

**Available Funds:** \$1,900,000. The estimated amount of funds available for new awards under this competition is based on the Administration's request for this program for FY 2000. The actual level of funding, if any, is contingent on final congressional action.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** \$50,000–\$90,000.

**Estimated Average Size of Awards:** \$82,609 per year.

**Estimated Number of Awards:** 23.

**Note:** The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

**Project Period:** Up to 24 months.

**Applicable Regulations:** (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for these programs as follows: 34 CFR parts 655 and 661.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Matching requirement: Under Part B, section 613(d) Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA), Business and International Education Program grantees must provide no less than 50 percent of the total cost of projects in each fiscal year. Example: The institution's total costs of the proposed project will be \$140,000 per year. The institution may request a grant in the amount of \$70,000 or less. The institution must provide the remaining \$70,000 in cash or in-kind contributions.

**FOR APPLICATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tanyelle Richardson, Business and International Education Program, U.S. Department of Education, International Education and Graduate Programs Service, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Suite 600 Portals Building, Washington, DC 20202–5331. Telephone: 202–260–3383. The e-mail address for Ms. Richardson is tanyelle\_richardson@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph. Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternate format, also, by contacting that person. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternate format the standard forms included in the application package.

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**Program Authority:** 20 U.S.C. 1130a–1130b.

Dated: August 16, 1999.

**Claudio R. Prieto,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary Office of Postsecondary Education.*

[FR Doc. 99–21629 Filed 8–19–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–U

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No 84.274A]

### Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education; Notice Inviting Applications for American Overseas Research Centers Program New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2000

**Purpose of Program:** The American Overseas Research Centers (AORC) Program supports American overseas research centers that are consortia of institutions of higher education, to enable these centers to promote postgraduate research, exchanges, and area studies.

Support includes funds to pay all or a portion of the costs of establishing or operating centers or programs of activities, including: faculty and staff stipends and salaries; faculty, staff, and student travel; operation and maintenance of overseas facilities; teaching and research materials; acquisition, maintenance, and preservation of library collections; bringing visiting scholars and faculty to a center to teach or to conduct research; organizing and managing conferences; and the publication and dissemination of material for the scholarly and general public.

**Eligible Applicants:** Centers that: (1) Receive more than 50 percent of their funding from public or private United

States sources; (2) have a permanent presence in the country in which the overseas center is located; and, (3) are organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, which are exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Code.

**Deadline for Transmittal of Applications:** November 4, 1999.

**Deadline for Intergovernmental Review:** January 3, 2000.

**Applications Available:** September 2, 1999.

**Available Funds:** \$700,000. The estimated amount of funds available for new awards is based on the Administration's request for this program for FY 2000. The actual level of funding, if any, is contingent upon final congressional action.

**Estimated Range of Awards:**

\$55,000–\$95,000.

**Estimated Average Size of Awards:** \$64,000 per year.

**Estimated Number of Awards:** 11.

**Note:** The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

**Project Period:** 36 months.

**Applicable Regulations:** There are no program specific regulations. Applicants are directed to section 609 of part A, title VI, of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, the authorizing statute governing the AORC Program; and, the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 82, 85, and 86.

**FOR APPLICATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cheryl E. Gibbs, American Overseas Research Centers Program, U.S. Department of Education, International Education and Graduate Programs Service, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Suite 600, Portals Building, Washington, DC 20202–5331. Telephone: (202) 401–9785. The e-mail address for Ms. Gibbs is [cheryl-gibbs@ed.gov](mailto:cheryl-gibbs@ed.gov). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

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**Program Authority:** 20 U.S.C. 1128a.

Dated: August 16, 1999.

**Claudio R. Prieto,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.*

[FR Doc. 99-21630 Filed 8-19-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Office of Science; Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 99-23: Outstanding Junior Investigator Program

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice inviting grant applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Division of High Energy Physics of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy, hereby announces its interest in receiving grant applications for support under its Outstanding Junior Investigator (OJI) Program. Applications should be from tenure-track faculty investigators who are currently involved in experimental or theoretical high energy physics or accelerator physics research, and should be submitted through a U.S. academic institution. The purpose of this program is to support the development of individual research programs of outstanding scientists early in their careers. Awards made under this program will help to maintain the vitality of university research and assure continued excellence in the teaching of physics.

**DATES:** To permit timely consideration for award in fiscal year 2000, formal applications submitted in response to this notice should be received before November 2, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Completed formal applications referencing Program Notice 99-23 should be forwarded to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Grants and Contracts Division, SC-64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, Maryland 20874-1290, ATTN: Program Notice 99-23. The above address must also be used when submitting applications by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail, any other commercial mail delivery service, or when hand carried by the applicant. An original and seven copies of the application must be submitted. Due to the anticipated number of reviewers, it would be helpful for each applicant to submit an additional four copies of the application.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Jeffrey Mandula, Division of High Energy Physics, SC-221 (GTN), U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, Maryland 20874-1290. Telephone: (301) 903-4829. E-Mail: [jeffrey.mandula@science.doe.gov](mailto:jeffrey.mandula@science.doe.gov)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Outstanding Junior Investigator program was started in 1978 by the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Research. A principal goal of this program is to identify exceptionally talented new high energy physicists early in their careers and assist and facilitate the development of their research programs. Eligibility for awards under this notice is therefore restricted to non-tenured investigators who are conducting experimental or theoretical high energy physics or accelerator physics research. Since its debut, the program has initiated support for between five and ten new Outstanding Junior Investigators each year. The program has been very successful and contributes importantly to the vigor of the U.S. High Energy Physics program. Applicants should request support under this notice for normal research project costs as required to conduct their proposed research activities. The full range of activities currently supported by the Division of High Energy Physics is eligible for support under this program.

The DOE expects to make five to ten grant awards in fiscal year 2000 to meet the objectives of this program. It is anticipated that approximately \$400,000 will be available in fiscal year 2000, subject to availability of appropriated funds. In the past, awards have averaged \$50,000 per year, with the number of awards determined by the number of excellent applications and the total funds available for this program. Multiple year funding of grant awards is

expected, with funding provided on an annual basis subject to availability of funds. Renewal beyond the initial project period is normal so long as the recipient's tenure status is unchanged.

Applications will be subjected to scientific merit review (peer review) and will be evaluated against the following criteria, which are listed in descending order of importance as set forth in 10 CFR 605.10 (d):

1. Scientific and/or technical merit of the project;
2. Appropriateness of the proposed method or approach;
3. Competency of applicant's personnel and adequacy of proposed resources; and
4. Reasonableness and appropriateness of the proposed budget.

General information about development and submission of applications, eligibility, limitations, evaluations and selection processes, and other policies and procedures are contained in the Application Guide for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program and 10 CFR Part 605. Electronic access to the application guide and required forms is available on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.er.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>

The Catalog Of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for this program is 81.049, and the solicitation control number is ERFAP 10 CFR Part 605.

Issued in Washington, DC on August 13, 1999.

**John Rodney Clark,**

*Associate Director of Science for Resource Management, Office of Science.*

[FR Doc. 99-21651 Filed 8-19-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC99-423-000, FERC Form No. 423]

### Proposed Information Collection and Request for Comments

August 16, 1999.

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed information collection and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of Section 3506(c)(2)(a) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is soliciting public comment on the