



FEDERAL REGISTER

SUMMARY

July 1-15 2009

Funding Notices - These funding initiatives warrant your IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. Nonprofits or other entities must submit applications by a specific deadline and meet program criteria to be eligible for the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	
7/10/09	ED Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS)	<p>FYI: Request for applications (2) under – 1) Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities Program – Center on Technology Implementation; and 2) Technology Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities Program – Regional Resource Centers.</p> <p>Estimated funding: 1) \$1,375,000 and 2) \$7,800,000.</p> <p>Application Deadline for both programs: 8/10/09.</p> <p>Both of these priorities, funding a Center on Technology and Regional Resource Centers, are authorized in the <i>Individuals with Disabilities Education Act</i> (IDEA), and are designed to improve educational results for children with disabilities through the use of technology. See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-16380.htm (1) and http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-16385.htm (2).</p>
7/13/09	ED Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS)	<p>FYI: Request for applications under the Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities Program—Model Demonstration Projects, Improving Writing Proficiency for High School Students priority.</p> <p>Estimated funding: \$1,200,000</p> <p>Application deadline: 8/12/09</p> <p>Authorized in the <i>Individuals with Disabilities Education Act</i> (IDEA), this priority's purpose is to fund three "Model Demonstration Projects on Tiered Approaches for Improving Writing Proficiency of High School Students," including students with learning disabilities. See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-16549.htm.</p>

Other Notices – Requests for Comments/Nominations that require a response by a specific date and/or corrections to previously published notices, guidance information, or adjusted federal funding for states (i.e. The Developmental Disabilities Act), along with other interesting funding information. Please take note of the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	
7/7/09	HHS	Final “National Institutes of Health Guidelines for Human Stem Cell Research.”
	National Institutes of Health (NIH)	Effective date: 7/7/09 These guidelines implement Executive Order 13505 (signed 3/9/09), entitled “Removing Barriers to Responsible Scientific Research Involving Human Stem Cells” as it relates to NIH-funded stem cell research and the policy and procedures that govern such research to help ensure that research in this area is “ethically responsible, scientifically worthy, and conducted in accordance with applicable law.” NIH received approximately 49,000 comments from various groups, including Members of the U.S. Congress. Human stem cell research, study, clinical trials could prove invaluable in addressing spinal cord injuries and genetic disorders such as Fragile X Syndrome, the most common cause of inherited mental impairment, including severe cognitive or intellectual disabilities. See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-15954.htm .

Proposed Rules – Requests for comments that require a response by a specific date. Please take note of the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	
7/15/09	HHS	Request for comments on proposed revisions to the Medicaid Eligibility Quality Control (MEQC) and Payment Error Rate Measurement (PERM) programs that are contained in the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) (see the 8/31/07 “Final Rules” section of the <i>Federal Register</i> Summary or go to: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/07-4240.htm, <i>Improper Payments Information Act</i> provisions).
	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)	Comment deadline: 8/14/09 Based on provisions contained in the <i>Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009</i> , (CHIPRA) CMS is proposing to revise the MEQC and PERM programs. MEQC requires states to report to the Secretary of HHS “erroneous excess payments for medical assistance to total expenditures for medical assistance.” PERM authorizes the Secretary to put in place necessary rules for the efficient management of CHIP. CHIPRA establishes an error rate measurement related to the enrollment of children under the “express lane eligibility option” of CHIP and requires a new PERM rule that defines: criteria for errors and processes for appeal; responsibilities and deadlines for states to implement corrections; requirements for verification by states of eligibility and correct amounts for assistance; and specific sample sizes for application of PERM requirements. See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-16538.htm .

Final Rules – Comments have been received, processed and program implementation policies have been finalized or withdrawn. Please take note of the following:

Date Dept.

7/13/09 SSA

Extended Attorney Advisor Program.

Effective date: 7/13/09

In 2007, based on provisions contained in the *Social Security Act*, SSA issued a final rule allowing some attorney advisors, instead of administrative law judges, to conduct certain prehearing procedures in an effort to provide timely service to the many applicants for Social Security Disability (disability insurance) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. Attorney advisors are part of SSA's plan to continue to reduce the number of claims pending at the hearing level. To continue this service for these applicants, SSA is extending this program's sunset date until 8/20/11. See the document at:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-16510.htm>.

Meeting Notices – Important information about upcoming federal agency meetings, audio conferences, and web casts. If you are unable to attend a meeting, most panels, committees, etc. will provide a transcript or other documents upon request. Use the contact information provided to request materials. Please take note of the following:

Date Dept.

7/1/09 CCR

U.S. Commission
on Civil Rights

Meeting Date: 7/10/09 at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Place: 624 9th Street, NW, Room 540, Washington, D.C.

CCR, established, in 1957, investigates complaints of civil rights violations based on race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin. In addition, CCR writes reports and makes recommendations on civil rights issues to the President and the U.S. Congress. On the agenda is continued planning for the "National Civil Rights Conference" and various reports. For more information about CCR, go to: www.usccr.gov/. For more information about the meeting, contact Lenore Ostrowsky at 202-376-8116.

7/1/09 HHS

Office of the
National
Coordinator for
Health
Information
Technology's
(HIT)
committees/work
groups

Meeting Dates: 7/14 and 7/15/09 at 9:00 a.m., 7/16/09 at 10:00 a.m., and 7/21/09 at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Place: 7/14, 7/15, and 7/16/09 – The Park Hyatt Washington, 24th & M Streets, NW, Washington, D.C.; 7/21/09 – The Holiday Inn Washington Capitol, 550 C Street, SW, Washington, D.C.

The Office of the National Coordinator provides advice to the Secretary of HHS on the development and nationwide implementation of health information technology infrastructure. The office works through various committees and workgroups (see below).

7/14 and 7/15/09 – Certification/Adoption Workgroup

7/16/09 – Policy Committee

7/21/09 – Standards Committee

The public is encouraged to present either orally or in writing information on the issues before the committees/workgroups. For more information about health information technology, go to: <http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt>. For more information about submitting information or the meeting, contact Judy Sparrow at 202-205-4528 or at judy.sparrow@hhs.gov.

- 7/2/09 EAC
U.S. Election Assistance Commission
- Meeting Date: 7/14/09 at 1:00 p.m. (meeting and hearing)**
Meeting Place: U.S. EAC, 1225 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 150, Washington, D.C.
EAC serves as a clearinghouse on federal election administration and oversees voting system guidelines. On the agenda is a briefing on the Accessible Voting Technology Initiative, a presentation on accessibility and usability of voting systems, and public comments on technological solutions to guarantee that voters with disabilities have privacy and independence while voting. For more information about EAC, go to: www.eac.gov/. For more information about the meeting, contact Bryan Whitener at 202-566-3100.
- 7/6/09 HHS
Secretary's Advisory Committee on Human Research Protections (SACHRP)
- Meeting Dates: 7/21 and 7/22/09 at 8:30 p.m.**
Meeting Place: The Sheraton National Hotel, 900 South Orme Street, Arlington, VA
SACHRP provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of HHS related to the protection of human research subjects. On the agenda is a discussion of long-range future planning related to new subcommittees and focus areas and a subcommittee report on consent for the use of data, just to name a few. A public comment period has been scheduled for both days of the meeting. For more information about SACHRP and prior meeting materials, go to: <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/sachrp/>. For more information about the meeting, contact Jerry Menikoff, MD., J.D at 240-453-8141 or at sachrp@osophs.dhhs.gov.
- 7/6/09 HHS
National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC)
- Meeting Dates: 7/27/09 and 8/24/09 at 3:00 p.m. (Eastern time)**
Meeting Place: Via teleconference. Dial 1-888-677-1385, then enter passcode "NVAC." Preregistration is required. Contact Andrea Krull at 202-690-5566 or at nvpo@hhs.gov
NVAC provides advice and makes recommendations to the Director of the National Vaccine Program on issues related to the program's responsibilities. On the agenda for these "special" meetings are discussions concerning issues involved in the Novel Influenza A outbreak. For more information about NVAC, go to: <http://www.hhs.gov/nvpo/nvac/>. For more information about the meeting use the contact information given above.
- 7/7/09 AGRI
National Advisory Council on Maternal, Infant and Fetal Nutrition (NACMIFN)
- Meeting Dates: 7/21-23/09 at 9:00 a.m.**
Meeting Place: Food and Nutrition Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA
NACMIFN studies the operation of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), which is authorized in the *Child Nutrition Act of 1966*. WIC provides federal grants to states for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women and children up to age five. On the agenda, are updates and discussions of implementation of the WIC program, including food packages and cost containment. For more information about NACMIFN, go to: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/advisorycouncil.htm>. For more information about the meeting, contact Carla McTigue at 703-305-2086.

7/13/09	HUD Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity	<p>Meeting Date: 7/22/09 at 2:00 p.m. Meeting Place: HUD Headquarters, Suite A, Brooke-Mondale Auditorium, 451 7th Street, SW, Washington, D.C.</p> <p>During this “informal” meeting, HUD intends to obtain views, information, perspectives, etc., on “specific issues related to HUD’s intended development of a proposed rule concerning the obligation to affirmatively further fair housing.” The <i>Fair Housing Act</i>, as amended, prohibits discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, and disability. Those interested in participating in this meeting should send an e-mail to affh@hud.gov. For more information about this meeting, contact Bryan Greene at 202-708-4252 or at 1-800-877-8339 (TTY).</p>
7/13/09	HHS Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)	<p>Meeting Date: 7/29/09 at 8:00 a.m. Meeting Place: CDC, Tom Harkin Global Communications Center, 1600 Clifton Road, NE Building 19, Atlanta, GA</p> <p>ACIP Advises the CDC director on the appropriate uses of immunizing agents. On the agenda are discussions on the use of influenza vaccines to prevent and control pandemic influenza A (H1N1) and other aspects of this influenza. For more information about ACIP, go to: http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/ACIP/default.htm. For more information about the meeting, contact Antonette Hill at 404-639-8836.</p>

Presidential Documents – These documents are statements, messages, remarks, and other materials released by the White House.

Date Dept

None