

States submitted their Reading First applications to the Department in 2002 and 2003. Currently, the Department has approved the Reading First applications of all applicants but one. The Committee will evaluate this remaining application and, at the request of the Department, may review issues identified in other State applications.

States submitted their third-year progress reports to the Department on or before November 30, 2006. The reports include, among other things, information on the progress State educational agencies and local educational agencies are making in reducing the number of students served under the Reading First program in grades 1, 2, and 3 who are reading below grade level. By statute, the Committee will review these reports. In addition, the Committee may advise the Secretary on other issues that the Secretary deems appropriate.

By statute, the Committee will consist, at a minimum, of three individuals selected by each of the following: the Secretary of Education, the National Institute for Literacy, the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences, and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Any non-Federal members of the Committee will serve as Special Government Employees (SGEs). Committee members will serve for a period of three years or until the date of reauthorization of the ESEA, whichever is earlier. The Committee will choose one of its members to serve as the chairperson. The Team Leader of the Reading First program will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the Committee. As appropriate, the Committee may form one or more subcommittees to assist it with its functions.

For Additional Information: Contact Maria Worthen, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202, Telephone: (202) 205-5632.

Dated: February 23, 2007.

Margaret Spellings,

Secretary of Education.

[FR Doc. E7-3590 Filed 2-28-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA NO. 84.361A]

Office of Innovation and Improvement, Voluntary Public School Choice Program

ACTION: Notice announcing a technical assistance workshop.

SUMMARY: This notice provides information about a technical assistance workshop the Department will be holding to assist eligible applicants interested in preparing grant applications for fiscal year (FY) 2007 new awards under the Voluntary Public School Choice (VPSC) program. Staff will present information about the purpose of the VPSC program, selection criteria, application content, submission procedures, and reporting requirements.

The notice inviting applications for new awards for FY 2007 for the VPSC program was published in the **Federal Register** on February 1, 2007 (72 FR 4700).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Iris A. Lane, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-5970. *Telephone:* (202) 205-1999. *E-mail:* vpssc@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audio tape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in this section.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The technical assistance workshop will be conducted on Tuesday, March 6, 2007, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Capitol, 550 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20024. *Hotel telephone:* (202) 479-4000. This site is in Washington, DC, across the street from the U.S. Department of Education headquarters at 400 Maryland Avenue, SW. This site is accessible by Metro on the Blue, Orange, Green, and Yellow lines at the 7th Street and Maryland Avenue exit of the L'Enfant Plaza station. Please contact the U.S. Department of Education contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** if you have any questions about the details of the workshop.

Individuals interested in attending this workshop are encouraged to pre-register by e-mailing their name, organization, and contact information to vpssc@ed.gov. There is no registration fee for this workshop. We encourage attendance from those who will be

responsible for submitting program applications or providing technical support for submission of program applications.

Assistance to Individuals With Disabilities Attending the Technical Assistance Workshop

The technical assistance workshop site is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the workshop (e.g., interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternative format), notify the contact persons listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>.

To use PDF, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have any questions about using the PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7225-7225g.

Dated: February 23, 2007.

Morgan S. Brown,

Assistant Deputy Secretary for Innovation and Improvement.

[FR Doc. E7-3613 Filed 2-28-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Postsecondary Education; Overview Information; American Indian Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, Alaska Native-Serving Institutions, and Native Hawaiian- Serving Institutions programs; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers: 84.031T, 84.031N and 84.031W.

Dates:

Applications Available: March 1, 2007.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 16, 2007.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 14, 2007.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education (IHEs) that qualify as eligible institutions under the American Indian Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCU), the Alaska Native-Serving Institutions (AN), and the Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions (NH) programs may apply for grants under this notice. These programs are authorized by Title III, Part A of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA). To qualify as an eligible institution under any Title III, Part A program, an institution must, among other requirements—

(1) Be accredited or preaccredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association that the Secretary has determined to be a reliable authority as to the quality of education or training offered;

(2) Be legally authorized by the State in which it is located to be a junior college or to provide an educational program for which it awards a bachelor's degree;

(3) Be designated as an "eligible institution" by demonstrating that it: (A) Has an enrollment of needy students as described in 34 CFR 607.3; and (B) has low average educational and general expenditures per full-time equivalent (FTE) undergraduate student as described in 34 CFR 607.4.

The Notice Inviting Applications for Designation as Eligible Institutions for FY 2007 was published in the **Federal Register** on January 8, 2007, 72 FR 760. The complete eligibility requirements for the Title III, Part A programs are in 34 CFR 607.2 through 607.5 and can be accessed from the following Web site: http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_05/34cfr607_05.html.

Relationship Between the Title III, Part A Programs and the Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Program

Note 1: A grantee under the Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) program, which is authorized under Title V of the HEA, may not receive a grant under any HEA, Title III, Part A programs. The Title III, Part A programs include: The Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP), the TCCU program, and the AN and NH programs. Further, a current HSI program grantee may not give up its HSI grant in order to receive a grant under any Title III, Part A program.

Note 2: An eligible HSI that does not fall within the limitation described in Note 1, i.e., is not a current grantee under the HSI program, may apply for a FY 2007 grant under all Title III, Part A programs for which it is eligible, as well as under the HSI program. However, a successful applicant may receive only one grant.

Note 3: An eligible IHE that submits more than one application may only be awarded one individual development grant or one cooperative arrangement development grant in a fiscal year. Furthermore, we will not award a second cooperative arrangement development grant to an otherwise eligible IHE for the same award year as the IHE's existing cooperative arrangement development grant award.

Note 4: The Department will make five-year awards for Individual Development Grants and five-year awards for Cooperative Development Grants in rank order from separate funding slates according to the average score received from a panel of three readers.

However, the Department will use two funding slates each for the one-year construction grants under the TCCU program and the one-year renovations grants under the AN and NH programs. Slate number one will contain the rank order scores of applicants that did not receive a grant under the respective program in FY 2006. Slate number two will contain the rank order scores of all

remaining applicants. Awards under the TCCU, AN and NH programs will be made first in rank order from slate number one of the respective program. If funds remain after awarding all approved applicants from slate number one, the remaining awards will be made in rank order from slate number two of the respective program. The Department has adopted this process for the construction and renovation grants to comply with Section 313(b) of the HEA, which directs the Secretary to give priority to applicants who are not currently receiving a grant.

Estimated Available Funds:

\$23,570,000 for the TCCU program and \$11,785,000 for the AN and NH program's for FY 2007. A competition will not be held in FY 2007 for the SIP. Instead, the Department intends to use the grant slate developed for the SIP in FY 2006 to make new awards in FY 2007 because a significant number of high-quality applicants remained on the FY 2006 slate and limited funding is expected to be available for new awards in FY 2007.

For specific funding information, see the chart in the Award Information section of this notice.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: See chart.

Maximum Award Amounts: See chart. We will not fund any application at an amount exceeding the maximum amounts specified in the chart for a single budget period of 12 months. We may choose not to further consider or review applications with budgets that exceed the maximum amounts specified, if we conclude, during our initial review of the application, that the proposed goals and objectives cannot be obtained with the specified maximum amount.

Estimated Number of Awards: See chart.

Program name and type of award	Maximum award amount	Estimated number of awards	Estimated average award amount
Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities program (84.031T)			
—5-year individual development grants	\$475,000	2	\$450,000
—1-year construction grants	1,650,000	7	1,577,000
Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian programs (84.031N and 84.031W)			
—5-year individual development grants	500,000	1	500,000
—1-year renovation grants	750,000	4	710,000

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice. Applicants should periodically check the Title III Part A programs Web site for further information. The address is: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/idedtitle3a/index.html>.

Project Period: Up to 60 months for development grants and up to 12 months for construction and renovation grants.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The TCCU, AN, and NH programs provide grants to eligible institutions of higher education to enable them to improve their academic quality, institutional

management, and fiscal stability, and increase their self-sufficiency and strengthen their capacity to make a substantial contribution to the higher education resources of the Nation.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1057–1059d.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 607.

II. Award Information

Type of Awards: Discretionary grants. Five-year individual development grants; five-year cooperative arrangement development grants; one-year TCCU construction grants, and one-

year AN and NH renovation grants will be awarded in FY 2007. Planning grants will not be awarded in FY 2007.

Estimated Available Funds: \$23,570,000 for the TCCU program and \$11,785,000 for the AN and NH programs for FY 2007.

A competition will not be held in FY 2007 for the SIP. Instead, the Department intends to use the grant slate developed for the SIP in FY 2006 to make new awards in FY 2007 because a significant number of high-quality applicants remained on the FY 2006 slate and limited funding is expected to be available for new awards in FY 2007.

For specific funding information, see the chart in the Award Information section of this notice.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: See chart.

Maximum Award Amounts: See chart.

We will not fund any application at an amount exceeding the maximum amounts specified in this notice for a single budget period of 12 months. We may choose not to further consider or review applications with budgets that exceed the maximum amounts specified, if we conclude, during our initial review of the application, that the proposed goals and objectives cannot be obtained with the specified maximum amount.

Estimated Number of Awards: See chart.

Program name and type of award	Maximum award amount	Estimated number of awards	Estimated average award amount
Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Program (84.031T)			
—5-year individual development grants	\$475,000	2	\$450,000
—1-year construction grants	1,650,000	7	1,577,000
Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian program (84.031N and 84.031W)			
—5-year individual development grants	500,000	1	500,000
—1-year renovation grants	750,000	4	710,000

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice. Applicants should periodically check the Title III Part A programs Web site for further information. The address is: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/duetitle3a/index.html>.

Project Period: Up to 60 months for development and up to 12 months for construction and renovation grants.

III. Eligibility Information

1. *Eligible Applicants:* IHEs that qualify as eligible institutions under the TCCU, AN and the NH programs may apply for grants under this notice. These programs are authorized by Title III, Part A, of the HEA. To qualify as an eligible institution under any Title III, Part A program, an institution must, among other requirements—

(1) Be accredited or preaccredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association that the Secretary has determined to be a reliable authority as to the quality of education or training offered;

(2) Be legally authorized by the State in which it is located to be a junior college or to provide an educational program for which it awards a bachelor's degree;

(3) Be designated as an “eligible institution” by demonstrating that it: (A) Has an enrollment of needy students as described in 34 CFR 607.3; and (B) has low average educational and general expenditures per full-time equivalent

(FTE) undergraduate student as described in 34 CFR 607.4.

The Notice Inviting Applications for Designation as Eligible Institutions for FY 2007 was published in the **Federal Register** on January 8, 2007, 72 FR 760. The complete eligibility requirements are in 34 CFR 607.2 through 607.5 and can be accessed from the following Web site: http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_05/34cfr607_05.html.

Relationship Between the Title III, Part A Programs and the Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Program

Note 1: A grantee under the HSI program, which is authorized under Title V of the HEA, may not receive a grant under any HEA, Title III, Part A program. The Title III, Part A programs include: the SIP program, the TCCU program, and the AN, and NH programs. Further, a current HSI program grantee may not give up its HSI grant in order to receive a grant under any Title III, Part A program.

Note 2: An eligible HSI that does not fall within the limitation described in Note 1, i.e., is not a current grantee under the HSI program, may apply for a FY 2007 grant under all Title III, Part A programs for which it is eligible, as well as under the HSI program. However, a successful applicant may receive only one grant.

Note 3: An eligible IHE that submits more than one application may only be awarded one individual development grant or one cooperative arrangement development grant

in a fiscal year. Furthermore, we will not award a second cooperative arrangement development grant to an otherwise eligible institution for the same award year as the IHE's existing cooperative arrangement development grant award.

Note 4: The Department will make five-year awards for Individual Development Grants and five-year awards for Cooperative Development Grants in rank order from separate funding slates according to the average score received from a panel of three readers.

However, the Department will use two funding slates each for the one-year construction grants under the TCCU program and the one-year renovations grants under the AN and NH programs. Slate number one will contain the rank order scores of applicants that did not receive a grant under the respective program in FY 2006. Slate number two will contain the rank order scores of all remaining applicants. Awards under the TCCU, AN and NH programs will be made first in rank order from slate number one of the respective program. If funds remain after awarding all approved applicants from slate number one, the remaining awards will be made in rank order from slate number two of the respective program. The Department has adopted this process for the construction and renovation grants to comply with Section 313(b) of the HEA, which directs the Secretary to give

priority to applicants who are not currently receiving a grant.

2. *Cost Sharing or Matching:* There are no cost sharing or matching requirements, unless the grantee uses a portion of its grant for establishing or improving an endowment fund. If a grantee uses a portion of its grant for endowment fund purposes, it must match those grant funds with non-Federal funds. 20 U.S.C. 1057(d)(2) and 1059c(c)(3)(B).

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. *Address to Request Application Package:* Darlene Collins, Team Leader, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20006-8513. Telephone: (202) 502-7576 or by e-mail: darlene.collins@ed.gov; or Kelley Harris, Telephone: (202) 219-7083 or by e-mail: kelley.harris@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the program contact person listed in this section.

2. *Content and Form of Application Submission:* Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for these programs.

Page Limits: We have established mandatory page limits for the applications to be submitted under this notice. You must limit your application to the equivalent of no more than 50 pages for an individual development grant; 70 pages for a cooperative arrangement development grant; and 35 pages for a TCCU construction or AN and NH renovation grant under the Title III, Part A programs, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1 inch margins at the top, bottom, and both sides. Page numbers and an identifier may be within the 1" margin.

- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, except titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, captions and all text in charts, tables, and graphs.

- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New or Arial. Applications submitted in any other font (including Times Roman and Arial Narrow) will be rejected.

- Use not less than 12-point font.

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the Application for Federal Assistance Face Sheet (SF 424); the Supplemental Information for SF 424 form required by the Department of Education; Part II, the Budget Information Summary Form (ED Form 524); and Part IV, the Assurances and Certifications. The page limit also does not apply to a Table of Contents and the Program Abstract. If you include any attachments or appendices, these items will be counted as part of the Program Narrative (Part III of the application) for purposes of the page limit requirement. You must include your complete response to the selection criteria in the program narrative.

We will reject your application if—

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

3. *Submission Dates and Times:* Applications Available: March 1, 2007.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 16, 2007.

Applications for grants under this competition must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site ([Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)). For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically or by mail or hand delivery if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, please refer to section IV. 6. *Other Submission Requirements* in this notice.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 14, 2007.

4. *Intergovernmental Review:* This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for these programs.

5. *Funding Restrictions:* We reference the regulations outlining funding restrictions in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

- *Applicability of Executive Order 13202.*

Applicants that apply for construction funds under the Title III, Part A Programs must comply with Executive Order 13202 signed by President George W. Bush on February 17, 2001 and

amended on April 6, 2001. This Executive order provides that recipients of Federal construction funds may not "require or prohibit bidders, offerors, contractors, or subcontractors to enter into or adhere to agreements with one or more labor organizations, on the same or other construction project(s)" or "otherwise discriminate against bidders, offerors, contractors, or subcontractors for becoming or refusing to become or remain signatories or otherwise adhere to agreements with one or more labor organizations, on the same or other construction project(s)." However, the Executive order does not prohibit contractors or subcontractors from voluntarily entering into these agreements. Projects funded under these programs that include construction activity will be provided a copy of this Executive order and will be asked to certify that they will adhere to it.

6. *Other Submission Requirements:* Applications for grants under these programs must be submitted electronically unless you qualify for an exception to this requirement in accordance with the instructions in this section.

a. *Electronic Submission of Applications.* Applications for grants under the TCCU, AN and NH programs (CFDA Numbers 84.031T, 84.031N and 84.031W) must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site at: <http://www.grants.gov>. Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

We will reject your application if you submit it in paper format unless, as described elsewhere in this section, you qualify for one of the exceptions to the electronic submission requirement *and* submit, no later than two weeks before the application deadline date, a written statement to the Department that you qualify for one of these exceptions. Further information regarding the calculation of the date that is two weeks before the application deadline date is provided later in this section under *Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement*.

You may access the electronic grant application for the TCCU, AN and NH programs at: <http://www.grants.gov>. You must search for the downloadable application package for this program by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.031, not 84.031W).

Please note the following:

- When you enter the Grants.gov site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, as well as the hours of operation.

- Applications received by Grants.gov are date and time stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted, and must be date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not consider your application if it is date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. When we retrieve your application from Grants.gov, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because it was date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.

- The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the submission process through Grants.gov.

- You should review and follow the Education Submission Procedures for submitting an application through Grants.gov that are included in the application package for this competition to ensure that you submit your application in a timely manner to the Grants.gov system. You can also find the Education Submission Procedures pertaining to Grants.gov at <http://e-Grants.ed.gov/help/GrantsgovSubmissionProcedures.pdf>.

- To submit your application via Grants.gov, you must complete all of the steps in the Grants.gov registration process (see http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp). These steps include (1) registering your organization, a multi-part process that includes registration with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR); (2) registering yourself as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR), and (3) getting authorized as an AOR by your organization. Details on these steps are outlined in the Grants.gov 3-Step Registration Guide (see <http://www.grants.gov/section910/Grants.govRegistrationBrochure.pdf>). You also must provide on your application the same D-U-N-S Number used with this registration. Please note that the registration process may take five or more business days to complete, and you must have completed all

registration steps to allow you to successfully submit an application via Grants.gov. In addition you will need to update your CCR registration on an annual basis. This may take three or more business days to complete.

- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, as described elsewhere in this section, and submit your application in paper format.

- You must submit all documents electronically, including all information typically provided on the following forms: Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications. Please note that two of these forms—the SF 424 and the Department of Education Supplemental Information form SF 424—have replaced the ED 424 (Application for Federal Education Assistance.)

- You must attach any narrative sections of your application as files in a .DOC (document), .RTF (rich text), or .PDF (Portable Document) format. If you upload a file type other than the three file types specified in this paragraph or submit a password protected file, we will not review that material.

- Your electronic application must comply with any page limit requirements described in this notice.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. (This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only, not receipt by the Department.) The Department will then retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send a second confirmation to you by e-mail. This second notification indicates that the Department has received your application and has assigned your application a PR/Award number (an ED-specified identifying number unique to your application).

- We may request that you provide us original signatures on forms at a later date.

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of Technical Issues With the Grants.gov System: If you are experiencing problems submitting your application through Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov Support Desk at 1-800-518-4726. You may obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number and must keep a record of it.

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because of technical problems with the Grants.gov system, we will grant you an extension until 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, the following business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically, or by hand delivery. You also may mail your application by following the mailing instructions as described elsewhere in this notice.

If you submit an application after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the deadline date, please contact the person listed elsewhere in this notice under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, and provide an explanation of the technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number. We will accept your application if we can confirm that a technical problem occurred with the Grants.gov system and that that problem affected your ability to submit your application by 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. The Department will contact you after a determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

Note: The extensions to which we refer to in this section apply only to the unavailability of, or technical problems with, the Grants.gov system. We will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the application deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the Grants.gov system.

Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement: You qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, and may submit your application in paper format, if you are unable to submit an application through the Grants.gov system because—

- You do not have access to the Internet; or
- You do not have the capacity to upload large documents to the Grants.gov system;

and

- No later than two weeks before the application deadline date (14 calendar days or, if the fourteenth calendar day before the application deadline date falls on a Federal holiday, the next business day following the Federal holiday), you mail or fax a written statement to the Department, explaining which of the two grounds for an exception prevent you from using the Internet to submit your application. If you mail your written statement to the Department, it must be postmarked no later than two weeks before the application deadline date. If you fax

your written statement to the Department, we must receive the faxed statement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.

Address and mail or fax your statement to: Darlene Collins, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., 6th floor, Washington, DC 20006–8513 Telephone: (202) 502–7576 or by e-mail: darlene.collins@ed.gov; FAX: (202) 502–7861 or Kelley Harris, Telephone: (202) 219–7083 or by e-mail: kelley.harris@ed.gov.

Your paper application must be submitted in accordance with the mail or hand delivery instructions described in this notice.

b. Submission of Paper Applications by Mail.

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you may mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier) your application to the Department. You must mail the original and two copies of your application on or before the application deadline date to the Department at the applicable following address:

By mail through the U.S. Postal Service:

U.S. Department of Education,
Application Control Center,
Attention: (CFDA Number 84.031T,
84.031N or 84.031W), 400 Maryland
Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202–
4260.

or

By mail through a commercial carrier:

U.S. Department of Education,
Application Control Center—Stop
4260, Attention: (CFDA Number
84.031T, 84.031N or 84.031W), 7100
Old Landover Road, Landover, MD
20785–1506.

Regardless of which address you use, you 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 carrier, or
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do 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.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

c. Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you (or a courier service) may deliver your paper application to the Department by hand. You must deliver the original and two copies of your application by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.031T, 84.031N or 84.031W), 550 12th Street, SW., Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202–4260.

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays and Federal holidays.

Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications: If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department:

- (1) You must indicate on the envelope and—if not provided by the Department—in Item 11 of the SF 424 the CFDA number,—and suffix letter, if any—of the competition under which you are submitting your application.
- (2) The Application Control Center will mail a grant application receipt acknowledgment to you. If you do not receive the grant application receipt acknowledgment within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245–6288.

V. Application Review Information

1. *Selection Criteria:* The selection criteria for this program are in 34 CFR 607.22(a)–(g). Applicants must address each of the following selection criteria (separately for each proposed activity). The total weight of the selection criteria is 100 points; the weight of each criterion is noted in parentheses.

- (a) Quality of The Applicant's Comprehensive Development Plan (Total 25 Points).
- (b) Quality of Activity Objectives (Total 15 Points).
- (c) Quality of Implementation Strategy (Total 20 Points).
- (d) Quality of Key Personnel (Total 7 Points).
- (e) Quality of Project Management Plan (Total 10 Points).
- (f) Quality of Evaluation Plan (Total 15 Points).
- (g) Budget (Total 8 Points).

2. *Review and Selection Process:* For five-year individual development

grants, five-year cooperative arrangement development grants, and one-year construction and renovation grants, awards will be made in rank order according to the average score received from a panel of three readers.

Tie-breaker for Development Grants.

In tie-breaking situations for development grants described in 34 CFR 607.23(b), the regulations for the Title III Part A programs require that we award one additional point to an application from an IHE that has an endowment fund for which the market value per FTE student is less than the comparable average per FTE student at a similar type IHE. We also award one additional point to an application from an IHE that had expenditures for library materials per FTE student that are less than the comparable average per FTE student at a similar type IHE.

For the purpose of these funding considerations, we use 2004–2005 data.

If a tie remains after applying the tie-breaker mechanism above, priority will be given in the case of applicants for: (a) Individual development grants to applicants that have the lowest endowment values per FTE student; and (b) cooperative arrangement development grants to applicants in accordance with section 394(b) of the HEA, if the Secretary determines that the cooperative arrangement is geographically and economically sound or will benefit the applicant institution.

VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN). We may also notify you informally.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Reporting:* At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the

most current performance and financial expenditure information as specified by the Secretary in 34 CFR 75.118, 34 CFR 75.720 and in 34 CFR 606.31.

4. *Performance Measures:* The Secretary has established the following key performance measures for assessing the effectiveness of the Title III, Part A programs: (1) The number of full-time degree-seeking undergraduates enrolling at IHEs. Note that this is a long-term measure, which will be used to periodically gauge performance, beginning in FY 2009; (2) The percentage of full-time undergraduate students who were in their first year of postsecondary enrollment in the previous year and are enrolled in the current year at the same institution; (3) The percentage of students enrolled at 4-year IHEs graduating within 6 years of enrollment; and (4) The percentage of students enrolled at 2-year IHEs graduating within 3 years of enrollment.

VII. Agency Contacts

For Further Information Contact: Darlene Collins, Team Leader, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20006-8513. Telephone: (202) 502-7576 or by e-mail: darlene.collins.ed.gov or Kelley Harris, telephone: (202) 219-7083 or by e-mail: Kelley.harris@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact person listed in this section.

VIII. Other Information

Electronic Access to This Document: You may view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>.

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Dated: February 23, 2007.

James F. Manning,

Delegated the Authority of Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. E7-3612 Filed 2-28-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Study of the Potential Benefits of Distributed Generation and Rate-Related Issues That May Impede Their Expansion

AGENCY: Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE), Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of availability of a study of the potential benefits of distributed generation and rate-related issues that may impede their expansion, and request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) hereby gives notice that it has issued a "Study of the Potential Benefits of Distributed Generation and Rate-Related Issues That May Impede Their Expansion" (DG Study). The DG Study is an analysis called for by Section 1817 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct 2005). Through this Notice, DOE invites public review of the DG Study and submittal of comments on it. DOE requests that comments be submitted electronically (preferably Microsoft® Word .doc format), although written comments may be submitted as well. Submissions should include a cover page containing the reviewer's name, affiliation, telephone number, mailing address, and e-mail address.

Copies of Section 1817 of EPAct 2005 and of the DG Study are available and may be downloaded from the OE Web site: <http://www.oenergy.gov>.

DATES: Comments, and other pertinent information offered in response to this Notice must be submitted to and received by DOE no later than April 2, 2007 at any of the addresses listed in the **ADDRESSES** section.

ADDRESSES: Reviews prepared in electronic formats may be uploaded directly, via the Internet at: http://www.oenergy.gov/epa_sec1817.htm. Links to this Web page may also be found on the OE Web site.

Comments may also be sent by regular mail to: Mario Sciulli, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, P.O. Box 10940, MS 922-342C, Pittsburgh, PA 15236; or by e-mail to: mario.sciulli@netl.doe.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mario Sciulli, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology

Laboratory, P.O. Box 10940, MS 922-342C, Pittsburgh, PA 15236, e-mail address: mario.sciulli@netl.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 1817 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 requires that DOE, in consultation with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), conduct a study of the potential benefits of cogeneration and small power production. DOE also must analyze the impact of regulatory mandates, tariffs, rate structures and similar policies on the proliferation of distributed energy technologies. Section 1817 further requires that DOE recommend a methodology for valuing the benefits of distributed generation (DG).

To initiate the DG Study DOE published a "notice of inquiry and request for public comment" in the **Federal Register** on January 30, 2006 (71 FR 4904). The notice requested public input (such as narratives of experiences, data, case studies, reports and results of analyses, etc.) pertaining to the planning, installation, commissioning and operation of distributed energy systems. The notice also invited interested parties to submit case studies and similar information depicting the impact of regulations, statutes, codes, tariffs, rate structures and other similar policies on the various aspects of DG, combined heat and power (CHP) systems, and related distributed energy technologies. A copy of the January 30, 2006 notice is available on the OE Web page.

II. DG Study, Request for Public Review and Comment, and Report

A. DG Study

DOE has considered and analyzed comments and supporting information received in response to the notice of January 30, 2006, and has completed a DG Study. DOE is hereby announcing that the DG Study is available for public review and inviting all interested parties to submit comments on the DG Study.

B. Submission of Comments

In accordance with Section 1817, DOE requests written comments from interested parties on all aspects of the DG Study. DOE is especially interested in receiving comments from persons with particular knowledge of the legal, economic and technical elements related to the benefits and rate-related issues concerning distributed generation.

C. Report

At the end of the public review period specified in the **DATES** section of this