language instruction/study normally will be only for advanced level. Applicants proposing to offer language instruction are encouraged to apply to a national program as described above which has appropriate peer group review mechanisms.

—*Support for Non-Americans.* The purpose of the program is to build and sustain U.S. expertise on the countries of Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union. Therefore, the Advisory Committee has determined that highest priority for support always should go to American specialists (i.e., U.S. citizens or permanent residents). Support for such activities as long-term research fellowships, i.e., nine months or longer, should be restricted solely to American scholars. Support for short-term activities also should be restricted to Americans, except in special instances where the participation of a non-American scholar has clear and demonstrable benefits to the American scholarly community. In such special instances, the applicant must justify the expenditure.

—*Support for Transitions.* The Advisory Committee encourages support for activities which, while building expertise among U.S. specialists on the region, also may promote fundamental goals of U.S. assistance programs such as helping establish market economies and promoting democratic governance and civil societies.

In making its recommendations, the Committee will seek to encourage a coherent, long-term, and stable effort directed toward developing and maintaining a national capability on the countries of Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union. Program proposals can be for the conduct of any of the functions enumerated, but in making its

recommendations, the Committee will be concerned to develop a balanced national effort which will ensure attention to all the countries of the area. Legislation requires and this announcement indicates under *Program Information* of this section that in certain cases grantee organizations must include shared-cost provisions in their arrangements with end-users. Cost-sharing is encouraged, whenever feasible, in all programs.

Part III

Available Funds

Awards are contingent upon the availability of funds. Funding may be available at a level up to \$5.0 million. The precise level of funding will not be known until legislative action is complete. In Fiscal Year 1996, the Congress appropriated to the program \$5.0 million from the Agency for International Development budget.

The Department legally cannot commit funds that may be appropriated in subsequent fiscal years. Thus multi-year projects cannot receive assured funding unless such funding is supplied out of a single year's appropriation. Grant agreements may permit the expenditure from a particular year's grant to be made from 12 to 18 months after the grant's effective date.

Applications

Applications must be prepared and submitted in 20 copies in the form of a statement, the narrative part of which should not exceed 20 double-spaced pages. This must be accompanied by a one-page executive summary, a budget, and vitae of key professional staff. Proposers may append other information they consider essential, although bulky submissions are discouraged and run the risk of not being reviewed fully. The one-page summary and budget should precede the narrative in the proposal.

Proposed programs should be described fully, including benefits for the fields. All applicants should provide detailed information about their plans for peer evaluation and review procedures and estimates of the types and amount of anticipated awards.

Applicants who have received a grant from this program in the previous competition should provide detailed information on the peer evaluation and review procedures followed, and awards made, including where applicable, names/affiliations of recipients, and amounts and types of awards. If an applicant received support prior to the last competition, a summary of those awards also should be included.

Descriptions of all competitive award programs should specify both past and anticipated applicant-to-award ratios.

Proposals from national organizations involving language instruction programs should provide for those programs supported in the past year information on the criteria for evaluation, including levels of instruction, degrees of intensiveness, facilities, methods for measuring language proficiency (including pre- and post-testing), instructors' qualifications, and budget information showing estimated costs per student.

A description of affirmative action policies and practices must be included in the application.

Applications should include certifications of compliance with the provisions of: (1) The Drug-Free Workplace Act (Pub. L. 100-690), in accordance with Appendix C of 22 CFR part 137, Subpart F; and (2) section 319 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (Pub. L. 101-121), in accordance with Appendix A of 22 CFR part 138, New Restrictions on Lobbying Activities.

Budget

Since funds provided by AID would come separately from its East Europe (including the Baltic states) and New Independent States programs, proposals must indicate how the requested funds will be distributed by region, country (to the extent possible), and activity. Subsequently, grant recipients must report expenditures by region, country, and activity.

Applicants should familiarize themselves with Department of State grant regulations contained in 22 CFR part 145, "Grants and Cooperative Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Non-Profit Organizations," OMB Circular A-110, "Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education * * * Uniform Administrative Requirements," and OMB Circular A-133, "Audits of Institutions of Higher Learning and Other Non-Profit Institutions" and indicate or provide the following information:

(1) Whether the organization falls under OMB Circular No. A-21, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions," or OMB Circular No. A-122, "Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations;"

(2) A detailed program budget indicating direct expenses by program element, by region (the independent states of the former Soviet Union or Eastern Europe), indirect costs, and the total amount requested. NB: Indirect costs are limited to 10 percent of total direct program costs. Applicants

requesting funds to supplement a program having other sources of support should submit a current budget for the total program and an estimated future budget for it showing how specific lines in the budget would be affected by the allocation of requested grant funds. Other funding sources and amounts, when known, should be identified.

(3) The applicant's cost-sharing proposal, if applicable, containing appropriate details and cross references to the requested budget;

(4) The organization's most recent audit report (the most recent U.S. Government audit report if available) and the name, address, and point of contact of the audit agency.

All payments will be made to grant recipients through the Department of State.

Technical Review

The Advisory Committee for Studies of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union will evaluate applications on the basis of the following criteria:

(1) Responsiveness to the substantive provisions set forth above in *Part II, Program Information* (45 points);

(2) The professional qualifications of the applicant's key personnel and their experience conducting national competitive award programs of the type the applicant proposes on the countries of Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union (35 points); and

(3) Budget presentation and cost effectiveness (20 points).

Further Information

For further information, contact Kenneth E. Roberts, Executive Director, Advisory Committee for Studies of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union, INR/RES, Room 6841, U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20520-6510. Telephone: (202) 736-4572 or 736-4386; fax: (202) 736-4851.

Dated: September 24, 1996.

Kenneth E. Roberts,
Executive Director, Advisory Committee for Studies of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union.

[FR Doc. 96-25451 Filed 10-3-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-32-M