

SUBCHAPTER D—NATIONAL HIGHWAY INSTITUTE

PART 260—EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

Subpart A—Fellowship and Scholarship Grants

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APPENDIX A TO PART 260—REQUEST FOR USE OF FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY FUNDS FOR EDUCATION OR TRAINING (FORM FHWA-1422)

Subpart A—Fellowship and Scholarship Grants

AUTHORITY: 23 U.S.C. 307(a), 315, 321 and 403; and 49 CFR 1.48(b).

SOURCE: 43 FR 3558, Jan. 26, 1978, unless otherwise noted.

§ 260.101 Purpose.

To establish policy for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Fellowship and Scholarship Programs as administered by the National Highway Institute (NHI).

§ 260.103 Definitions.

As used in this regulation, the following definitions apply:

(a) *Candidate*. One who meets the eligibility criteria set forth in §260.107, and who has completed and submitted the necessary forms and documents in order to be considered for selection for a fellowship or scholarship.

(b) *Direct educational expenses*. Those expenses directly related to attending school including tuition, student fees, books, and expendable supplies but excluding travel expenses to and from the school.

(c) *Employing agency*. The agency for which the candidate works. This may be either a State or local highway/transportation agency or the FHWA.

(d) *Fellowship*. The grant presented to the recipient's school and administered by the school to assist the candidate financially during the period of graduate study.

(e) *Living stipend*. The portion of the fellowship or scholarship grant remaining after the direct educational expenses have been deducted.

(f) *Local highway/transportation agency*. The agency or metropolitan planning organization with the responsibility for initiating and carrying forward a highway program or public transportation program utilizing highways at the local level, usually the city or county level.

(g) *National Highway Institute (NHI)*. The organization located within the FHWA responsible for the administration of the FHWA fellowship and scholarship grant programs.

(h) *Recipient*. The successful candidate receiving a fellowship or scholarship.

(i) *Scholarship*. The grant presented to the recipient's school and administered by the school to assist the candidate financially during the period of post-secondary study.

(j) *State highway/transportation agency*. The agency with the responsibility for initiating and carrying forward a highway program or public transportation program utilizing highways at the State level.

§ 260.105 Policy.

It is the policy of the FHWA to administer, through the NHI, fellowship and scholarship grant programs to assist State and local agencies and the FHWA in developing the expertise needed for the implementation of their highway programs and to assist in the

development of more effective transportation programs at all levels of government. These programs shall provide financial support for up to 24 months of either full-time or part-time study in the field of highway transportation. The programs for each year shall be announced by FHWA notices.¹ These notices shall contain an application form and shall announce the number of grants to be awarded and their value.

[43 FR 3558, Jan. 26, 1978, as amended at 45 FR 67091, Oct. 9, 1980]

§ 260.107 Eligibility.

(a) Prior recipients of FHWA scholarships or fellowships are eligible if they will have completed all specific work commitments before beginning study under the programs for which applications are made.

(b) Candidates for the fellowship program shall have earned bachelor's or comparable college-level degrees prior to beginning advanced studies under the program.

(c) Candidates shall submit evidence of acceptance, or probable acceptance, for study in programs that will enhance their contributions to their employers. Evidence of probable acceptance may be a letter from the department chairman or other school official.

(d) Candidates shall agree to pursue certain minimum study loads as determined by the FHWA and designated in the FHWA notices announcing the programs each year.

(e) FHWA employees who receive awards will be required to execute continued service agreements, consistent with the Government Employees Training Act requirements, which obligate the employees to continue to work for the agency for three times the duration of the training received.

(f) Candidates who are students or employees of State or local highway/transportation agencies shall agree in writing to work on a full-time basis in public service with State or local highway/transportation agencies for a specified period of time after completing study under the program. The FHWA

notices announcing the programs each year shall specify the time period of the work commitment.

(g) Candidates shall agree to respond to brief questionnaires designed to assist the NHI in program evaluation both during and following the study period.

(h) Recipients of awards for full-time shall agree to limit their part-time employment as stipulated in the FHWA notice announcing the programs.

(i) Candidates shall not profit financially from FHWA grants. Where acceptance of the living stipend portion of the grant would result in a profit to the candidate, as determined by comparing the candidate's regular full-time salary with the candidate's part-time salary and employer salary support plus living stipend, the grant amount will be reduced accordingly. In cases where a candidate must relocate and maintain two households, exceptions to this condition will be considered.

(j) Candidates shall be citizens, or shall declare their intent to become citizens of the United States.

§ 260.109 Selection.

(a) Candidates shall be rated by a selection panel appointed by the Director of the NHI. Members of the panel shall represent the highway transportation interests of government, industry, and the academic community. The factors considered by the selection panel are weighed in accordance with specific program objectives.

(b) The major factors to be considered by the panel are:

(1) Candidate's potential to contribute to a public agency's highway transportation program,

(2) Relevance of a candidate's study program to the objectives of the fellowship or scholarship program,

(3) Relevant experience, and

(4) Academic and professional achievements.

(c) Using ratings given by the selection panel, the Director of the NHI shall select candidates for awards and designate alternates.

(d) The FHWA may designate in the FHWA notices announcing the programs the maximum number of awards

¹The Federal Highway Administration notices are available for inspection and copying as prescribed in 49 CFR part 7, appendix D.