

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

[Program Announcement 99068]

Program To Facilitate Environmental Justice in Minority and Under Served Communities; 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 facilitate environmental justice in minority and underserved communities. This program addresses the "Healthy People 2000" priority areas of Environmental Health and Educational and Community-Based Health Programs. The purpose of the program is to assist minority educational institutions in (1) expanding and enhancing educational and research opportunities in health promotion and disease prevention related to exposure to hazardous substances in the environment, and (2) providing education and information to African-American communities and Hispanic communities, and other minority communities that are affected by hazardous waste sites and that have environmental justice concerns.

B. Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs). No other applications are solicited.

Note: Public Law 104-65 states that an organization described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to receive Federal funds constituting an award, grant, cooperative agreement, contract, loan, or any other form.

C. Availability of Funds

Approximately \$100,000 is available in FY 99 to fund one award. It is expected that the award will begin on or about September 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 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 ATSDR 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. Equipment may be purchased with grant funds. The equipment proposed should be appropriate and reasonable for the activities to be conducted. The applicant, as part of the application process, should provide: (1) A justification for the need to acquire the equipment, (2) the description of the equipment, (3) the intended use of the equipment, and (4) the advantages/disadvantages of leasing versus purchase of the equipment. Equipment obtained with grant funds must be returned to ATSDR at the end of the project.

D. Program Requirements

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

1. Recipient Activities

a. Develop strategies for disease prevention and health promotion related to exposure to hazardous substances from toxic waste sites, and transferring to minority and low-income communities;

b. Develop relevant and culturally competent environmental health instructional materials for health professionals.

c. Coordinate a wide variety of field experiences in the practice of disease prevention and health promotion for students of the grantee institution and of collaborating institutions;

d. Maintain and distribute minority health and environmental justice related resource information, instructional materials, and teaching techniques for health professionals;

e. Develop strategies for assisting communities in identifying the needs of "at risk" populations and research gaps, and develop a plan for working with the community to address these problems and issues concerning policies, regulations, and procedures related to the environmental characterization, assessment, public health assessment, cleanup and reuse of contaminated sites and properties;

f. Conduct community based workshops on the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as a tool in brownfields and environmental justice priority setting and community analysis;

g. Collaborate with government and non-government officials on environmental justice, risk communication, and environmental health matters, when requested by communities; and

h. Collaborate with state and local health departments and community based organizations on environmental justice and minority health issues. This collaboration should improve teaching and learning at the grantee school and the other participating schools.

2. ATSDR Activities

a. Collaborate with the grantee in expanding the opportunities for faculty, staff and students for field experience in environmental health and community based environmental justice activities;

b. Collaborate with and assist the recipient in aggregating demographic data, public health data, and other relevant information to evaluate the environmental health status of minority communities and tribal nations; and

c. Assist in the evaluation of the objectives of this program.

E. Application Content

Use the information in the Program Requirements, 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.

F. Submission and Deadline

Submit the original and five copies of PHS-398 (OMB Number 0925-0001) (adhere to the instructions on the Errata Instruction Sheet for PHS 398). Forms are in the application kit. On or before July 15, 1999, submit the application to the Grants Management Specialist identified in the "Where to Obtain Additional Information" section of this announcement.

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

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

1. Experience in Environmental Justice—35 Percent

The applicant can clearly demonstrate (a) a track record in conducting environmental justice projects and activities with affected communities, and (b) the ability to collaborate with other HBCUs and HSIs to develop and implement a nationwide environmental justice program.

2. Scientific and Technical Merit of Proposed Program—25 Percent

The extent to which the applicant's proposal addresses (a) the scientific merit of the proposed project, including approach, feasibility, adequacy, and rationale of the design; (b) the technical merit of the proposed project, including the degree to which the project can be expected to yield results that meet the program objectives and the technical merit of the methods and procedures for the proposed project; and (c) the proposed project schedule, including clearly established project objectives for which progress toward attainment can and will be measured.

3. Program Personnel—25 Percent

The extent to which the proposal has described the (a) qualifications, experience, and commitment of the principal investigator (or project director) and his/her ability to devote adequate time and effort to provide effective leadership, and (b) the competence of associates to accomplish the proposed activity and their commitment and time they will devote.

4. Applicant Capability—15 Percent

Description of the adequacy and commitment of institutional resources to administer the program and the adequacy of the facilities as they impact on performance of the proposed activity.

5. Budget—(Not Scored)

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

H. Other Requirements

Technical Reporting Requirements

Provide original plus two copies of

1. Semiannual progress reports;
2. Financial status report, no more than 90 days after the end of the budget period; and

3. Final financial and performance reports, no more than 90 days after the end of the project period.

Send all reports to the Grants Management Specialist identified in the "Where to Obtain Additional Information" section of this announcement.

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

AR-8 Public Health System Reporting Requirements

5R-9 Paperwork Reduction Act Requirements

AR-10 Smoke-Free Workplace Requirements

AR-11 Healthy People 2000

AR-12 Lobbying Restrictions

AR-18 Cost Recovery—ATSDR

AR-19 Third Party Agreements—ATSDR

AR-20 Conference Support

I. Authority and Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number

This program is authorized under sections 104(i)(14), and (15) 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), and (15)). The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number is 93.161.

J. Where To Obtain Additional Information

A complete copy of the announcement may be downloaded from CDC's home page on the Internet at: <http://www.cdc.gov> (click on funding).

To receive additional written information and to request an application kit, call 1-888-GRANTS4 (1-888 472-6874). You will be asked to leave your name and address and will be instructed to identify the Announcement number of interest (Announcement 99068). You will receive a complete program description, 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: Nelda Godfrey, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Announcement 99068, 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.

For program technical assistance, contact: Peter Sherman, Minority Health Program Manager, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry 1600 Clifton Road, NE (E-28), Atlanta, GA 30333, Telephone: (404) 639-5060, Email address: pds2@cdc.gov

Dated: May 18, 1999.

Georgi Jones,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Program Announcement 99102]

Interventional Epidemiologic Research Studies of HIV/AIDS Among Pregnant Women, Children, and Adolescents; Availability of Funds

A. Purpose

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 1999 funds for a cooperative agreement program for new and competitive continuation cooperative agreements for interventional epidemiologic research studies of HIV/AIDS among pregnant women, children, and adolescents. This program addresses the "Healthy People 2000" priority areas of HIV Infection and Maternal and Infant Health. The purpose of the program is to support researchers in the conduct of HIV interventional epidemiologic research studies that foster prevention of HIV infection or HIV-related disease in infants, children, and adolescents. These include studies that address: (I) Mother infant rapid intervention at delivery (MIRIAD), (II) follow-up of perinatally HIV-infected children, and (III) parent communication training interventions with longitudinal follow-up among populations of color at high risk for infection for sexually transmitted diseases (STD) including HIV.

Research Studies

(I) Mother Infant Rapid Intervention at Delivery (MIRIAD)

Most HIV-infected pregnant women in the United States use hospitals for delivery, providing a crucial opportunity for systematic screening and intervention when indicated. In