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Date: March 25, 1999.

**James Scanlon,**

*Director, Division of Data Policy, Office of Program Systems, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.*

[FR Doc. 99-7949 Filed 3-31-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4151-04-M

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

[Program Announcement 99069]

#### Program to Build Environmental Public Health Capacity Within Tribal Colleges and Universities; Notice of Availability of Funds

##### A. Purpose

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 1999 funds for a cooperative agreement program to build environmental public health capacity within Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU). This program addresses the "Healthy People 2000" priority areas of Educational and Community-Based Programs and Environmental Health. The purpose of the program is to undertake capacity building activities that will assist TCU programs, and TCU graduates, in addressing human health issues related to exposures to hazardous substances released into the environment which may affect American Indian and Alaska Native peoples. This five-year cooperative agreement program is designed to assist TCUs in the development of environmental health curriculum through the provisions of technical assistance in environmental health science, including toxicology, assistance with materials development, and internships in environmental health nursing, education, and science. The implementation of the program will assist American Indian and Alaska Native nations in: (1) Determining the public health implications from past, present, and potential future human health effects related to exposures from National Priorities List (NPL) sites and other hazardous substance environmental waste sites and releases on tribal lands and (2) determining and evaluating the technical and culturally-appropriate response to such exposures.

##### B. Eligible Applicants

This program is directed only to Federally recognized Tribal Colleges

and Universities as defined in the Executive Order 13201. Thirty TCUs within the United States are thus qualified (see Attachment II in the application kit).

##### C. Availability of Funds

Approximately \$200,000 is available in FY 1999 to fund approximately four awards. It is expected that the average award will be \$50,000, ranging from \$35,000 to \$70,000. It is expected that the awards will begin on or about August 1, 1999, and will be made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of up to five years. Funding estimates may change.

Continuation awards within the approved project period will be made on the basis of satisfactory progress as evidenced by required reports and the availability of funds.

##### Use of Funds

The funds awarded may be expended for reasonable program purposes, such as personnel, travel, supplies and services. Funds are not to be used for the purchase of furniture or equipment.

The TCU, as the direct and primary recipient of the cooperative agreement program, must perform a substantive role in the project activities and not merely serve as a conduit for an award to another party or provide funds to an ineligible party. Indirect costs are limited as described in an approved indirect rate agreement or other evidence showing indirect rate; documentation on indirect rate must be included in the application.

##### D. Program Requirements

In conducting activities to achieve the purpose of the program, the recipient shall be responsible for conducting activities under 1., below, and ATSDR will be responsible for conducting activities under 2., below:

###### 1. Recipient Activities

a. Define and develop environmental health curriculum to include, as appropriate for the recipient, environmental health science, health education, and nursing. Prepare project period and budget period work plans.

b. Develop internship programs within the scope of this project.

c. Determine potential collaborative relationships with tribal nations and their environmental health needs to optimize the outcomes of this program.

d. Define appropriate educational materials needed by tribal constituency (i.e., materials translated into native language, and incorporation of traditional cultural information into the curriculum).

e. Develop an evaluation plan to ascertain the effectiveness and impact of the environmental health curriculum and its utilization within the tribal community.

###### 2. ATSDR Activities

a. Assist in the development of the assessment process, and the work plans.

b. Provide technical assistance in the development of the environmental health curriculum

c. Assist in the development of internship programs for TCU students in environmental health science, health education and nursing.

d. Provide technical assistance in the area of evaluation plans.

##### E. Application Content

Applicants should use the information in the Program Requirements, Other Requirements, and Evaluation Criteria sections to develop the application content. In a narrative form, the application should include a discussion of items listed under "Evaluation Criteria" as they relate to the proposed program. Because these criteria serve as the basis for evaluating the application, omissions or incomplete information may affect the rating of the application. The narrative should be no more than 20 double-spaced pages, printed on one side, with one inch margins, and unrounded font.

Although this program does not require in-kind or matching funds, the applicant should include any in-kind support in the formal application. For example, if the in-kind support includes personnel, the applicant should provide the qualifying experience of the personnel, and clearly state the type of activity to be performed and the amount of time to be contributed.

##### F. Submission and Deadline

Submit the original and two copies of PHS 5161-1 (OMB Number 0937-0189) with your application. On or before June 1, 1999, submit the application to: Nelda Godfrey, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Announcement 99069, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 2920 Brandywine Road, Suite 3000, Atlanta, GA 30341-4146.

**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 orderly processing. (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.)

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

### G. Evaluation Criteria

Each application will be evaluated individually against the following criteria by an independent review group appointed by ATSDR.

#### Proposed Program—40 Percent

- a. Clearly stated understanding of environmental health capacity building needs within the TCU, and needs of the affiliated tribal community (where applicable). (10 percent)
- b. Clear and reasonable project goals. (10 percent)
- c. Extent to which stated project objectives are realistic, measurable, and related to program requirements. (5 percent)
- d. Identification of specific target audiences who may benefit from this program. (10 percent)
- e. Specificity and feasibility of the proposed time line for implementing project activities. (5 percent)

#### Proposed Personnel—25 Percent

- a. Ability of the applicant to provide adequate program staff and support staff, including any proposed consultants or contractors. (10 percent)
- b. Experience of proposed staff in developing materials, implementing activities, and conducting program evaluation related to environmental health curriculum. (7 percent)
- c. Experience of staff in conducting culturally appropriate programs to benefit tribal communities. (8 percent)

#### Capability—35 Percent

- a. Cultural appropriateness of the environmental health programs developed for the proposed target groups. (10 percent)
- b. Thoroughness of the developed program in addressing environmental health needs of tribal peoples. (8 percent)
- c. Extent to which the program may be evaluated to include measures of program outcome and effectiveness, such as changes in participants' technical knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors. (7 percent)
- d. Plans for collaborative efforts, to include (where applicable) coordination with tribal staff working on hazardous waste sites and other environmental concerns. (10 percent)

### Proposed Budget—(not Scored)

The extent to which the proposed budget is reasonable, clearly justified with a budget narrative, and consistent with the intended use of cooperative agreement funds.

### H. Other Requirements

#### Technical Reporting Requirements

Provide ATSDR with original plus two copies of

1. Semi-annual program progress reports, due 30 days after the end of each six-month time period;
  2. Annual progress report and financial status report, no more than 90 days after the end of the budget period; and;
  3. Final financial status and performance reports, no more than 90 days after the end of the project period.
- Send all reports to: Nelda Godfrey, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 2920 Brandywine Road, Suite 3000, Atlanta, GA 30341-4146.

The following additional requirements are applicable to this program. For a complete description of each, see Attachment I in the application kit.

- AR-7 ..... Executive Order 12372 Review.
- AR-10 .... Smoke-Free Workplace Requirements.
- AR-11 .... Healthy People 2000.
- AR-12 .... Lobbying Restrictions.
- AR-16 .... Security Clearance Requirement.
- AR-19 .... Third Party Agreements—ATSDR.

### I. Authority and Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number

This program is authorized under sections 104(i)(14), and (15), and 126 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) (42 U.S.C.9604 (i) (14), (15) and 9626). The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number is 93.161

### J. Where to Obtain Additional Information

Please refer to Program Announcement 99069 when you request information. For a complete program description, information on application procedures, an application package, and business management technical assistance, contact Nelda Godfrey, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Announcement 99069, Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention (CDC), 2920 Brandywine Road, Suite 3000, Atlanta, GA 30341-4146, telephone (770) 488-2722, Email address: nag9@cdc.gov. See also the CDC home page on the Internet: <http://www.cdc.gov>.

For program technical assistance, contact Leslie Campbell, M.S., Acting Tribal Coordinator, Division of Health Assessment and Consultation, ATSDR, 1600 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30333, telephone (404) 639-6337 or 1-888-42ATSDR.

Dated: March 26, 1999.

**Georgi Jones,**

*Director, Office of Policy and External Affairs, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.*

### Attachment II—Federally Recognized Tribal Colleges and Universities

1. Bay Mills Community College, Brimley, Michigan
2. Blackfeet Community College, Browning, Montana
3. Cheyenne River Community College, Eagle Butte, South Dakota
4. College of the Menominee Nation, Keshena, Wisconsin
5. Crownpoint Institute of Technology, Crownpoint, New Mexico
6. D-Q University, Davis, California
7. Dineh College/Navajo Community College, Tsaile, Arizona
8. Dull Knife Memorial College, Lame Deer, Montana
9. Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, Cloquet, Minnesota
10. Fort Belknap Community College, Harlem, Montana
11. Fort Berthold Community College, New Town, North Dakota
12. Fort Peck Community College, Poplar, Montana
13. Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence, Kansas
14. Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, New Mexico
15. Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College, Hayward, Wisconsin
16. Leech Lake Tribal College, Cass Lake, Minnesota
17. Little Big Horn College, Crow Agency, Montana
18. Little Hoop Community College, North Dakota
19. Little Priest Tribal College, Winnebago, Nebraska
20. Nebraska Indian Community College
21. Northwest Indian College, Bellingham, Washington
22. Oglala Lakota College, Kyle, South Dakota
23. Salish Kootenai College, Pablo, Montana
24. Sinte Gleska University, Rosebud, South Dakota
25. Sisseton Wahpeton Community College, Sisseton, South Dakota
26. Sitting Bull College, Fort Yates, South Dakota
27. Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute, Albuquerque, New Mexico
28. Stone Child Community College, Box Elder, Montana

29. Turtle Mountain Community College,  
Belcourt, North Dakota  
30. United Tribes Technical College  
Bismarck, North Dakota  
[FR Doc. 99-8005 Filed 3-31-99; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 4163-70-P

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

[Program Announcement 99076]

### Human Health Studies—Applied Research and Development; Notice of Availability of Funds

#### A. Purpose

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 1999 funds for a grant program entitled Human Health Studies—Applied Research and Development. This program addresses the “Healthy People 2000” priority area of Environmental Health.

The purpose of this program is to fill gaps in knowledge regarding human health effects of hazardous substances focusing on those health conditions prioritized by ATSDR. The ATSDR Priority Health Conditions are (in alphabetical order): (1) Birth defects and reproductive disorders; (2) cancers (selected anatomic sites); (3) immune function disorders; (4) kidney dysfunction; (5) liver dysfunction; (6) lung and respiratory diseases; and (7) neurotoxic disorders. The program will focus upon sensitive human populations (women, children and elderly), the use of innovative methodologies to fill data gaps identified through ATSDR’s public health assessments and consultations at hazardous waste sites, ecologic studies using data from multiple sites to assess the health status of several communities, and analytical studies, including meta-analysis of existing sets of human data.

Research activities may include, but not be limited to the following: (1) Epidemiological studies, (2) health outcomes studies, (3) further analysis of existing human data sets, (4) identification, validation, and development of biomarkers of exposure, susceptibility, and effect, and (5) further evaluating the link or lack of linkage between specific hazardous substances and specific health effects.

#### B. Eligible Applicants

Assistance will be provided only to official public health agencies of states

or their bona fide agents or instrumentalities. This includes the District of Columbia, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments. State organizations, including state universities, state colleges, and state research institutions, must establish that they meet their respective state’s definition of a state entity or political subdivision to be considered an eligible applicant.

#### C. Availability of Funds

Approximately \$350,000 is available in FY 1999 to fund one or two awards. The award(s) is expected to begin on or about September 30, 1999, and will be made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of up to three years. Funding estimates are subject to change.

Continuation awards within an approved project period will be made on the basis of satisfactory progress as evidenced by required reports and the availability of funds.

#### Use of Funds

Funds may be expended for reasonable program purposes, such as personnel, travel, supplies, and services. Funds for contractual services may be requested; however, the grantee, as the direct and primary recipient of grant funds, must perform a substantive role in carrying out project activities and not merely serve as a conduit for an award to another party or provide funds to an ineligible party. Equipment may be purchased with grant funds, however, justification must be provided which should include a cost comparison of purchase versus lease, and title will be retained by ATSDR.

This program does not require in-kind support or matching funds, however, the applicant should describe any in-kind support in the application.

#### Funding Priorities

Priority will be given for studies which address one or more of the following areas of investigation:

1. Evaluate the occurrence of adverse health effects in sensitive populations. This will include the evaluation of the incidence or prevalence of a disease, disease symptoms, self-reported health concerns, or biological markers of disease, susceptibility, or exposure. Sensitive populations are persons who are more susceptible to developing adverse health effects resulting from exposures to hazardous substances [e.g.,

extremes in age (children and the elderly), other medical conditions, genetic factors, dietary or nutritional deficiencies, poverty, or racial injustice].

2. Identify risk factors for adverse health effects in populations. This will include hypothesis generating cohort or case-control studies on potentially impacted populations to identify linkages between exposure to hazardous substances and adverse health effects and those risk factors which may be impacted by prevention actions.

#### D. Application Content

Use the information in the Other Requirements and Evaluation Criteria sections to develop the application content. Your application will be evaluated on the criteria listed, so it is important to follow them in laying out your program plan.

The application should be presented in a manner that demonstrates the applicant’s ability to address environmental health problems.

The applicant’s protocol should contain (when applicable) consent forms and questionnaires, baseline morbidity and mortality information, procedures for collecting biological and environmental specimens and for conducting laboratory analysis and evaluation of the test results of biological specimens, statistical and epidemiological analysis of study information, and a description of the safeguards for protecting the confidentiality of individuals on whom data are collected.

The application pages must be clearly numbered, and a complete index to the application and its appendices must be included. A less than 200 word abstract of the proposed project should be supplied with the application. The original and two copies of the application must be submitted unstapled and unbound. All material must be typed single-spaced, with unredacted font on 8½” by 11” paper, printed on one side, and with one inch margins.

#### E. Submission and Deadline

##### Application

Submit the original and two copies of PHS 5161-1 (OMB Number 0937-0189). Forms are in the application kit. On or before June 18, 1999, submit the application to:

Nelda Godfrey, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Announcement 99076, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 2920 Brandywine Road, Suite 3000, Atlanta, GA 30341-4146.