

FEDERAL REGISTER

SUMMARY

May 16-31 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>	
5/18/09	HUD	<p>Request for applications under the Green Retrofit Program for Multifamily Housing as authorized under the <i>American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)</i>.</p> <p>Available funding: \$250 million</p> <p>Applications available: 6/15/09</p> <p>ARRA will provide funding to applicants who are already HUD assisted either through the Section 8 project-based program (rental assistance through vouchers that are tied to the units, not the tenants, for persons with low incomes) or the Section 811 program (housing for persons with disabilities). The purpose of the funding is to upgrade older federally assisted multi-family apartment developments with the latest energy efficient technologies, making approximately 25,000 units more energy efficient and improving the living conditions of low-income families. See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-11556.htm.</p>
	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner	
5/27/09	ED	<p>FYI: Request for applications under the Teacher Quality Partnership Grants Program (TQP).</p> <p>Estimated available funds: \$143,000,000 (\$43,000,000 from the Department of education and \$100,000,000 from the <i>American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)</i></p> <p>Deadline for intent to apply: 6/26/09</p> <p>Application deadline: 7/23/09</p> <p>In addition to ARRA, TQP is also authorized in the <i>Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEA)</i> and the <i>Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)</i>. TQP was put in place to improve student achievement and the quality of teacher performance in both general and special education, and to hold teacher preparation programs at institutions of higher education (IHEs) accountable. Through partnerships among IHEs, high-need school districts (local educational agencies), high-need schools, and high-need early childhood education programs, the Department hopes to make grants that will bring about the need improvements. See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-12180.htm.</p>
	Office of Innovation and Improvement	

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>	
5/21/09	HHS	<p>Request for nominations for three vacancies on the ACCV. Deadline for nominations: 6/22/09</p> <p>Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines (ACCV) ACCV, which is authorized in the <i>Public Health Service Act</i>, advises the Secretary of HHS on implementation issues related to the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP), and on the need to have vaccine products with fewer or no significant adverse reactions. The three vacancies are for voting members. In addition to wanting a representative who is a health professional and one who is a manufacturer's attorney, a member of the general public is also needed. For more information about ACCV, including prior meeting minutes, go to: http://www.hrsa.gov/Vaccinecompensation/accv.htm. See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-11928.htm.</p>
5/28/09	HHS	<p>Request for comments on a proposal to establish regional centers to assist providers who are looking to become users of health information technology. Comment deadline: 6/11/09</p> <p>Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology As outlined in the <i>American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009</i> (ARRA), and the <i>HITECH Act</i>, HHS wants comments on its proposed goals to assist certain regional providers in their efforts to successfully implement electronic health records (EHRs). The proposed goals are intended to assist clinicians and hospitals by encouraging adoption of EHRs, assisting them to become successful users of EHRs, and increasing the probability of their success with EHRs. See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-12419.htm.</p>

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>	
5/20/09	EEOC	<p>Request for comments on EEOC's proposal to amend some of its existing regulations by including references to Title II of the <i>Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008</i> (GINA). Comment deadline: 7/20/09</p> <p>Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Title II of GINA prohibits employment discrimination based on genetic information. The law will become effective on 11/29/09, and will cover employers with 15 or more employees, employment agencies, labor unions, federal government employees, and joint labor-management training programs. EEOC proposes to amend some of its procedural and administrative rules to correspond to Title II. See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-11560.htm.</p>

5/26/09 ED **Request for comments, establishment of negotiated rulemaking committees, and public hearings—*Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA)*.
Comment deadline: 6/23/09**
 Office of Postsecondary Education
 HEA, which was signed on 8/14/08, authorizes Pell Grant scholarships and other financial aid, and model comprehensive transition and postsecondary programs for students with intellectual disabilities. In addition, it authorizes funds to improve teacher preparation and address personnel shortages for special and general education programs. One of the negotiated rulemaking committees will develop proposed rules dealing with topics such as satisfactory academic progress, verification of information on student aid applications, and definition of a high school diploma for those seeking financial aid. The public hearings are scheduled for: 6/15 and 16 in Denver; 6/18 and 6/19 in Little Rock; and 6/22 and 6/23 in Philadelphia—all scheduled between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Following these public hearings, two public forums will be held concurrently. See the document at: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-12092.htm>.

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	
5/27/09	HHS Administration for Children and Families (ACF)	Request for comments on the use of “carry-over” funds under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Comment deadline: 7/27/09 Effective date: 5/27/09 Based on provisions in the <i>American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)</i> , the economic stimulus package, HHS wants to change the use of carry-over funds so that they are used for “any allowable TANF benefit, service or activity.” TANF, which is authorized in the <i>Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act</i> , provides temporary assistance, through block grants to the states, while focusing primarily on employment to move people off of assistance. Prior to this rule, carry-over funds could only be used for financial assistance. See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-12187.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:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	
5/19/09	HHS Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)	Meeting Date: 6/11/09 at 8:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.—open portion of the meeting Meeting Place: NIH, Building 31, 31 Center Drive, C-Wing, Conference Room 6, Bethesda, MD NICHD conducts and supports research on issues related to the health of children, adults, families, and populations. On the agenda is an update on the <i>American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009</i> (ARRA) activities. For more information about NICHD, go to: http://www.nichd.nih.gov/about/ . For information about the meeting, contact Yvonne T. Maddox, Ph.D., at 301-496-1848.
5/21/09	EAC U.S. Election Assistance Commission	Meeting Dates: 6/2 and 6/3/09 at 8:00 a.m. and 6/4/09 at 9:00 a.m. Meeting Place: Hamilton Crowne Plaza Hotel, Oasis Room at the Sphinx Club, 1315 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. EAC serves as a clearinghouse on federal election administration and oversees voting system guidelines. On the agenda are updates on program activities, and on the next steps for the proposed Voluntary Voting System Guidelines, and a discussion on Election Day Data Grants Program. For more information on EAC, go to: http://www.eac.gov . For more information on the meeting, contact Bryan Whitener at 202-566-3100.
5/28/09	HHS Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)	Meeting Dates: 6/24-26/09 at 8:00 a.m. Meeting Place: CDC, Tom Harkin Global Communications Center, 1600 Clifton Road, NE, Building 19, Kent "OZ" Nelson Auditorium, Atlanta, GA ACIP is responsible for advising the Director of CDC on the appropriate use of immunizing agents. On the agenda are discussions on general recommendations, vaccine supply, and vaccine safety, just to name a few. 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.
5/29/09	HHS Office of Public Health and Science - President's Council on Bioethics	Meeting Dates: 6/25 and 6/26/09 at 9:00 a.m. Meeting Place: The Ritz Carlton, 1150 22nd Street, NW, Washington, D.C. The Council advises the President on ethical issues related to advances in biomedical science and technology. Prior discussions and reports by the Council have included topics such as the ethics of human cloning, stem cell research, new biotechnologies, ethical caregiving, newborn screen, etc. Reports are expected on organ transplantation, health care reform, and the future of national bioethics committees. A full agenda will be posted at: http://www.bioethics.gov prior to the meeting. For more information about the meeting or to submit written or to arrange for oral testimony, contact Diane M. Gianelli at 202-296-4669 or at info@bioethics.gov .

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

Date

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None