

and without Bureau support) ensuring that the Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program training is not an isolated event. Activities should include tracking and maintaining updated lists of all alumni and facilitating follow-up activities for alumni.

6. *Project Evaluation*: Proposals should include a plan and methodology to evaluate the Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program's degree of success in meeting program objectives, both as the activities unfold, at the end of the first program iteration, and at their conclusion. Draft survey questionnaires or other techniques plus description of methodologies to use to link outcomes to original project objectives are recommended. Successful applicants will be expected to submit intermediate reports after each project component is concluded, or quarterly, whichever is less frequent.

7. *Cost-effectiveness and Cost Sharing*: The overhead and administrative components of the proposal, including salaries and honoraria, should be kept as low as possible. All other items should be necessary and appropriate. Proposals should maximize cost-sharing through other private sector support as well as institutional direct funding contributions.

## VI. Award Administration Information

### VI.1a. Award Notices

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal Bureau procedures. Successful applicants will receive an Assistance Award Document (AAD) from the Bureau's Grants Office. The AAD and the original grant proposal with subsequent modifications (if applicable) shall be the only binding authorizing document between the recipient and the U.S. Government. The AAD will be signed by an authorized Grants Officer, and mailed to the recipient's responsible officer identified in the application.

Unsuccessful applicants will receive notification of the results of the application review from the ECA program office coordinating this competition.

### VI.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Terms and Conditions for the Administration of ECA agreements include the following:

Office of Management and Budget Circular A-122, "Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations."

Office of Management and Budget Circular A-21, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions."

OMB Circular A-87, "Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Governments."

OMB Circular No. A-110 (Revised), Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Nonprofit Organizations.

OMB Circular No. A-102, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants-in-Aid to State and Local Governments.

OMB Circular No. A-133, Audits of States, Local Government, and Non-profit Organizations.

Please reference the following Web sites for additional information: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants>; <http://exchanges.state.gov/education/grantsdiv/terms.htm#articleI>.

### VI.3. Reporting Requirements

You must provide ECA with a hard copy original plus one copy of the following reports:

Quarterly financial reports; Annual program reports for the first and second year of the agreement; and final program and financial report no more than 90 days after the expiration of the award.

Grantees will be required to provide reports analyzing their evaluation findings to the Bureau in their regular program reports. (Please refer to IV. Application and Submission Instructions (IV.3.d.3) above for Program Monitoring and Evaluation information.)

All data collected, including survey responses and contact information, must be maintained for a minimum of three years and provided to the Bureau upon request.

All reports must be sent to the ECA Grants Officer and ECA Program Officer listed in the final assistance award document.

## VII. Agency Contacts

For questions about this announcement, contact: Michael Kuban, Office of Global Educational Programs, ECA/A/S/X, Room 349, U.S. Department of State, SA-44, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547, telephone: 202-453-8878, fax: 202-453-8890, [KubanMM@state.gov](mailto:KubanMM@state.gov).

All correspondence with the Bureau concerning this RFGP should reference the title and number ECA/A/S/X-06-02. Please read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before sending inquiries or submitting proposals. Once the RFGP deadline has passed, Bureau staff may not discuss this competition

with applicants until the proposal review process has been completed.

### Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFGP are binding and may not be modified by any Bureau representative. Explanatory information provided by the Bureau that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFGP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements per section VI.3 above.

Dated: November 9, 2005.

**C. Miller Crouch,**

*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 05-22804 Filed 11-16-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710-05-U**

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Publication of the Tier 2 Tax Rates

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Publication of the tier 2 tax rates for calendar year 2006 as required by section 3241(d) of the Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. section 3241). Tier 2 taxes on railroad employees, employers, and employee representatives are one source of funding for benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act.

**DATES:** The tier 2 tax rates for calendar year 2006 apply to compensation paid in calendar year 2006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ligeia M. Donis, CC:TEGE:EOEG:ET1, Internal Revenue Service, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224, Telephone Number (202) 622-0047 (not a toll-free number).

**TIER 2 TAX RATES:** The tier 2 tax rate for 2006 under section 3201(b) on employees is 4.4 percent of compensation. The tier 2 tax rate for 2006 under section 3221(b) on employers is 12.6 percent of compensation. The tier 2 tax rate for 2006 under section 3211(b) on employee representatives is 12.6 percent of compensation.

Dated: November 4, 2005.

**Nancy Marks,**

*Division Counsel/Associate Chief Counsel  
(Tax Exempt and Government Entities).*

[FR Doc. E5-6352 Filed 11-16-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4830-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### **Open Meeting of the Area 5 Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (Including the States of Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas)**

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS),  
Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** An open meeting of the Area 5 Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be conducted. The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel is soliciting public comment, ideas, and suggestions on improving customer service at the Internal Revenue Service.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held Monday, December 12, 2005, at 2 p.m. Central Time.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary Ann Delzer at 1-888-912-1227, or (414) 297-1604.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that a meeting of the Area 5 Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be held Monday, December 12, 2005, at 2 p.m. Central Time via a telephone conference call. You can submit written comments to the panel by faxing to (414) 297-1623, or by mail to Taxpayer Advocacy Panel, Stop1006MIL, 310 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53203-2221, or you can contact us at <http://>

[www.improveirs.org](http://www.improveirs.org). This meeting is not required to be open to the public, but because we are always interested in community input, we will accept public comments. Please contact Mary Ann Delzer at 1-888-912-1227 or (414) 297-1604 for additional information.

The agenda will include the following: Various IRS issues.

Dated: November 10, 2005.

**Martha Curry,**

*Acting Director, Taxpayer Advocacy Panel.*

[FR Doc. E5-6353 Filed 11-16-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4830-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### **Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans; Notice of Meeting**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans will be held on December 6-8, 2005 in the Monticello Room at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1480 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia. The sessions will begin at 9 a.m. each day. The sessions will end at 2 p.m. on December 6, 5 p.m. on December 7 and 1 p.m. on December 8. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary on the administration of VA benefits and services to minority veterans, to assess the needs of minority veterans and to evaluate whether VA compensation, medical and rehabilitation services, outreach, and other programs are meeting those needs. The Committee will make recommendations to the Secretary regarding such activities.

On December 6, the Committee will hold discussions with key staff members

of the Veterans Health Administration and the VA Office of Human Resources and Administration regarding healthcare challenges and successes, as well as hiring practices for minority veterans. Additionally, the Committee will meet with staff of the National Guard Bureau regarding transition concerns for returning combat wounded Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom Service members.

On December 7, the Committee will meet with staff members of the Veterans Benefits Administration regarding benefit services and delivery of benefits to minority veterans. The Committee will also discuss burial benefits delivery for minority veterans with staff members of the National Cemetery Administration.

On December 8, the Committee will engage in discussions with the Executive Director of the Veterans Disability Benefits Commission and the Director of the VA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization.

The Committee will accept written comments from interested parties on issues outlined in the meeting agenda, as well as other issues affecting minority veterans. Such comments should be referred to the Committee at the following address: Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans, Center for Minority Veterans (00M), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

For additional information about the meeting, please contact Ms. Elizabeth Olmo at (202) 273-6708.

Dated: November 8, 2005.

By Direction of the Secretary.

**E. Philip Riggins,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 05-22761 Filed 11-16-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-M**