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[FR Doc. 2017–03936 Filed 2–28–17; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–JE–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Hydrographic Services Review Panel Meeting

AGENCY: National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of open public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Hydrographic Services Review Panel (HSRP) will hold a meeting that will be open to the public and public comments are requested in advance or during the meeting.

Information about the HSRP meeting, agenda, presentations, webinar and background documents will be posted online at: http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/ocs/hsrp/meetings_seattle2017.htm.

DATES: The meeting is April 18–20, 2017. The agenda and times are subject to change. For updates, please check online at: http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/ocs/hsrp/meetings_seattle2017.htm.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lynne Mersfelder-Lewis, HSRP program manager, National Ocean Service, Office of Coast Survey, NOAA (N/NSD), 1315 East-West Highway, SSMC3 #6301, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910; telephone: 301–713–2750; email: Lynne.Mersfelder@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public, seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, and public comment is encouraged. There are public comment periods scheduled each day and noted in the agenda. Each individual or group making verbal comments will be limited to a total time of five (5) minutes and will be recorded. For those not onsite, comments can be submitted via the webinar or via email in writing. Individuals who would like to submit written statements in advance, during or after the meeting should email their comments to Lynne.Mersfelder@noaa.gov. The HSRP will provide webinar capability for the public sessions. Pre-registration is required to access the webinar. Additional information on the webinar will be posted and is available from Lynne.Mersfelder@noaa.gov or online at: http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/ocs/hsrp/meetings_seattle2017.htm.

The Hydrographic Services Review Panel (HSRP) is a Federal Advisory Committee established to advise the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, the NOAA Administrator, on matters related to the responsibilities and authorities set forth in section 303 of the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998, as amended, and such other appropriate matters that the Under Secretary refers to the Panel for review and advice. The charter and other information are located online at: http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/ocs/hsrp/meetings.htm.

Matters To Be Considered: The panel is convening to hear federal, state, regional and local partners and stakeholders on issues relevant to NOAA’s navigation services, focusing on the Pacific Northwest including the states of Washington and Oregon as well as national issues. Navigation services include the data, products, and services provided by the NOAA programs and activities that undertake geodetic observations, gravity modeling, shoreline mapping, bathymetric mapping, hydrographic surveying, nautical charting, tide and water level observations, current observations, and marine modeling. This suite of NOAA products and services support safe and efficient navigation, resilient coasts and communities, and the nationwide positioning information infrastructure to support America’s commerce. The Panel will hear from state and federal agencies, non-federal organizations and partners about their missions and their use of NOAA’s navigation services; what value these services bring; and what improvements could be made. Other administrative matters may be considered. The agenda is subject to change.

Special Accommodations: This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Please direct requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids to Lynne.Mersfelder@noaa.gov by April 3, 2017.


Shepard Smith,
Director, Office of Coast Survey, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2017–03934 Filed 2–28–17; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–JE–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Final Environmental Impact Statement for the East Campus Integration Program, Fort Meade, Maryland

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense (DoD) announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as part of the environmental planning process for the East Campus Integration Program at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland (hereafter referred to as Fort Meade). The DoD proposes to continue to develop operational complex and headquarters space at the National Security Agency’s (NSA) East Campus on Fort Meade for use by NSA and the Intelligence Community.

DATES: The Final EIS is available for a 30-day period following publication of the Notice of Availability.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Final EIS are available at the Medal of Honor Memorial Library, 4418 Llewellyn Avenue, Fort Meade, MD 20755; Glen Burnie Regional Library, 1010 Eastway, Glen Burnie, MD 21060; Odenton Regional Library, 1325 Annapolis Road, Odenton, MD 21113; and Severn Community Library, 2624 Annapolis Road, Severn, Maryland 21144.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request copies of the Final EIS, please send an email to ECIP/EIS@bdrcinc.com. For further information, please call 301–688–2970.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide facilities that are fully supportive of the Intelligence Community’s function and to continue to integrate the East Campus with the NSA Main Campus. The need for the action is to meet mission requirements, both internally at the NSA and within the Intelligence Community. The EIS considered four options for emergency power generation; two options for building heating systems; four options for locations of parking facilities; acquisition of additional space at two existing, offsite leased locations; and the No Action Alternative.
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; Strengthening Institutions Program

AGENCY: Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

Overview Information: Strengthening Institutions Program.
Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2017.
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.031A.

DATES:
Applications Available: March 1, 2017
Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 17, 2017

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP) provides grants to eligible institutions of higher education (IHEs) to help them become self-sufficient and expand their capacity to serve low-income students by providing funds to improve and strengthen the institution’s academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability.

Note: The Department of Education (Department) is conducting two separate competitions for SIP grants in 2017. This competition (CFDA number 84.031A) does not include any priorities. The Department is conducting a separate competition under the 84.031F CFDA number. In that competition applicants must address an absolute priority and may address a competitive priority. The 84.031F competition will be announced in a separate Federal Register notice. Applicants may apply for grants in both the 84.031A and 84.031F competitions, but can only receive one grant.

Definitions: These definitions apply to the selection criteria for this competition and are from 34 CFR 77.1.

Logic model (also referred to as theory of action) means a well-specified conceptual framework that identifies key components of the proposed process, product, strategy, or practice (i.e., the “active” “ingredients” that are hypothesized to be critical to achieving the relevant outcomes) and describes the relationships among the key components and outcomes, theoretically and operationally.

Note: In developing logic models, applicants may want to use resources such as the Pacific Education Laboratory’s Education Logic Model Application (http://relpacific.mcrel.org/resources/elm-app/ or http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED544779.pdf) to help design their logic models.

Relevant outcome means the student outcome(s) (or the ultimate outcome if not related to students) the proposed process, product, strategy, or practice is designed to improve; consistent with the specific goals of a program.

Strong theory means a rationale for the proposed process, product, strategy, or practice that includes a logic model.


Note: In 2008, the HEA was amended by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (HEOA), Public Law 110–315. The HEOA made a number of technical and substantive revisions to SIP. Please note that the regulations for SIP in 34 CFR part 607 have not been updated to reflect these statutory changes.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 75, 77, 79, 80, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The Education Department suspension and debarment regulations in 2 CFR part 3485. (c) The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3474. (d) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 607.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to IHEs only.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grant.
Five-year Individual Development Grants will be awarded in FY 2017.
Cooperative Arrangement Development Grants will not be made in FY 2017.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration has requested $86,534,000 for awards for the SIP program for FY 2017, of which we intend to use an estimated $3,699,000 for this competition. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Contingent upon the availability of funds and the quality of applications, we may make additional awards in FY 2018 from the list of unfunded applications from this competition.

Estimated Range of Awards: $400,000–$450,000 per year.
Estimated Average Size of Awards: $415,000 per year.

Maximum Award: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding $450,000 for a single budget period of 12 months.

Estimated Number of Awards: 8–9.

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

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants: This program is authorized by title III, part A, of the HEA. To qualify as an eligible institution under any title III, part A program, an institution must—

(a) Be accredited or preaccredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association that the Secretary has determined to be a reliable authority as to the quality of education or training offered;

(b) Be legally authorized by the State in which it is located to be a junior or community college or to provide an educational program for which it awards a bachelor’s degree;

(c) Be designated as an “eligible institution” by demonstrating that it: (1) Has an enrollment of needy students as described in 34 CFR 607.3; and (2) has low average educational and general expenditures per full-time equivalent (FTE) undergraduate student as described in 34 CFR 607.4.

Note: The notice announcing the FY 2017 process for designation of eligible institutions, and inviting applications for waiver of eligibility requirements, was published in the Federal Register on November 25, 2016 (81 FR 85210). Only institutions that the Department determines are eligible, or which are granted a waiver under the process described in that notice, may apply for a grant in this program.

Relationship Between the Title III, Part A Programs and the Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Program

A grantee under the HSI program, which is authorized under title V of the HEA, may not receive a grant under any HEA, title III, part A program. The title III, part A programs are: SIP; the Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities program; the Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions program; the Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions program; and the Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions program.