

§ 52h.9

- (b) The adequacy of the methodology proposed to carry out the research;
- (c) The qualifications and experience of the principal investigator and proposed staff;
- (d) The reasonable availability of resources necessary to the research;
- (e) The reasonableness of the proposed budget and duration in relation to the proposed research; and
- (f) Where an application involves activities which could have an adverse effect upon humans, animals, or the environment, the adequacy of the proposed means for protecting against or minimizing such effects.

§ 52h.9 Unsolicited contract proposals; matters to be reviewed.

(a) No awarding official will award a contract based upon an unsolicited contract proposal covered by this part unless the proposal has been reviewed by a peer review group in accordance with the provisions of this part (pursuant to procedures set forth in 41 CFR subpart 3–4.52) and said group has made recommendations concerning the scientific merit of such proposal.

(b) Except to the extent otherwise provided for by law, such recommendations are advisory only and not binding on the awarding official.

§ 52h.10 Contract projects involving solicited contract proposals; matters to be reviewed.

(a) Subject to paragraph (b) of this section, no awarding official will issue a request for contract proposals with respect to a contract project involving solicited contract proposals unless the project concept has been reviewed by a peer review group in accordance with the provisions of this part and said group has made recommendations concerning the scientific merit of said concept. Where in the judgment of the awarding official the project approach has been sufficiently well defined by the time the review required by the preceding sentence is conducted, this review and the resulting recommendations shall include the project approach as well.

(b) The awarding official may waive the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section for peer review before issuing a request for contract proposals

if he determines that the accomplishments of essential program objectives would otherwise be placed in jeopardy and any further delay would clearly not be in the best interest of the Government. The awarding official shall specify in writing the grounds on which this determination is based. Under such circumstances, the awarding official will not award a contract based on the request for contract proposals unless the proposals received in response to the request have been reviewed by a peer review group and that group has made recommendations concerning the scientific merit of the project concept and of the approaches outlined in the proposals. The request for proposals will indicate that the project concept has not been reviewed by a peer review group and that no award will be made until such review is conducted and recommendations made based on such review.

(c) The Director of the National Institutes of Health, the Administrator of the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration, the Administrator of the Health Resources and Service Administration, or their designees may identify individual contracts or classes of contracts which may not be awarded unless all pertinent contract proposals have been reviewed by a peer review group in accordance with the provisions of this part and that group has made recommendations concerning the scientific merit of the proposals.

(d) Except to the extent otherwise provided for by law, such recommendations are advisory only and not binding on the awarding official.

(Sec. 215, Public Health Service Act, 58 Stat. 690, as amended (42 U.S.C. 216); sec. 475, Public Health Service Act, 88 Stat. 360, 89 Stat. 351, 92 Stat. 3436 (42 U.S.C. 2891-4); sec. 955(a), Pub. L. 97-35, 95 Stat. 590 (42 U.S.C. 300z-7(e)))

[43 FR 7862, Feb. 24, 1978, as amended at 45 FR 35328, May 27, 1980; 49 FR 38111, Sept. 27, 1984]

§ 52h.11 Contract projects and proposals; review criteria.

(a) In carrying out its review of a project concept under § 52h.10(a) or § 52h.10(b), the peer review group will take into account, among other factors: