

# FEDERAL REGISTER

## SUMMARY

May 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>	
5/7/09	HUD	<p><b>Request for applications—via HUD’s web site--under the Tax Credit Assistance Program (TCAP) as authorized in the <i>American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)</i>.</b></p> <p><b>Available funding: \$2.250 billion—must be fully expended by Feb. 2012.</b> ARRA is intended to provide a stimulus to the U.S. economy in the current economic downturn. Eligible applicants are the 52 State Housing Credit Agencies, including those in D.C. and the Commonwealth of Puerto, who will distribute funds for capital investment to eligible in Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) projects, i.e., developers of affordable rental housing for low-income households. Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) tenants are often housed in LIHTC project buildings. See the document at: <a href="http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-10686.htm">http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-10686.htm</a>.</p>
5/11/09	HUD  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development	<p><b>Request for action plans under the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG-R) as authorized in the <i>American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)</i>.</b></p> <p><b>Available funding: approximately \$ 1 billion.</b></p> <p>The CDBG program allows local governments to engage in activities that create suitable living environments and provide safe and affordable housing and economic opportunities for people of low-and moderate income. ARRA is providing the financial stimulus. Eligible applicants are state and local governments who will distribute funds, often to nonprofits. See the document at: <a href="http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-10968.htm">http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-10968.htm</a>.</p>
5/13/09	ED  Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE)	<p><b><u>FYI</u>: Request for applications – from Governors – via the Department’s web site under the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund Program.</b></p> <p><b>Available funding: \$53.6 billion</b></p> <p><b>Application deadline: 7/1/09 for Phase 1</b></p> <p>Authorized in the <i>American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)</i>, the stabilization fund is intended to aid in stabilizing state and local government budgets to prevent severe reductions in education and other services (public safety, renovations). The Department will award funds for education stabilization if states agree to advance education reform, including reforms in early education through post –secondary education. Initially (Phase 1), states who apply will receive a portion (67 %) of their allocation, unless they can prove that additional funds are required to prevent immediate layoffs. The Department anticipates awarding the remaining funds (Phase II) beginning on 7/1/09. The Department will soon provide guidance on the requirements needed for Phase II funding. See the document at: <a href="http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-11200.htm">http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-11200.htm</a>.</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>	
5/1/09	HHS	<b>Request for nominations for the newly formed Children’s Health Insurance Program Working Group.</b>
	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)	<b>Deadline for nominations: 6/1/09</b>
	DOL	Based on authorization contained in the <i>Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009</i> , the Secretaries of HHS and DOL are directed to establish a Medicaid, CHIP, and Employer-Sponsored Coverage Coordination Working Group (“the CHIP Working Group”). The Working Group is responsible for: developing an instrument (a form) to help states determine the availability and the cost-effectiveness of available coverage under group health plans for employees who have family members who are eligible for premium assistance under a state’s plan; identifying barriers to effective coordination of coverage for these families; and submitting the form and a report to the Secretaries of HHS and DOL. The Working Group will consist of 30 members, including representatives of HHS, DOL, state level Medicaid and children’s insurance offices, small employers, group health plans, and beneficiaries of medical assistance under Title XIX (Medicaid) or child health assistance. See the document at: <a href="http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-10083.htm">http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-10083.htm</a> .
5/8/09	CNCS	<b>Request for comments on the best way to implement and develop a strategic plan for the new <i>Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act</i>.</b>
	Corporation for National and Community Service	<b>Comment deadline: ASAP</b>
		The new law amends the <i>National Community Service Act of 1990</i> . CNCS is now authorized to not only expand existing programs but to also add several new service programs. With the increased funding, CNCS can now increase volunteer service numbers to 250,000, up from 75,000, double existing resources for youth with disabilities who participate in volunteer activities, create two competitive funds for organizations to launch or enhance local volunteer opportunities, and create a new service corps to help low-income communities. To assist commenters, CNCS has provided questions based on categories of need. See the document at: <a href="http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-10831.htm">http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-10831.htm</a> .

**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>	
5/6/09	HHS  Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)	<p><b>Request for comments on a proposal to rescind final rules covering Medicaid services reimbursement for 1) certain administrative and transportation expenses for school-age children (see the 12/28/07 “Final Rules” section of the <i>Federal Register Summary</i> or go to: <a href="http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/07-6220.htm">http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/07-6220.htm</a>); 2) the definition of outpatient hospital services (see the 11/7/08 “Final Rules” section of the <i>Federal Register Summary</i> or go to: <a href="http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-26554.htm">http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-26554.htm</a>); and 3) Optional State Plan Case Management, go to: <a href="http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/07-5903.htm">http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/07-5903.htm</a>).</b></p> <p>In the time since the publication of these rules, CMS has received more public input about the negative effects on beneficiaries that could result if these rules were implemented. CMS now intends to reconsider the approaches that were taken in formulating these rules and requests additional comments to help them answer questions related to the issues involved. For example, CMS wants specific examples of the problems and the scope and nature of the problems that could result, and specific examples of the potential problems that could result if these rules were implemented. See the document at: <a href="http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-10494.htm">http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-10494.htm</a>.</p>
5/8/09	SSA	<p><b>Withdrawn proposed rule related to age categories in determining disability in Title II (disability programs) and Title XVI (Supplemental Security Income) (see the 11/4/05 “Proposed Rules” section of the <i>Federal Register Summary</i> or go to: <a href="http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/05-21975.htm">http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/05-21975.htm</a>).</b></p> <p><b>Effective date: 5/8/09</b></p> <p>SSA received close to 900 comments on the 2005 proposed rule, and has decided to withdraw the proposal so that the agency can continue to consider public input and information from other sources. See the document at: <a href="http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-10733.htm">http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-10733.htm</a>.</p>
5/11/09	VARIOUS	<p><b>Request for comments on the spring 2009 edition of the Unified Agenda of Federal Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions.</b></p> <p><b>Comment deadline: none.</b></p> <p>The unified agenda, which is authorized in the <i>Regulatory Flexibility Act</i>, is published twice a year. It contains information about regulatory actions that federal agencies plan to take. Entries in the unified agenda appear in one of five stages: pre-rule, proposed rule, final rule, long-term actions, and completed actions. According to publication requirements, only certain regulatory information is printed in the <i>Federal Register</i>. The complete unified agenda and an introduction to the agenda can be found at: <a href="http://reginfo.gov">http://reginfo.gov</a>, in keeping with actions begun in 2007 to use, as much as possible, electronic transmission to communicate with the public. Of significance are agendas for the Departments of Agriculture, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development, Justice, Labor, and Transportation and for the Environmental Protection Agency and the Federal Communications Commission.</p>

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

Date            Dept.

None

**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.

5/1/09	HHS  Office of the Secretary – Working Group on Strengthening the Biosecurity of the United States	<p><b>Meeting Dates:</b> 5/13 and 5/14/09 at 8:30 a.m.  <b>Meeting Place:</b> The Hyatt Regency-Bethesda, 7400 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD  <b>Note: Pre-registration is encouraged at:</b>  <a href="https://www.medicalcountermeasures.gov/StrengtheningBiosecurity2009">https://www.medicalcountermeasures.gov/StrengtheningBiosecurity2009</a>.  HHS has called for a “public consultation” meeting of the Working Group that was established by Executive Order in January 2009. The Working Group’s mission: “reviewing, evaluating, analyzing and making recommendations to the President regarding the current laws, regulations, guidance, and practices of laboratories (including clinical and environmental facilities) that conduct research or handle, store, or transport biological select agents and toxins in the United States.” In 180 days, the Working Group is required to issue a report on any new laws, regulations, guidance, etc., and options for establishing oversight mechanisms. On the agenda are six panels that will cover issues related to selecting agents or toxins that may pose a public health threat, the facilities that process these agents, transportation and oversight, and culture of security and training programs. Public comments are encouraged. For more information about medical countermeasures, use the web address given above. For more information about the meeting or to be put on the speakers’ list, contact Dr. Laura Kwinn at 202-260-0666 (voice), 202-205-8508 (fax), or at <a href="mailto:Biosecurity.workgroup@hhs.gov">Biosecurity.workgroup@hhs.gov</a>. The complete agenda can be found at the pre-registration address given above.</p>
5/7/09	HHS  National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC)	<p><b>Meeting Dates:</b> 6/2/09 at 9:00 a.m. and 6/3/09 at 8:30 a.m.  <b>Meeting Place:</b> HHS Building, 200 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C.  NVAC advises and makes recommendations to the Director of the National Vaccine Program which was established to prevent human infectious diseases through immunization. On the agenda is vaccine safety, the National Vaccine Plan, vaccine stockpile and financing, just to name a few. For a full agenda, and more information about NVAC, go to: <a href="http://www.hhs.gov/nvpo/nvac">www.hhs.gov/nvpo/nvac</a>. For more information about the meeting, contact Andrea Krull at 202-690-5566 or at <a href="mailto:nvpo@hhs.gov">nvpo@hhs.gov</a>.</p>

- 5/13/09 HHS **Meeting Dates: 6/4/09 at 1:00 p.m. and 6/5/09 at 9:00 a.m. (Eastern Time)**  
**Meeting Place: via audio conference call. Dial 1-888-790-1959, then enter the Leader's Name as Dr. Geoffrey Evans, and the Password as ACCV.**  
 Heath Resources and Services  
 Administration's (HRSA) Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines (ACCV)  
 ACCV advises and makes recommendations to the Secretary of HHS regarding the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program. Some of the agenda items include updates from agencies and departments such as the Division of Vaccine Injury Compensation, the Department of Justice, and the National Vaccine Program Office. For more information about meeting or to register to make public comments, contact Michelle Herzog at [mherzog@hrsa.gov](mailto:mherzog@hrsa.gov).
- 5/14/09 NIH **Meeting Dates: 6/11 and 6/12/09 at 8:30 a.m.**  
**Meeting Place: Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. and via web cast at:**  
 Secretary's Advisory Committee on Genetics, Health, and Society (SACGHS)  
[http://oba.od.nih.gov/SACGHS/sacghs\\_about.html](http://oba.od.nih.gov/SACGHS/sacghs_about.html).  
 SACGHS serves as a public forum for deliberations on a variety of human health and societal issues related to genetics. On the agenda are discussions on genetics and the future health care system, genetics education and training, and updates on regulations and other matters. Public comments are welcome. To provide comments, contact Sarah Carr at 301-496-9838 or at [carrs@od.nih.gov](mailto:carrs@od.nih.gov). For more information about this committee, prior meeting information, and a draft agenda, use the web address given above. For more information about the meeting, contact Sarah Carr using the information given above.

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

Date            Dept

None