

**§ 1326.21 Application approval.**

(a) Approval of any application under section 604(e) of the Act, shall not commit the Commissioner in any way to make additional, supplemental, continuation, or other awards with respect to any approved application or portion thereof.

(b) The Commissioner may give first priority in awarding grants to grantees which have effectively administered such grants in the prior year.

**§ 1326.23 Hearing procedures.**

In meeting the requirements of section 604(d)(3) of the Act, if the Commissioner disapproves an application from an eligible tribal organization, the tribal organization may file a written request for a hearing with the Commissioner.

(a) The request shall be postmarked or delivered in person within 30 days of the date of the disapproval notice. If it requests a hearing, the tribal organization shall submit to the Commissioner, as part of the request, a full written response to each objection specified in the notice of disapproval, including the pertinent facts and reasons in support of its response, and any and all documentation to support its position. Service of the request shall also be made on the individual(s) designated by the Commissioner to represent him or her.

(b) The Administration on Aging shall have the opportunity to respond with 30 days to the merits of the tribal organization's request.

(c) The Commissioner notifies the tribal organization in writing of the date, time and place for the hearing.

(d) The hearing procedures include the right of the tribal organization to:

(1) A hearing before the Commissioner or an official designated by the Commissioner;

(2) Be heard in person or to be represented by counsel, at no expense to the Administration on Aging;

(3) Present written evidence prior to and at the hearing, and present oral evidence at the hearing if the Commissioner or designated official decides that oral evidence is necessary for the proper resolution of the issues involved, and

(4) Have the staff directly responsible for reviewing the application either present at the hearing, or have a deposition from the staff, whichever the Commissioner or designated official decides.

(e) The Commissioner or designated official conducts a fair and impartial hearing, takes all necessary action to avoid delay and to maintain order and has all powers necessary to these ends.

(f) Formal rules of evidence do not apply to the hearings.

(g) The official hearing transcript together with all papers, documents, exhibits, and requests filed in the proceedings, including rulings, constitutes the record for decision.

(h) After consideration of the record, the Commissioner or designated official issues a written decision, based on the record, which sets forth the reasons for the decision and the evidence on which it was based. The decision is issued within 60 days of the date of the hearing, constitutes the final administrative action on the matter and is promptly mailed to the tribal organization.

(i) Either the tribal organization or the staff of the Administration on Aging may request for good cause an extension of any of the time limits specified in this section.

## **PART 1328—GRANTS FOR SUPPORTIVE AND NUTRITIONAL SERVICES TO OLDER HAWAIIAN NATIVES**

Sec.

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AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 3001; Title VI Part B of the Older Americans Act.

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