

harm and hardship to applicants under either program and make timely grant awards, the Secretary is waiving rulemaking for these one-time programs under the Act.

Electronic Submission of Applications: An eligible SEA that seeks funding under the Assistance for Homeless Youth program and the Emergency Impact Aid program, as authorized under sections 106 and 107 of the Act, must submit its application to the Department on or before February 2, 2006, no later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time. You must submit your initial application electronically using the Department's Electronic Grant Application System (e-Application) available through the Department's e-Grants system. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

You can access the electronic application for the Assistance for Homeless Youth and Emergency Impact Aid programs at: <http://e-grants.ed.gov>.

Once you access this site, you will receive specific instructions regarding the information to include in your application. The regular hours of operation of the e-Application Web site are 6 a.m. Monday until 7 p.m. Wednesday; and 6 a.m. Thursday until midnight, Saturday (Washington, DC time). Please note that the system is unavailable on Sundays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For the Emergency Impact Aid program: Ms. Catherine Schagh, Director, Impact Aid Program, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-6244. Telephone: (202) 260-3858 or via the Internet: Impact.Aid@ed.gov. For the Assistance for Homeless Youth program: Mr. Gary Rutkin, Program Officer, Homeless Children and Youth Program, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-6244. Telephone: (202) 260-4412 or via the Internet: gary.rutkin@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 the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to one of the contact persons listed in this section.

Electronic Access to This Document: You may view this document, as well as other Department of Education documents 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>.

Program Authority: Division B, Title IV of Pub. L. 109-148.

Dated: January 10, 2006.

Henry L. Johnson,

Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 06-327 Filed 1-10-06; 12:50 pm]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A National Dialogue: The Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education

AGENCY: A National Dialogue: The Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education, U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of an upcoming public hearing with members of A National Dialogue: The Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education (Commission). Notice of this meeting is required by section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and is intended to notify the public of their opportunity to attend.

DATE: Tuesday, February 7, 2006.

TIME: Tuesday, February 7, 2006: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public hearing will be held in Seattle, WA, at the Seattle Crowne Plaza, 1113 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cheryl Oldham, Executive Director, A National Dialogue: The Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-3510; telephone: (202) 205-8741.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission is established by the Secretary of Education to begin a national dialogue about the future of higher education in this country. The purpose of this Commission is to

consider how best to improve our system of higher education to ensure that our graduates are well prepared to meet our future workforce needs and are able to participate fully in the changing economy. The Commission shall consider federal, state, local and institutional roles in higher education and analyze whether the current goals of higher education are appropriate and achievable. The Commission will also focus on the increasing tuition costs and the perception of many families, particularly low-income families, that higher education is inaccessible.

The agenda for this public hearing will begin with presentations from panels of invited speakers addressing the four areas of focus for the Commission: access, accountability, affordability, and quality. After the presentations by invited speakers, there will be time reserved for comments from the public.

If you are interested in participating in the public comment period to present comments to the Commission, you are requested to reserve time on the agenda of the meeting by email or phone. Please include your name, the organization you represent if appropriate, and a brief description of the issue you would like to present. Participants will be allowed approximately three to five minutes to present their comments, depending on the number of individuals who reserve time on the agenda. At the meeting, participants are also encouraged to submit four written copies of their comments. Persons interested in making comments are encouraged to address the following issues and questions:

(1) How accessible is higher education today? Is this changing?

(2) Do students have access to the institutions best suited to their needs and abilities?

(3) What is the real cost of educating college students? How fast is it rising?

(4) What is the true price of a college education?

(5) What is the quality of higher education in America?

(6) How well are universities meeting specific national needs?

Given the expected number of individuals interested in providing comments at the meeting, reservations for presenting comments should be made as soon as possible. Persons who are unable to obtain reservations to speak during the meetings are encouraged to submit written comments. Written comments will be accepted at the meeting site or may be mailed to the Commission at the address listed above.

Individuals who will need accommodations for a disability in order

to attend the meeting (e.g., interpreting services, assisting listening devices, or materials in alternative format) should notify Carrie Marsh at (202) 205-8741 no later than January 23, 2006. We will attempt to meet requests for accommodations after this date but cannot guarantee their availability. The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Individuals interested in attending the meeting must register in advance because of limited space issues. Please contact Carrie Marsh at (202) 205-8741 or by e-mail at Carrie.Marsh@ed.gov.

Opportunities for public comment are available through the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/hiedfuture/index.html>. Records are kept of all Commission proceedings and are available for public inspection at the staff office for the Commission from the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dated: January 5, 2006.

Margaret Spellings,

Secretary, U.S. Department of Education.

[FR Doc. 06-256 Filed 1-11-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A National Dialogue: The Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education

AGENCY: A National Dialogue: The Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education, U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of an upcoming meeting of A National Dialogue: The Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education (Commission). The notice also describes the functions of the Commission. Notice of this meeting is required by section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and is intended to notify the public of their opportunity to attend.

DATES: Thursday, February 2, 2006, and Friday, February 3, 2006.

TIME: February 2, 2006: 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.; February 3, 2006: 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Commission will meet in San Diego, CA, at Paradise Point Resort, 1404 Vacation Road, San Diego, CA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cheryl Oldham, Executive Director, A National Dialogue: The Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education, 400 Maryland

Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-3510; telephone: (202) 205-8741.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission is established by the Secretary of Education to begin a national dialogue about the future of higher education in this country. The purpose of this Commission is to consider how best to improve our system of higher education to ensure that our graduates are well prepared to meet our future workforce needs and are able to participate fully in the changing economy. The Commission shall consider federal, state, local and institutional roles in higher education and analyze whether the current goals of higher education are appropriate and achievable. The Commission will also focus on the increasing tuition costs and the perception of many families, particularly low-income families, that higher education is inaccessible.

The agenda for this third meeting will include panel presentations discussing five areas of innovation. The five areas are: innovation and the economy, innovative national and international models for delivery, innovative teaching and learning strategies, innovative financing, and innovative public/private sector models. There will also be a panel presentation of nontraditional college students. A written report to the Secretary is due by August 1, 2006.

Individuals who will need accommodations for a disability in order to attend the meeting (e.g., interpreting services, assistive listening devices, or materials in alternative format) should notify Carrie Marsh at (202) 205-8741 no later than January 23, 2006. We will attempt to meet requests for accommodations after this date but cannot guarantee their availability. The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Individuals interested in attending the meeting must register in advance because of limited space issues. Please contact Carrie Marsh at (202) 205-8741 or by e-mail at Carrie.Marsh@ed.gov.

Opportunities for public comment are available through the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/hiedfuture/index.html>. Records are kept of all Commission proceedings and are available for public inspection at the staff office for the Commission from the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dated: January 5, 2006.

Margaret Spellings,

Secretary, U.S. Department of Education.

[FR Doc. 06-257 Filed 1-11-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Reimbursement for Costs of Remedial Action at Active Uranium and Thorium Processing Sites

AGENCY: Office of Environmental Management, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of the acceptance of Title X claims for reimbursement in fiscal year (FY) 2006 and the acceptance of plans for subsequent remedial action.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the Department of Energy (DOE) acceptance of claims in FY 2006 from eligible active uranium and thorium processing sites for reimbursement under Title X of the Energy Policy Act of 1992. For FY 2006, Congress has appropriated approximately \$20 million for reimbursement of certain costs of remedial action at these sites. The approved amount of claims submitted during FY 2005 and unpaid approved balances for claims submitted in FY 2004 will be paid by April 28, 2006, subject to the availability of funds. If the available funds are less than the total approved claims, these payments will be prorated, if necessary, based on the amount of available FY 2006 appropriations, unpaid approved claim balances (approximately \$0.45 million), and claims received in May 2005 (approximately \$22 million).

This also provides notice of the continuing DOE acceptance of plans for subsequent decontamination, decommissioning, reclamation, and other remedial action (Plans for Subsequent Remedial Action). If Title X licensees expect to incur remedial action costs for remedial action after December 31, 2007, licensees must submit a Plan for Subsequent Remedial Action during calendar year (CY) 2005 or 2006, and DOE must approve a Plan submitted by a licensee by the end of CY 2007, if the costs incurred after CY 2007 are to be eligible for reimbursement.

DATES: The closing date for the submission of claims in FY 2006 is May 1, 2006. These new claims will be processed for payment by April 27, 2007, together with unpaid approved claim balances from prior years, based on the availability of funds from congressional appropriations. Plans for Subsequent Remedial Action must be submitted no later than December 31, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Claims and Plans for Subsequent Remedial Action should be forwarded by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, to the U.S. Department of Energy, 19901