

*Project period* means the period of time, from one to five years, specified in the notice of grant award that NIEHS intends to support a proposed program without requiring the program awardee to re compete for funds.

*Secretary* means, unless the context otherwise requires, the Secretary of Health and Human Services or other official of HHS to whom the authority involved is delegated.

**§ 65a.3 Who is eligible to apply for a grant?**

(a) Except as otherwise prohibited by law, any public or private nonprofit institution of higher education may apply for an award under this part.

(b) Awardee institutions may carry out portions of the research or training components of an award through contracts with appropriate organizations, including:

- (1) Generators of hazardous wastes;
- (2) Persons involved in the detection, assessment, evaluation, and treatment of hazardous substances;
- (3) Owners and operators of facilities at which hazardous substances are located; and
- (4) State and local governments.

**§ 65a.4 What are the program requirements?**

The applicant shall include the following in its proposed program for which support is requested under this part:

(a) *Basic research component.* The program shall include three or more meritorious biomedical research projects, including epidemiologic studies relating to the study of the adverse effects of hazardous substances on human health, and at least one meritorious project involving hydrogeologic or ecologic research which shall cumulatively address:

- (1) Methods and technologies to detect hazardous substances in the environment;
- (2) Advanced techniques for the detection, assessment, and evaluation of the effects of these substances on human health;
- (3) Methods to assess the risks to human health presented by these substances; and

(4) Basic biological, chemical, and/or physical methods to reduce the amount and toxicity of these substances.

(b) *Training component.* The program shall include the following kinds of training, as part of or in conjunction with the basic research component:

(1) Graduate training in environmental and occupational health and safety and in public health and engineering aspects of hazardous waste control; and/or

(2) Graduate training in the geosciences, including hydrogeology, geological engineering, geophysics, geochemistry, and related fields, necessary to meet professional personnel needs in the public and private sectors and to carry out the purposes of the Act; and

(3) Worker training relating to handling hazardous substances, which includes short courses and continuing education for state and local health and environmental agency personnel and other personnel engaged in the handling of hazardous substances, in the management of facilities at which hazardous substances are located, and in the evaluation of the hazards to human health presented by these facilities.

**§ 65a.5 How to apply.**

Each institution desiring a grant under this part must submit an application at the time and in the form and manner as the Secretary may require.

**§ 65a.6 How will applications be evaluated?**

The Director shall evaluate applications through the officers and employees, experts, consultants, or groups engaged by the Director for that purpose, including review by the National Advisory Environmental Health Sciences Council in accordance with peer review requirements set forth in part 52h of this chapter. The Director's first level of evaluation will be for technical merit and shall take into account, among other pertinent factors, the significance of the program, the qualifications and competency of the program director and proposed staff, the adequacy of the applicant's resources available for the program, and the amount of grant funds necessary for completion of its objectives. A second

level of review will be conducted by the National Advisory Environmental Health Sciences Council.

#### § 65a.7 Awards.

*Criteria.* Within the limits of available funds, the Director may award grants to carry out those programs which:

(a) Are determined by the Director to be meritorious; and

(b) In the judgment of the Director, best promote the purposes of the grant program, as authorized under section 311(a) of the Act and the regulations of this part, and best address program priorities.

#### § 65a.8 How long does grant support last?

(a) The notice of grant award specifies how long NIEHS intends to support the project without requiring the grantee to re compete for funds. This period, called the project period, may be for 1–5 years.

(b) Generally, the grant will initially be for one year, and subsequent continuation awards will also be for one year at a time. A grantee must submit a separate application at the time and in the form and manner as the Secretary may require to have the support continued for each subsequent year. Decisions regarding continuation awards and the funding level of these awards will be made after consideration of such factors as the grantee's progress and management practices, and the availability of funds. In all cases, continuation awards require a determination by the Director that continued funding is in the best interest of the Federal Government.

(c) Neither the approval of any application nor the award of any grant commits or obligates the Federal Government in any way to make any additional, supplemental, continuation or other award with respect to any approved application or portion of an approved application.

(d) Any balance of federally obligated grant funds remaining unobligated by the grantee at the end of a budget period may be carried forward to the next budget period, for use as prescribed by the Director, provided a continuation award is made. If at any time during a

budget period it becomes apparent to the Director that the amount of Federal funds awarded and available to the grantee for that period, including any unobligated balance carried forward from prior periods, exceeds the grantee's needs for that period, the Director may adjust the amounts awarded by withdrawing the excess.

#### § 65a.9 What are the terms and conditions of awards?

In addition to being subject to other applicable regulations (see § 65a.11), grants awarded under this part are subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) *Material changes.* Except as otherwise provided by 45 CFR 74.25, the grantee may not materially change the quality, nature, scope, or duration of the program unless the written approval of the Director is obtained prior to the change.

(b) *Additional conditions.* The Director may impose additional conditions prior to the award of any grant under this part if it is determined by the Director that the conditions are necessary to carry out the purpose of the grant or assure or protect advancement of the approved program, the interests of the public health, or the conservation of grant funds.

#### § 65a.10 For what purposes may grant funds be spent?

A grantee shall spend funds it receives under this part solely in accordance with the approved application and budget, the regulations of this part, the terms and conditions of the award, and the applicable cost principles prescribed in 45 CFR 74.27.

#### § 65a.11 Other HHS regulations and policies that apply.

Several other HHS regulations and policies apply to awards under this part. These include but are not necessarily limited to:

- 42 CFR part 50, subpart A—Responsibility of PHS awardee and applicant institutions for dealing with and reporting possible misconduct in science
- 42 CFR part 50, subpart D—Public Health Service grant appeals procedure
- 42 CFR part 50, subpart F—Responsibility of applicants for promoting objectivity in research for which PHS funding is sought