

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA NO: 84.031]

Reopening of Closing Date for Receipt of Applications for Designation as an Eligible Institution for Fiscal Year 1997; Eligibility for the Strengthening Institutions, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Endowment Challenge Grant Programs

SUMMARY: On November 27, 1996 (61 FR 60254), January 13, 1997 (62 FR 1739), and May 16, 1997 (62 FR 27130), the Department of Education (ED) published in the **Federal Register** closing dates for the receipt of applications from institutions that wished to be designated as eligible institutions under the Strengthening Institutions, Hispanic-Serving Institutions and Endowment Challenge Grant Programs for Fiscal Year 1997. An eligible institution under these programs may not apply for a grant at this time but they may receive a waiver. The FSEOG and FWS Programs are student financial assistance programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

Some institutions, that were only interested in receiving a waiver of the non-Federal share requirement under the FSEOG and FWS Programs, did not submit an institutional eligibility application before those deadline dates.

As a result, ED is reopening the closing date for that limited purpose. Thus, an institution that seeks designation as an eligible institution for Fiscal Year 1997 under the Strengthening Institutions, Hispanic-Serving Institutions and Endowment Challenge Grant Programs, solely for the purpose of obtaining a waiver of the non-Federal share requirement under the FSEOG and FWS Programs for the 1997-98 award year, may submit an application to ED for that purpose through December 31, 1997. An institution may apply under this reopened closing whether or not it submitted a previous application.

Applicants should base any waiver request of the needy student criterion on the corrected Base Year Low-Income Levels table included as an errata sheet with the eligibility application package and published in the **Federal Register** on May 16, 1997 (62 FR 27130).

DEADLINE FOR TRANSMITTAL OF APPLICATIONS: December 31, 1997.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE: November 26, 1997.

FOR APPLICATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT: Blanca Westgate or Jane Wrenn, Strengthening Institutions Program, Institutional Development and Undergraduate Education Service, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., (Suite CY-80, Portals Building), Washington, DC 20202-5335. Telephones: (202) 708-

8816, 708-8839 or 708-8866.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

Information about the Department's funding opportunities, including copies of application notices for discretionary grant competitions, can be viewed on the Department's electronic bulletin board (ED Board), telephone (202) 260-9950; on the Internet Gopher Server (at gopher://gcs.ed.gov/); or on the World Wide Web (at <http://gcs.ed.gov>). However, the official application notice for a discretionary grant competition is the notice published in the **Federal Register**.

Authority: 20 U.S.C.1057, 1059c and 1065a.

Dated: November 24, 1997.

David A. Longanecker,
Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

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