

§ 263.7

project and will produce both quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1810-0580)

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7442)

§ 263.7 What are the requirements for a leave of absence?

(a) A participant shall submit a written request for a leave of absence to the project director not less than 30 days prior to withdrawal or completion of a grading period, unless an emergency situation has occurred and the project director chooses to waive the prior notification requirement.

(b) The project director may approve a leave of absence, for a period not longer than one academic year, provided a training participant has successfully completed at least one academic year.

(c) The project director permits a leave of absence only if the institution of higher education certifies that the training participant is eligible to resume his or her course of study at the end of the leave of absence.

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§ 263.8 What are the payback requirements?

(a) Individuals receiving assistance under the Professional Development program are required to—

(1) Sign an agreement, at the time of selection for training, to meet the provisions of the payback requirement; and

(2) Perform work related to the training received and that benefits Indian people; or

(3) Repay all or a prorated part of the assistance received.

(b) The period of time required for a work-related payback is equivalent to the total period of time for which training was actually received under the Professional Development program.

(c) The cash payback required shall be equivalent to the total amount of funds received and expended for training received under these programs and may be prorated based on any approved

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work-related service the participant performs.

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§ 263.9 When does payback begin?

(a) For all participants who complete their training under the Professional Development program, payback shall begin within six months from the date of completion of the training.

(b) For participants who do not complete their training under the Professional Development program, payback shall begin within six months from the date the fellow leaves the Professional Development program, unless he or she continues as a full-time student without interruption, in a program leading to a degree in an accredited institution of higher education.

(1) If the participant leaves the Professional Development program, but plans to continue his or her education as a full-time student, the Secretary may defer the payback requirement until the participant has completed his or her educational program. Written requests for deferment shall be submitted to the Secretary within 30 days of leaving the Professional Development program and shall provide the following information—

(i) The name of the accredited institution the student will be attending;

(ii) A copy of the letter of admission from the institution;

(iii) The degree being sought; and

(iv) The projected date of completion.

(2) After approval by the Secretary for deferment of the payback provision on the basis of continuing as a full-time student, former participants are required to submit to the Secretary a status report from an academic advisor or other authorized representative of the institution of higher education, showing verification of enrollment and status, after every grading period.

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§ 263.10 What are the payback reporting requirements?

(a) *Notice of intent.* Participants shall submit to the Secretary, within 30 days