

*C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others*

No written comments were either solicited or received.

**III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action**

The foregoing proposed rule change has become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>7</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,<sup>8</sup> in that the proposed rule change establishes or changes a member due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

**IV. Solicitation of Comments**

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

*Electronic Comments:*

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-Phlx-2007-82 on the subject line.

*Paper Comments:*

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Phlx-2007-82. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the

Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Phlx. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Phlx-2007-82 and should be submitted on or before November 29, 2007.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>9</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**  
*Deputy Secretary.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

**[Public Notice: 5986]**

**30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Form DS-1998, Foreign Service Officer Test Registration Form, OMB Control Number 1405-0008**

**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comment and submission to OMB of proposed collection of information.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of State has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

- *Title of Information Collection:* Foreign Service Officer Test Registration Form.
- *OMB Control Number:* 1405-0008.
- *Type of Request:* Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.
- *Originating Office:* Human Resources, HR/REE/BEX.
- *Form Number:* DS-1998E.
- *Respondents:* Registrants for the Foreign Service Officer Test.
- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 20,000.
- *Estimated Number of Responses:* 20,000.

- *Average Hours Per Response:* 3 hours.
- *Total Estimated Burden:* 60,000 hours.
- *Frequency:* On occasion.
- *Obligation to Respond:* Required to Obtain or Retain a Benefit.

**DATES:** Submit comments to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for up to 30 days from November 8, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct comments and questions to Katherine Astrich, the Department of State Desk Officer in the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), who may be reached at 202-395-4718. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *E-mail:* [kastrich@omb.eop.gov](mailto:kastrich@omb.eop.gov). You must include the DS form number, information collection title, and OMB control number in the subject line of your message.
- *Mail (paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions):* Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.
- *Fax:* 202-395-6974.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You may obtain copies of the proposed information collection and supporting documents from Stephen J. Blake, HR/REE/BEX, SA-1, 2401 E Street, H-518, Washington, DC 20522, who may be reached on 202-261-8898 or at [blakesj@state.gov](mailto:blakesj@state.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary to properly perform our functions.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond.

**Abstract of Proposed Collection**

Individuals registering for the Foreign Service Officer Test will complete a Registration Form that consists of an application form and six personal narrative questions about experience and qualifications. This includes information about their name, age, Social Security Number, contact information, ethnicity, education and work history, military experience, and their knowledge, skills and abilities they would bring to the Foreign Service. The information will be used to prepare and

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

issue admission to the Foreign Service Officer Test, to assess registrants' qualifications for selection as a Foreign Service Officer, to provide data useful for improving future tests, and to conduct research studies based on the test results.

### Methodology

Responses can be submitted electronically.

Dated: October 9, 2007.

**Ruben Torres,**

*Executive Director, HR/EX, Department of State.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 5987]

### Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Request for Grant Proposals: Future Leaders Exchange Civic Education Workshop

*Announcement Type:* New Grant.

*Funding Opportunity Number:* ECA/PE/C/PY-08-03.

*Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:*

*Key Dates:* Spring 2008.

*Application Deadline:* January 3, 2008.

*Executive Summary:* The Office of Citizen Exchanges, Youth Programs Division of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for the conduct of a spring 2008 Civic Education workshop for students participating in the academic year Future Leaders Exchange (FLEX) program. The goal of the workshop is to broaden the participants' knowledge and understanding of the democratic concepts that are integral to a civil society and provide them with tools they can take home to utilize as future leaders of their countries. Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c) may submit proposals to develop and conduct a one-week workshop in Washington, DC, in Spring 2008 on elements of a civil society. The workshop should include approximately 110 high school students from 11 Eurasian countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan) who are attending school in the United States during the 2007/08 academic year. Workshop participants will be selected through an essay contest from among a group of 1,100 students who are participating in the academic year

component of the Division's Future Leaders Exchange program. Proposals should maximize cost-sharing through other private sector support as well as institutional direct funding contributions.

### I. Funding Opportunity Description

#### Authority

Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87-256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is "to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries \* \* \*; to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations \* \* \* and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world." The funding authority for the program above is provided through legislation.

#### Purpose

This workshop should provide an opportunity for participants to gain a better understanding of the democratic concepts and values that are an integral part of American society and culture. Concepts such as citizen empowerment, volunteerism, community action, and debate should be included in program components. The program should also enable participants to learn firsthand about the federal system of government, observe government institutions, hear about and discuss issues on the federal agenda, and interact with government officials. Dedicated time blocks should be provided for exposure to and education about the American electoral process, taking into account the upcoming U.S. presidential election. Special attention also should be paid to those issues that will be particularly significant to people from the countries of the former Soviet Union.

#### Responsibilities

The recipient of the grant is responsible for developing and conducting the Civic Education Workshop based on the Project Objectives, Goals and Implementation (POGI) guidelines. The grantee organization will also be responsible for coordinating travel arrangements for each Workshop participant from his/her host community to Washington, D.C.,

and return, and for providing room and board for students during their time in Washington. The program should be arranged for seven days, including arrival and departure. The grantee organization will be provided with the names of the academic year students who will have been chosen for the Spring Workshop after competing in an essay contest. The essays will have been reviewed by independent, objective, specially-trained selectors.

#### Guidelines

The Workshop should be held in late winter or early spring 2008 during a time when Congress is in session. Proposals must effectively describe the organization's ability to accomplish the following essential components of the program:

1. Provide a one-week Civic Education workshop in Washington, DC, as described above and held at the time period indicated. Program components should include sessions on U.S. domestic and foreign policy, the role of the media in a civil society, citizen empowerment, volunteerism and community activism, and federalism.
2. In coordination with the Bureau's Youth Programs Division (ECA/PE/C/PY), provide pre-program training for organization staff on the society and culture of participating countries.
3. Provide housing and meals for all students throughout the workshop.
4. Arrange roundtrip travel for participants from their U.S. host communities to Washington, DC, in coordination with FLEX placement organizations. (Note: Students will likely be coming from most of the 50 states.) Provide ground transportation for Workshop students in the DC area, including to and from Dulles Airport.
5. Provide opportunities to attend cultural events, and visit museums and monuments.
6. Coordinate with ECA/PE/C/PY and the Office of Legislative Affairs (H) in making appropriate arrangements for individual meetings for all Workshop participants with their respective Members of Congress (Senators and/or Representative).
7. Provide staff to assist in case of medical emergencies.
8. Incorporate a Workshop program component designed to facilitate students' transition from the DC program back to their host communities. Include a description of the ways in which all students will be encouraged to share what they have learned, both in their U.S. host communities and when they return to their home countries.
9. Provide a mechanism for evaluation of the program in terms of its impact on