

**§ 22.325 Historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and other minority institutions (MIs).**

Increasing the ability of HBCUs and MIs to participate in federally funded, university programs is an objective of Executive Order 12876 (3 CFR, 1993 Comp., p. 671) and 10 U.S.C. 2323. Grants officers shall include appropriate provisions in Broad Agency Announcements (BAAs) or other announcements for programs in which awards to institutions of higher education are anticipated, in order to promote participation of HBCUs and MIs in such programs. Also, whenever practicable, grants officers shall reserve appropriate programmatic areas for exclusive competition among HBCUs and MIs when preparing announcements for such programs.

**Subpart D—Recipient Qualification Matters—General Policies and Procedures**

**§ 22.400 Purpose.**

The purpose of this subpart is to specify policies and procedures for grants officers' determination of recipient qualifications prior to award.

**§ 22.405 Policy.**

(a) *General.* Grants officers normally shall award grants or cooperative agreements only to qualified recipients that meet the standards in § 22.415. This practice conforms with the Governmentwide policy, stated at 32 CFR 25.115(a), to do business only with responsible persons.

(b) *Exception.* In exceptional circumstances, grants officers may make awards to recipients that do not fully meet the standards in § 22.415 and include special award conditions that are appropriate to the particular situation, in accordance with 32 CFR 32.14, 33.12, or 34.4.

**§ 22.410 Grants officers' responsibilities.**

The grants officer is responsible for determining a recipient's qualification prior to award. The grants officer's signature on the award document shall signify his or her determination that either:

(a) The potential recipient meets the standards in § 22.415 and is qualified to receive the grant or cooperative agreement; or

(b) An award is justified to a recipient that does not fully meet the standards, pursuant to § 22.405(b). In such cases, grants officers shall document in the award file the rationale for making an award to a recipient that does not fully meet the standards.

**§ 22.415 Standards.**

To be qualified, a potential recipient must:

(a) Have the management capability and adequate financial and technical resources, given those that would be made available through the grant or cooperative agreement, to execute the program of activities envisioned under the grant or cooperative agreement.

(b) Have a satisfactory record of executing such programs or activities (if a prior recipient of an award).

(c) Have a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics.

(d) Be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive a grant or cooperative agreement under applicable laws and regulations (see § 22.420(c)).

**§ 22.420 Pre-award procedures.**

(a) The appropriate method to be used and amount of effort to be expended in deciding the qualification of a potential recipient will vary. In deciding on the method and level of effort, the grants officer should consider factors such as:

(1) DoD's past experience with the recipient;

(2) Whether the recipient has previously received cost-type contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements from the Federal Government; and

(3) The amount of the prospective award and complexity of the project to be carried out under the award.

(b) There is no DoD-wide requirement to obtain a pre-award credit report, audit, or any other specific piece of information. On a case-by-case basis, the grants officer will decide whether there is a need to obtain any such information to assist in deciding whether the recipient meets the standards in § 22.415 (a), (b), and (c).