

payments are specified at 38 CFR §§ 17.715-17.723.

Grant applicants may not receive assistance to replace funds provided by any state or local government to assist homeless persons. For existing projects, VA will fund only the portion of the project that will establish new programs, or new components of existing program. A proposal for an existing project that seeks to shift its focus by changing the population to be served or the precise mix of services to be offered is not eligible for consideration. No more than 25 percent of services available in projects funded through this grant program may be provided to clients who are not receiving those services as veterans.

Authority. VA's Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program is authorized by Sections 3 and 4 of Public Law 102-590, the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Service

Programs Act of 1992 (38 USC 7721 note) and has been extended through fiscal year 1997 by Public Law 104-110. The program is implemented by the final rule codified at 38 CFR Part 17.700 as amended by the final rule published in the Federal Register on February 27, 1995. The funds made available under this Notice are subject to the requirements of those regulations.

Allocation. Approximately \$6.0 million is available for the grant and per diem components of this program.

Application Requirements. The specific grant application requirements will be specified in the application package. The package includes all required forms and certifications. Conditional selections will be made based on criteria described in the application. Applicants who are conditionally selected will be notified of the additional information needed to confirm or clarify information provided in the application. Applicants will then

have one month to submit such information. If an applicant is unable to meet any conditions for grant award within the specified time frame, VA reserves the right to not award funds and to use the funds available for other components of the Grant and Per Diem Program.

Dated: March 8, 1996.
 Jesse Brown,
Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
 [FR Doc. 96-6139 Filed 3-13-96; 8:45 am]
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Medical Research Merit Review Committee, Notice of Meetings

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., of the following meetings to be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. as indicated below:

Subcommittee for	Date	Location
Endocrinology	March 18-19, 1996	Holiday Inn Central.
Neurobiology	March 18-20, 1996	Holiday Inn Central.
Aging and Clinical Geriatrics	March 22, 1996	Renaissance Hotel.
Surgery	March 23-24, 1996	Renaissance Hotel.
Hematology	March 28-29, 1996	Renaissance Hotel.
Alcoholism and Drug Dependence	March 29, 1996	Renaissance Hotel.
Immunology	April 1-2, 1996	Renaissance Hotel.
Oncology	April 1-2, 1996	Renaissance Hotel.
Nephrology	April 2-3, 1996	Renaissance Hotel.
Cardiovascular Studies	April 9-10, 1996	Holiday Inn Central.
General Medical Science	April 12-13, 1996	Holiday Inn Central.
Gastroenterology	April 18-19, 1996	Renaissance Hotel.
Respiration	April 19-20, 1996	Renaissance Hotel.
Infectious Diseases	April 22-23, 1996	Holiday Inn Central.
Mental Health and Behavioral Sciences	April 25-26, 1996	Holiday Inn Central.
Medical Research Service Merit Committee	June 5, 1996	Holiday Inn Central.

Holiday Inn Central, 1501 Rhode Island Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20005, Renaissance Hotel, 999-9th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20001.

Because of the extended federal government shutdown during the preparation phase of this cycle of Merit Review meetings and consequent delay in obtaining the necessary funds to proceed with obtaining adequate hotel accommodations for meetings during a time of the year when hotel accommodations are very limited, the required 15-day notification of meetings could not be met for the first four subcommittee meetings listed above.

These meetings will be for the purpose of evaluating the scientific merit of research conducted in each specialty by Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) investigators working in VA Medical Centers and Clinics.

These meetings will be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the rooms at the start of each meeting to discuss the general status of the program. All of the Merit Review Subcommittee meetings will be closed

to the public after approximately one hour from the start for the review, discussion, and evaluation of initial and renewal projects.

The closed portion of the meeting involves discussion, examination, reference to, and oral review of site visits, staff and consultant critiques of research protocols and similar documents. During this portion of the meeting, discussion and recommendations will deal with qualifications of personnel conducting the studies, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, as well as research information, the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of proposed agency action regarding such research projects. As provided by subsection 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, as amended by Public Law 94-409, closing portions of these meetings is in

accordance with 5 U.S.C., 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B). Because of the limited seating capacity of the rooms, those who plan to attend should contact Dr. Leroy Frey, Chief, Program Review Division, Medical Research Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC, (202) 565-5942, at least five days prior to each meeting. Minutes of the meetings and rosters of the members of the Subcommittees may be obtained from this source.

Dated: March 7, 1996.
 By Direction of the Secretary,
 Heyward Bannister,
Committee Management Officer.
 [FR Doc. 96-6134 Filed 3-13-96; 8:45 am]
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