

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Federal Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting (FICC)**

AGENCY: Federal Interagency Coordinating Council, Education.

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice describes the schedule and agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council, and invites people to participate. Notice of this meeting is required under section 685(c) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and is intended to notify the general public of their opportunity to attend the meeting. The meeting will be accessible to individuals with disabilities.

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, March 4, 1999, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Hilton, Crystal City, 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202, near the Crystal City metro stop.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Libby Doggett or Kim Lawrence, U.S. Department of Education, 330 C Street, SW, Room 3080, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2644. Telephone: (202) 205-5507. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call (202) 205-9754.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Interagency Coordinating Council (FICC) is established under section 685 of the individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1484a). The Council is established to: (1) Minimize duplication across Federal, State and local agencies of programs and activities relating to early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and that their families and preschool services for children with disabilities; (2) ensure effective coordination of Federal early intervention and preschool programs, including Federal technical assistance and support activities; and (3) identify gaps in Federal agency programs and services and barriers to Federal interagency cooperation. To meet these purposes, the FICC seeks to: (1) Identify areas of conflict, overlap, and omissions in interagency policies related to the provision of services to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with disabilities; (2) develop and implement joint policy interpretations on issues related to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers that cut across Federal agencies, including modifications of regulations to eliminate barriers to interagency programs and activities; and (3) coordinate the provision of technical

assistance and dissemination of best practice information. The FICC is chaired by the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

This FICC meeting coincides with the early intervention and preschool directors (Part C and 619 of IDEA) meetings held in the same location with overlapping times. At this meeting the Maternal and Child Health Bureau in conjunction with the FICC is sponsoring a policy forum on Thursday morning with Dr. Jack Shonkoff. The FICC members will be the policy forum respondents. During the afternoon session the FICC will attend to ongoing work including reports from a technical assistance survey, a Department of Defense Task Force, and Medicaid Benefits Task Force. To request a packet of materials or accommodations such as interpreters for persons who are hearing impaired, materials in Braille, large print, or cassette please call Kim Lawrence at (202) 205-5507 (voice) or (202) 205-9754 (TDD) by February.

Summary minutes of the FICC meetings will be maintained and available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, 330 C Street, SW, Room 3080, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2644, from the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., weekdays, except Federal Holidays.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Oakland Operations Office; Financial Assistance Award (Grant)**

AGENCY: U. S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Solicitation of applications for grant awards for high-energy-density and laser-matter interaction studies.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 10 CFR 600.8, the U.S. DOE announces that it plans to conduct a technically competitive solicitation for basic research experiments in high-energy-density and laser-matter interaction studies at the National Laser Users' Facility (NLUF) located at the University of Rochester Laboratory for Laser Energetics (UR/LLE). Grant Solicitation No. DE-PS03-99SF21812 Universities or other higher education institutions, private sector not-for-profit organizations, or other entities are invited to submit grant applications. The total amount of funding expected to be available for the

Fiscal Year 2000 (FY00) program cycle is \$700,000. Multiple awards are anticipated.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James Solomon, Contracting Officer, Financial Assistance Center—FAC, DOE Oakland Operations Office, 1301 Clay Street, Room 700N, Oakland, CA 94612-5208, Telephone No.: (510) 637-1865, Facsimile No.: (510) 637-2074, e mail: james.solomon@oak.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The solicitation document contains all the information relative to this action for prospective applicants. The solicitation is targeted for release on or about March 1, 1999. The actual work to be accomplished will be determined by the experiments and diagnostic techniques that are selected for award. Proposed experiments and diagnostic techniques will be evaluated through scientific peer review against predetermined, published and available criteria. Final selection will be made by the DOE. It is anticipated that multiple grants will be awarded within the available funding. The unique resources of the NLUF are available, on a no-fee basis, to scientists for state-of-the art experiments primarily in the area of inertial confinement fusion (ICF) and related plasma physics. Other areas such as spectroscopy of high ionized atoms, laboratory astrophysics, fundamental physics, materials science and biology and chemistry will be considered on a secondary basis.

The LLE was established in 1970 to investigate the interaction of high-power lasers with matter. Available at the LLE for NLUF researchers is the upgraded Omega Laser, a 30-40 kJ UV, 60-beam laser system (at 0.35 um) suitable for direct-drive ICF implosions and other experimental configurations. This system is suitable for a variety of experiments including laser-plasma interactions and atomic spectroscopy. The NLUF program for FY00 will support experiments that can be done with the Omega Laser at the University of Rochester and development of diagnostic techniques suitable for the Omega Laser system. Measurements of the laser coupling, laser-plasma interactions, core temperature, and core density are needed to determine the characteristics of target implosions. Diagnostic techniques could include either new instrumentation, development of analysis tools, or development of targets that are applicable for 30-40 kJ implosions. Additional technical information about the available facilities and potential collaboration at the NLUF can be