

FEDERAL GRANTS & CONTRACTS WEEKLY

The Inside Guide to Finding and Winning Federal Funds

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HUD SuperNOFA maintains funds for universities

The Housing and Urban Development Department unveiled its fiscal 2008 omnibus grant announcement, which covers \$1 billion in grant funds over 35 individual programs, including university programs.

The SuperNOFA includes funds for graduate research to support doctoral students who focus studies on policy-relevant housing and urban development issues.

HUD also funds minority institutions to expand their role in providing needed services in their communities, such as health care, jobs creation, training and economic development. Funding for higher education programs is stable this year, but there are program modifications.

(Sample HUD opportunities on page 4)

(See SuperNOFA on page 8)

Disabilities Council to fund housing, workforce grants

The National Council on Disabilities announced it will fund a comprehensive study of the state of housing for individuals with disabilities here and abroad.

The review aims to determine whether public, nonprofit and private housing are meeting the needs of individuals, including the elderly, who have special accessibility requirements.

Starting next week, universities, nonprofits and others can apply for up to \$100,000 to examine current practices and policies at the local, state, national and international level.

(See DISABILITIES on page 8)

Grants alert

Peace research (USIP)

Scope: The U.S. Institute of Peace seeks applications to support research, education, training and information dissemination related to international peace and conflict resolution.

Deadline: Applicants may apply at any time during the year for the solicited competition, but Oct. 1 is the only receipt date for the unsolicited round. **USIP will send applications only to those who have e-mailed a brief (one or two page) preproposal.**

Funds: Based on the scope of work. Grants range from \$40,000 to \$200,000, usually for two years.

Eligibility: U.S. and foreign individuals and nonprofit organizations, including colleges and universities.

Areas: USIP gives priority to projects that are likely to generate findings of interest to policymakers and practitioners and have an impact on the field.

SOLICITED: Applications must address topics under one of two solicitation categories.

• **Conflict prevention, conflict management, and post-conflict peace building in Afghanistan, Colombia, Iraq, Nigeria, Pakistan and Sudan.** USIP will give preference to projects involving nonprofit organizations based in those countries.

• **Projects relating to Iran.** USIP will give priority to initiatives focusing on Iranian relations with the West and with its neighbors in the region, and on Iran's role in regional and international affairs.

UNSOLICITED: Interest areas cross disciplines and approaches. Examples are: international conflict resolution; diplomacy; negotiation theory; methods of third-party dispute settlement; international law; international organizations and collective security; deterrence and balance of power; arms control; psychological theories about international conflict; the role of nonviolence and nonviolent sanctions; moral and ethical thought related to conflict and its resolution; theories about relationships among political institutions, human rights and conflict.

➔ www.usip.org/grants/index.html

(more)

Grants alert (cont.)

Predominantly Black institutions (ED)

Scope: The Education Department invites applications to strengthen predominantly Black higher education institutions that conduct programs in selected areas, including STEM.

Deadline: June 27.

Funds: \$15 million for 25 awards up to \$600,000 a year. The project period is two years.

Eligibility: Applicant institutions must meet specific requirements relating to student enrollment; student income and other characteristics; and per pupil expenditure.

Areas: Institutions should have programs in: science, technology; engineering or mathematics; health education; internationalization or globalization; teacher preparation; or improving educational outcomes of African American males.

→ www.ed.gov/news/fedregister

Native American Pacific Islander institutions (ED)

Scope: The Education Department invites applications from Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions and Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions to support institutional development.

Deadline: June 26.

Funds: \$5 million for four awards averaging \$1.3 million for two years for Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions; and for Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions.

Eligibility: An institution must have an enrollment of at least 10 percent of undergraduate students representing the particular institution's focus.

Areas: Activities are designed to improve their academic quality, increase self-sufficiency and strengthen their capacity to serve students.

→ www.ed.gov/news/fedregister

Advanced placement incentive (ED)

Scope: The Education Department invites applications to increase successful participation of low-income students in advanced placement courses and tests.

Deadline: July 7.

Funds: \$1 million for first-year funding of 21 grants. The project period is up to three years.

Eligibility: State and local education agencies; national nonprofit educational entities with expertise in AP services.

Applicants must identify target schools and demonstrate their eligibility.

Areas: ED will fund only applications proposing to: expand low-income students' access to AP by: expanding AP programs in English, mathematics and science in high schools with a high concentration of low-income students; involve business and community entities; provide matching funds to defray costs.

ED is particularly interested in projects that compensate AP teachers for completing intensive professional development; and offer teachers financial incentives for student test performance.

ED also will award:

- Four extra points for programs to enable students to achieve proficiency or develop programs in one or more of these languages: Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Russian and languages in the Indic, Iranian and Turkic language families.
- One extra point for plans to increase AP access via on-line courses.

→ www.ed.gov/news/fedregister

Underground Railroad Program (ED)

Scope: The Education Department's Office of Post-secondary Education invites applications for grants for educational and cultural activities focused on the history of the Underground Railroad.

Deadline: June 12.

Funds: \$500,000 for two awards to \$1 million over three years. Cost-sharing is 20 percent.

Eligibility: Nonprofit education organizations.

Areas: Grantees must be established to research, display, interpret and collect artifacts related to the history of the Underground Railroad; and they must create an endowment to fund any shortfalls in the costs of the on-going facility operations.

→ www.ed.gov/news/fedregister



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Grants alert (cont.)

Methods, Measurement, Statistics (NSF)

Scope: The National Science Foundation invites proposals to develop innovative analytical and statistical methods and models for use in the social, behavioral and economic sciences.

Deadline: Aug. 16 and Jan. 16.

Funds: \$3.5 million for 40 to 50 awards of varying amounts and duration. Recent awards have ranged from \$7,000 to \$850,000.

Eligibility: U.S. colleges and universities; non-profit, non-academic organizations, such as independent museums, observatories, research laboratories and professional societies and organizations directly associated with educational or research activities; for-profit organizations and state and local governments, including school districts and state education agencies.

Areas: Potential topics include: measurement issues; questionnaire design; survey design and technology; analytical issues; and small area estimation.

→ www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08561/nsf08561.htm

ROSES competitions (NASA)

Scope: The National Aeronautics and Space Administration invites proposals under its fiscal 2008 Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences program.

Eligibility: Domestic/foreign nonprofit and for-profit organizations.

Areas: Newly announced competitions include:

• **Advanced Component Technology:** Proposals for technology development should focus on new component- and subsystem-level airborne and space-based measurement techniques to support the Science Mission Directorate's Earth Science Division. **Due:** May 30 for letters; July 30 for applications. **Funds:** Up to \$360,000 a year each for 10 to 12 awards. *NNH08ZDA001N-ADT*

• **Geospace Science:** Projects focus on understanding the space that surrounds various solar system bodies. Studies range over regions beginning with the Earth's upper atmosphere, through the ionosphere and into and beyond the magnetosphere. Activities include research, modeling, analysis and interpretation of space data; development of new instrument concepts and laboratory measurements of relevant atomic and plasma parameters. **Due:** July 18. **Funds:** \$3 million total for up to 29 projects for three or four years. *NNH08ZDA001N-ADT-GEO*

→ www.grants.gov/search/basic.do (enter *NNH08ZDA001N** for a list of ROSES grant competitions. Search for the FON#s above)

COPS Secure Our Schools (DoJ)

Scope: The Justice Department COPS invites applications to develop school safety resources and improve security in schools and on school grounds.

Deadline: June 13.

Funds: \$13 million.

Eligibility: All law enforcement agencies nationwide. Applicants should contact and develop partnerships with area schools that need to enhance or improve school safety and security equipment or measures.

Areas: The program funds up to 50 percent of the total cost to implement one or more of the following: placement and use of metal detectors, locks, lighting and other deterrent measures; security assessments; security training of personnel and students; coordination with local law enforcement; and/or any other measure to provide a significant improvement in security.

→ www.cops.usdoj.gov/default.asp?Item=240

Tribal resources grants (DoJ)

Scope: The Justice Department's COPS Office solicits applications to address needs of tribal law enforcement.

Deadline: June 13.

Funds: Up to \$15 million for grants of up to \$200,000 for agencies with 20 or fewer sworn officer positions, and a cap of \$400,000 for agencies with at least 21 positions.

Eligibility: All federally recognized tribes with established police departments.

Areas: The program seeks to enhance tribal law enforcement infrastructure and community policing efforts. Funding options include: officer background investigations; law enforcement training; uniforms, basic issue equipment, department-wide technology and vehicles for officers.

→ www.cops.usdoj.gov/default.asp?Item=240

Edward Byrne national initiatives (DoJ)

Scope: The Justice Department seeks applications to help communities improve the capacity of local justice systems, including training programs to improve safety on school, college and university campuses.

Deadline: June 11.

Funds: \$15 million for awards varying in size, depending on the project scope. Grants are for one year.

Eligibility: National, regional, state, or local public and private entities, including higher education institutions; nonprofits and for-profits that waive their fees.

Areas: Activities include training and technical assistance programs. Categories include: preventing crime and drug abuse, including public education programs focused on prescription drug abuse; enhancing local law enforcement; enhancing local courts; enhancing local corrections and offender reentry; and facilitating information sharing.

→ www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/solicitations.htm

(more)

Grants alert (cont.)

University research; dissertations (HUD)

Scope: The Housing and Urban Development Department seeks applications for doctoral students to research policy issues and doctoral candidates to complete their research and dissertations.

Deadline: June 12.

Funds: \$400,000 total for the two programs: includes \$100,000 total for early doctoral student research grants of up to \$15,000 each for one year; and \$300,000 total for dissertation research grants up to \$25,000 each for two years.

Eligibility: Doctorate granting institutions.

Areas: Interests are: increasing minority homeownership, including simplifying the process, counter predatory lending and helping low-income homeowners avoid default and foreclosure; promoting decent affordable housing; strengthening communities; ensuring equal housing opportunity; fostering high standards of ethics, management and accountability; and promoting participation of faith-based and community organizations.

➔ www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/fundsavail.cfm#avail; or www.grants.gov/search/basic.do (enter FON # "FR-5200-N-22")

Minority colleges, universities (HUD)

Scope: The Housing and Urban Development Department seeks applications to expand the role and effectiveness of minority colleges and universities in the development of their local communities.

Deadline: July 2.

Funds: *Historically Black Colleges and Universities*, \$9 million for awards up to \$700,000; *Tribal Colleges and Universities*, \$5 million for awards up to \$750,000; *Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Institutions*; \$3 million for awards up to \$800,000; and *Hispanic-Serving Institutions Assisting Communities*, \$6 million, for awards of up to \$600,000. The project period is three years.

Eligibility: Minority institutions as specifically defined.

➔ www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/fundsavail.cfm#avail

Housing counseling training program (HUD)

Scope: The Housing and Urban Development Department seeks applications for cooperative agreements for training activities designed to improve and standardize the quality of counseling provided by HUD-approved housing counseling agencies.

Deadline: July 9.

Funds: \$3 million for multiple awards for 12 months.

Eligibility: Nonprofits with at least two years experience providing housing counseling training services; or experience providing Home Equity Conversion Mortgage.

Areas: Applicants must provide training on all topics listed below (except applicants proposing to provide HECM counseling training): general housing counseling; credit counseling; matching clients with loan products; homebuyer education; Section 8 homeownership; avoiding delinquency and predatory lending; foreclosure prevention; home equity conversion mortgages; home maintenance and financial management; counseling the homeless or at risk; disaster victims counseling; HUD's housing counseling program requirements; rental housing; and federal housing administration.

➔ www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/fundsavail.cfm#avail; or www.grants.gov/search/basic.do (enter FON "FR-5200-N-02")

Healthy Homes demonstrations (HUD)

Scope: The Housing and Urban Development Department solicits applications to develop, demonstrate and promote cost-effective measures to correct residential safety and health hazards that produce serious diseases and injuries in children and other vulnerable populations, such as the elderly.

Deadline: July 17.

Funds: \$4.4 million for four or five awards up to \$875,000 each for up to three years.

Eligibility: Colleges, universities, nonprofit organizations and state, local and tribal governments and agencies, including housing authorities.

Areas: HUD seeks proposals that provide for a coordinated cost-effective approach to address multiple hazards caused by a limited number of building deficiencies.

Types of activities include: development of efficient assessment and intervention strategies that take into account the range of unhealthy conditions encountered and maximizes the treatment; and sampling and analysis for lead, allergens, carbon monoxide and other environmental and safety hazards. The emphasis is on low-income populations.

Tip: *Related programs in HUD's SuperNOFA include: Lead-based Hazard Control grants (\$70.4 million); Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration grants (\$44 million); Operation Lead Elimination Action (\$17.5 million); Lead Technical Studies (\$2.2 million); and Lead Outreach Grants (\$1.5 million).*

➔ www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/fundsavail.cfm#avail, or www.grants.gov/search/basic.do (enter FON # "FR-5200-N-17")

Grants alert (cont.)

Child welfare training (HHS/ACF)

Scope: The Health and Human Services Department's Administration for Children and Families invites applications to develop, test, implement, evaluate and disseminate a curriculum for training child welfare professionals.

Deadline: July 7.

Funds: \$250,000 a year each for one award. The project period is five years.

Eligibility: Higher education institutions.

Areas: The curriculum will address healthy marriage and relationship skills for populations underserved in the general population and overrepresented in the child welfare system. ACF is particularly interested in evaluation of the effectiveness of the curriculum and its replication and dissemination nationally.

➔ www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2008-ACF-ACYF-CT-0057.html

Patient navigator (HHS/HRSA)

Scope: The Health Resources and Services Administration invites applications for demonstration projects to implement patient navigator systems designed to improve health services by helping patients find their way through the healthcare maze.

Deadline: May 22 for letters; June 13 for applications.

Funds: \$2 million for awards of \$500,000 each for two years.

Eligibility: Public and nonprofit health centers, hospitals, cancer centers, rural health clinics or academic health centers.

Areas: Navigators help people obtain information, screening, treatment and support services in inpatient and outpatient settings, with the goal of increasing healthier lifestyles, disease prevention and reduction of health barriers to care and healthcare disparities. The program outlines six objectives, but applicants have flexibility to tailor projects to communities, enter into partnerships and design services, credentialing, training or certification and program structure to local circumstances and needs.

➔ Erica Pearson (301)443-8419; ✉ eperson@hrsa.gov; www.hrsa.gov

Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (HRSA)

Scope: The Health Resources and Services Administration seeks applications to expand coordination of services between the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and community health centers to improve prevention, identification and support of individuals with FASD.

Deadline: June 10.

Funds: \$972,704 for a single one-year project.

Eligibility: Higher education institutions; nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status; state, local and Native American organizations. Applicants must have significant experience with issues related to FASD.

Areas: The program focuses on early detection, education, and intervention related to FASD to help women address drinking problems and to abstain from alcohol during pregnancy.

➔ www.hrsa.gov ("Grants")

State data for mental health services research (NIMH)

Scope: The National Institute of Mental Health seeks applications to use existing state administrative data to study the impact of changes in mental health policy.

Deadline: July 1 for letters; July 21 for applications.

Funds: \$2 million for five to eight new grants up to \$250,000 a year each over three years.

Eligibility: Higher education institutions; nonprofit organizations; for-profit entities. One project director/principal investigator must be an official state government representative.

Areas: Appropriate research projects include the impact of: financial policy changes on mental health service utilization; state-level implementation of a psychosocial intervention on service utilization and mental health outcomes; and a policy initiative targeting an underserved population.

➔ <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-09-050.html>

Collaborative studies (NIH)

Scope: The National Institutes of Health invites applications for collaborative studies in the Middle East and North Africa on HIV/AIDS.

Deadline: Oct. 16. The competition opens Aug. 7.

Funds: Awards range up to \$275,000 over two years.

Eligibility: Domestic and foreign for-profit and nonprofit public and private institutions and organizations.

Collaborations must involve U.S. investigators from U.S. institutions and one or more research teams in the North Africa-Middle Eastern region: Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Syria, Tunisia, West Bank and Gaza, and Yemen.

Areas: NIH seeks exploratory studies in areas such as: the incidence and prevalence of HIV in selected populations, for example, injection drug users, tuberculosis patients and sex workers; the sources of attitudinal and behavioral stigma; methods to prevent infected women's transmission to infants.

➔ <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-08-153.html> □

Foreign focus

HIV/AIDS capacity-building: Kenya (CDC)

Scope: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention seeks to provide technical assistance and capacity-building to expand HIV prevention, care and treatment activities for Kenyan non-military uniformed services and financial and logistical support for each of the uniformed services to implement HIV and infectious disease prevention and care.

Deadline: June 16.

Funds: \$2 million in first-year funding for one to three awards of \$500,000 to \$2 million each. The project period is five years.

Eligibility: Colleges, universities, hospitals, faith-based organizations; other nonprofit organizations; state and local governments; and for-profit entities.

Areas: Grantees collaborate with the CDC Kenya Office, the Kenyan Ministry of Health and others to scale-up non-military HIV/AIDS programs throughout the country.

➔ www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/PS08-825.htm

HIV clinical, community care: Botswana (CDC)

Scope: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention solicits applications to improve primary prevention of HIV infection and the care and treatment of HIV/AIDS in Botswana.

Deadline: June 16.

Funds: \$1.3 million for first-year funding of one award. The project period is five years.

Eligibility: Colleges, universities, hospitals, faith-based organizations; other nonprofit organizations; state and local governments; and for-profit entities.

Areas: The awardee will enhance services and interventions; train lay counselors, family welfare educators and nurses; increase the number of trained providers and program staff; increase the number and quality of primary prevention messages and information; increase the number of organizations with expertise in primary prevention; and expand the evidence base for prevention interventions in Botswana and the region.

➔ www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/PS08-821.htm

Health professionals training: Rwanda (CDC)

Scope: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention invites applications to help support and develop the public health capacity within Rwanda by strengthening education and training in public health and medical education.

Deadline: June 20.

Funds: \$1.2 million in first-year funds for one award. The project period is five years.

Eligibility: Colleges, universities, hospitals, faith-based organizations; other nonprofit organizations; state and local governments; and for-profit entities.

Areas: The grantee will help the National University of Rwanda to establish fellowships, a master's in public health program, a strategic information certificate program and a social work certificate program.

➔ www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/PS08-827

Nutrition rapid response: Ethiopia (USAID)

Scope: The U.S. Agency for International Development invites applications for nutrition-focused rapid assessment and response mechanisms to address urgent and chronic malnutrition among vulnerable populations.

Deadline: June 9 to be included in the first batch of applications reviewed. The RFA is open until Nov. 8.

Funds: Up to \$1 million for one year.

Eligibility: Universities, nonprofit organizations, U.S. and non-U.S. nongovernmental organizations. Applicants need not be registered, private voluntary organizations.

Areas: Grantee will support the emergency nutrition needs of vulnerable populations through a rapid response unit capable of conducting nutrition assessments and surveys; quickly initiate or expand existing community-based management of acute malnutrition programs; increase capacity of local partners and communities to respond to needs of target populations; and build capacity of the Ethiopian Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Agency.

➔ www.grants.gov/search/basic.do (enter FON "OFDA-FY08-006-APS")

Girls' primary education: Niger (USAID)

Scope: The U.S. Agency for International Development solicits applications to implement a program to promote girls' primary school education in the Republic of Niger.

Deadline: May 21 for questions; June 26 for proposals.

Funds: \$18 million over a three-year period for one or more awards.

Eligibility: Higher education institutions and nonprofits.

Areas: The program, aimed at reducing the disparities between boys' and girls' school completion rates, will construct "girl friendly" schools in up to 200 communities and implement education quality improvement interventions. Activities include developing the capacity of education officials in teaching reading subjects for girls and to monitor, evaluate and report activities; and provide gender-sensitive and gender equality training and materials to teachers and school officials, community leaders and associations in French and local languages.

➔ www.grants.gov/search/basic.do (enter FON "624-08-011") □

How to: Customize emergency plans for special needs

An Education Department Webinar this month pointed up the special challenges facing schools conducting emergency planning for individuals with disabilities—students and staff.

ED officials provided the broad view, focusing on evacuation safety, with tips echoed by pros in the field. Plan for evacuations with special needs in mind, taking into account schools' unique needs and hazards.

Step 1: Identify each individual student's needs. Cast a wide net to capture students who may have hidden impairments, such as asthma or panic attacks. Remember to account for students who may have temporary impairments.

Step 2: Once needs are identified, draw up an appropriate action plan.

- Confer with students and parents regarding preferences;
- Discuss preferences with local first responders;
- Provide training to responders on the range of special needs students may have and how those needs could affect evacuation; and
- Integrate each student's individual emergency plan with the larger plan that covers the school building to ensure plans are complementary.

Step 3: Conduct similar discussion with and planning for school staff with special needs.

Step 4: Put plans in regular practice, and make sure special needs students and classrooms are part of drills.

Key considerations:

Establish equipment needs.

- Determine the use of evacuation chairs in collaboration with local first responders and students and parents.
- Train multiple staff in use of equipment and procedures.

Find a safe place.

- Identify areas of refuge that meet safety specifications; and
- Have escape routes, or phones, two-way radios; a closing door; supplies, respirator masks.

Investigate evacuation practices and procedures for students with specific impairments.

- Mobility impairments: students may need help leaving a building without a working elevator;
- Sensor impairments: students with low vision may not be able to use traditional orientation/navigation methods and benefit from use of strobe lights or alerting devices;
- Cognitive/Psychiatric impairments: students may have specific ways of communicating that caregivers and parents can point out; and
- Respiratory impairments: students may need special products, such as evacuation hoods, masks and respirators in classroom preparedness kits. □

Before Tips from:

Bob Spears, director of emergency services, Los Angeles Unified School District

Identify students who may need additional support in an emergency; capture their information; define their needs.

Who can help?

- School safety committee
- Nurse
- Teachers
- Parents
- Individual Education Program Team

Capture their information. Once students are identified, the school computer can generate reports to be included in the emergency plan.

- Class schedules
- Parent contact information
- Health issues

Develop an emergency plan customized for each student in collaboration with school staff, parents, and students.

After Tips from:

Tom Gunnell, operations officer in the Cincinnati Public Schools

Implementation

- **Use the buddy system**—Enlist primary and secondary individuals to assume responsibility for each student, recruiting from among teachers, instructor assistants, and students trained in pre-determined evacuation and shelter-in-place strategies for students with disabilities/special needs.
- **Once evacuated, assess needs and request additional support**—Report evacuation status to incident commander. If a student is waiting in a refuge area, provide first responders with location, special needs assistance requirements and buddy, if assigned.
- **Shelter-in-Place strategies**—employ pre-set practices: use of personal go-kits that provide for immediate necessities; risk codes that identify students needing special attention; student wellness.

→ For information and resources, consult www.ed.gov/searchResults.jhtml □

HUD SuperNOFA maintains funds for universities (cont.)

Changes in programs this year include:

- Ineligibility for institutions that have received three or more grants under the program;
- A requirement that applicants must ensure 51 percent or more of grant funds will be used for the community and/or general public, not for the direct benefit of the institutions (affecting Hispanic-Serving Institutions and Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Institutions programs; the Historically Black Colleges and Institutions program); and
- A 20 percent cap on administrative costs for HBCUs.

Universities and nonprofits also are eligible applicants for an array of other housing and economic development programs.

For example, nonprofits may apply under a housing counselor training program, which provides comprehensive and ongoing training for housing counselors in areas ranging from

credit counseling to homebuyer education, avoiding delinquency and predatory lending, and preventing foreclosure.

Universities are eligible to apply for technical studies, training and demonstration programs.

HUD requires electronic applications via Grants.gov under nearly all programs, and the agency provides coaching and technical assistance activities to guide applicants through the process.

Individual program announcements, available in the May 12 *Federal Register* and at Grants.gov, provide detailed application instructions, down to application rating criteria and page length.

→ www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/fundsavail.cfm

→ For application assistance:

Webcasts: www.hud.gov/webcasts/schedule/

Training resources: www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/training/odgmottraining.cfm □

Disabilities Council to fund housing, workforce grants (cont.)

The one-year study will focus on: public laws, policies and program initiatives that affect housing opportunities; and housing, supports and other benefits available through the public and non-profit and/or private sectors. The research will identify current practices and policies at the local, state, national and international levels.

An expert panel will provide advice on the focus, design and evaluation of key issues, and will have a role in developing policy recommendations based on the research and its final report.

NCD also will provide \$75,000 for a year-long study on the status of the U.S. workforce infrastructure to support people with disabilities. The study will review:

- Existing public and private funding and resources targeted to building and/or strengthening communities' human services infrastructure;
- Barriers and gaps in services, supports and accommodations needed by individuals with disabilities; and
- Demonstrated approaches to successfully addressing identified barriers and gaps.

The study will delve into areas of current general concern about workforce weaknesses, also addressed recently in a major report from the National Academies, *Retooling for an Aging America: Building the Health Care*

Workforce." The grantee will focus on:

- Forces that shape the human services workforce, including education, training and salaries;
- Ongoing chronic shortages in areas of nursing, special education teachers, direct care workers for community-based services, personal assistants for independent living, rehabilitation counselors, mental health treatment professionals;
- Further decreases expected in human service workers as baby boomers retire; and
- Training for professionals geared towards understanding, working with and serving people with disabilities.

Applications will be available May 20 under both competitions and due July 1.

A third study sought by NCD will look inward and evaluate how the organization has met its congressional charge under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act. NCD reviews federal policies, programs and procedures concerning individuals with disabilities. With an eye to the statute's renewal, the grantee will develop recommendations to strengthen NCD's effectiveness.

Proposals are due June 18 for \$150,000 for a single one-year award.

→ Joan Durocher; ✉ jdurocher@ncd.gov; www.ncd.gov □