submissions, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission’s Public Reference Section, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of OCC. All submissions should refer to File No. SR–OCC–2002–10 and should be submitted by May 15, 2003.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.20

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03–10153 Filed 4–23–03; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Billing Code 8010–01–M]

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Request for Grant Proposals: International Sports Programming Initiative

SUMMARY: The Office of Citizen Exchanges of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an “International Sports Programming Initiative.” Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in Internal Revenue Code section 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) may submit proposals to discuss approaches designed to enhance and improve the infrastructure of youth sports programs in the following countries: Jordan, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey. To be eligible for consideration under this competition, proposals must provide a minimum of 50 percent cost sharing of the amount of grant funds sought from ECA, although proposals with higher cost sharing levels are welcome. The Office expects to make approximately three (3) full grants of no more than $135,000 each under this competition, covering all thematic areas outlined below.

Announcement Name and Number: All correspondence with the Bureau concerning this RFGP should reference the “Open Competition for International Sports Programming Initiative” and reference number: ECA/PE/C/ WHAEAP–03–49. Please refer to title and number in all correspondence or telephone calls to the Office of Citizen Exchanges.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Interested organizations/institutions may contact the Office of Citizen Exchanges, room 216, SA–44, U.S. Department of State, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547, telephone number 202/260–5491, fax number 202/260–0440, or hrarvey@pd.state.gov to request a Solicitation Package. The Solicitation Package contains detailed award criteria, required application forms, specific budget instructions, and standard guidelines for proposal preparation. Please specify Bureau Program Officer, Raymond H. Harvey, on all other inquiries and correspondence.

To Download a Solicitation Package Via Internet: The entire Solicitation Package also may be downloaded from the Bureau’s Web site at http://exchanges.state.gov/education/RFGPs. Please read all information before downloading.

Program Information

Overview: The Office of Citizen Exchanges welcomes proposals that directly respond to the following thematic areas. Given budgetary limitations, projects for other themes and other countries will not be eligible for consideration under the FY–2003 International Sports Program Initiative.

Training Sports Coaches: The World Summit on Physical Education (Berlin, 1999) stated that a “quality physical education helps children to develop the patterns of interest in physical activity, which are essential for healthy development and which lay the foundation for healthy, adult lifestyles.” Coaches are critical to the accomplishment of this goal. A coach not only needs to be qualified to provide the technical assistance required by young athletes to improve, but must also understand how to aid a young person to discover how success in athletics can be translated into achievement in the development of life skills and in the classroom.

Projects submitted in response to this theme would be aimed at aiding youth, secondary school and university coaches in the target countries in the development and implementation of appropriate training methodologies, through seminars and outreach. The goal is to ensure the optimal technical proficiency among the coaches participating in the program while also emphasizing the role sports can play in the long-term economic well being of youth.

Youth Sports Management Exchange: Exchanges funded under this theme would help American and foreign youth sport coaches, adult sponsors, and sports and civic organization officials share their experience in managing and organizing youth sports activities, particularly in financially challenging circumstances, and would contribute to better understanding of the role of sports as a significant factor in educational success. Program should be designed to convey to the foreign counterparts the importance of linking success in sports to educational and leadership achievement and how these factors can contribute to short-term and long-term economic prospects.

Youth with Disability: Exchanges supported by this theme are designed to promote and sponsor sports, recreation, fitness and leisure events for children and adults with physical disabilities. Project goals include improving the quality of life for people with disabilities by providing affordable inclusive sports and recreational experiences that build self-esteem and confidence, enhancing active participation in community life and making a significant contribution to the physical and psychological health of people with disabilities. Programs should be structured to ensure that physically and developmentally challenged individuals are fully included in the sports and recreation opportunities in their communities.

Sports and Health: Projects funded under this category will focus on effective and practical ways to use sport personalities and sports health professionals to increase awareness among young people of the importance of following a healthy life style to reduce illness, prevent injuries and speed the rehabilitation and recovery. Emphasis will be on the responsibility of the broader community to support healthy behavior. The project goals are to promote and integrate scientific research, education, and practical applications of sports medicine and exercise science to maintain and enhance physical performance, fitness, health, and quality of life. (Actual medical training and dispensing of medications are outside the purview of this theme.)

Guidelines: The Office seeks proposals that provide professional experience and exposure to American life and culture through internships, workshops and other learning-sharing experiences hosted by local institutions. The experiences also will provide Americans the opportunity to learn.
about other cultures and the social and economic challenges young athletes elsewhere face today. Travel under these grants should provide for a two-way exchange. Projects should not simply focus on athletic training; they should be designed to provide practical, hands-on experience in U.S. public/private sector settings that may be adapted to an individual’s institution upon return home. Proposals may combine elements of professional enrichment, job shadowing and internships appropriate to the language ability and interests of the participants.

**General Program Guidelines**

Applicants must identify the local organizations and individuals in the counterpart country with whom they are proposing to collaborate and describe in detail previous cooperative programming and/or contacts. Specific information about the counterpart organizations’ activities and accomplishments is required and must be included in the section on Institutional Capacity. All proposals must contain letters of support tailored to the project being proposed from all foreign-country partner organizations. Exchanges and training programs supported by institutional grants from the Bureau should operate at two levels: They should enhance institutional partnerships, and they should offer practical information and experience to individuals and groups to assist them with their professional responsibilities. Strong proposals usually have the following characteristics:

- A proven track record of working in the proposed issue area;
- An experienced staff with language facility and a commitment by the staff to monitor projects locally to improve accountability;
- A clear, convincing plan showing how permanent results will be accomplished as a result of the activity funded by the grant; and
- A follow-on plan beyond the scope of the Bureau grant.

Proposals narratives must:

- Demonstrate an organization’s willingness to consult closely with the Public Affairs Section and other officers at the U.S. Embassy.
- Confirm that all materials developed for the project with support from a grant provided under this competition will acknowledge USG funding for the program.
- Confirm a commitment to invite representatives of the Embassy and/or Consulate to participate in various program sessions/site visits. Please note that this will be a formal requirement in all final grant awards.

**Suggested Program Designs**

Bureau-supported exchanges may include internships; study tours; short-term, non-technical experiential learning, extended and intensive workshops and seminars taking place in the United States or overseas. Examples of possible program activities include:

1. A U.S.-based program that includes: Orientation to program purposes and to U.S. society; study tour/site visits; professional internships/placements; interaction and dialogue; hands-on training; professional development; and action plan development.

2. Capacity-building/training-of-trainer (TOT) workshops to help participants to identify priorities, create work plans, strengthen professional and volunteer skills and share their experience to committed people within each country, and become active in a practical and valuable way.

3. Seed/small grants to indigenous non-profit organizations to support community-based educational projects that build upon exchange activities and that address issues of local concern. Proposals may include a component for a Seed/Small Grants Competition (often referred to as “sub-grants” or “secondary grants”). This requires a detailed plan for recruitment and advertising: description of the proposal review and award mechanism: a plan for how the grantee would monitor and evaluate small grant activity; and a proposed amount for an average grant. The small grants should be directly linked to exchange activities. Small/seed grants may not be used for micro-credit or re-loaning purposes. Small/seed grants may not exceed 10% of the total value of the grant funds sought from ECA.

4. Site visits by U.S. facilitators/experts to monitor projects in the region and to provide additional training and consultations as needed.

5. Content-based Internet training/cyber-training to encourage citizen participation in workshops, fora, chats, and/or discussions via the Internet that will stimulate communication and information sharing among key opinion leaders on priority topics as a form of cost sharing. Proposals that include Internet utilization must reflect knowledge of the opportunities and obstacles that exist for use of information technologies in the target country or countries, and, if needed, provide hardware, software and servers, preferably as a form of cost sharing. Federal standards are under review and their adoption may impact on the implementation of these programs.

**Selection of Participants**

All grant proposals should clearly describe the type of persons who will participate in the program as well as the process by which participants will be selected. It is recommended that programs in support of U.S. internships include letters tentatively committing host institutions to support the internships. In the selection of foreign participants, the Bureau and U.S. Embassies abroad retain the right to review all participant nominations and to accept or deny participants recommended by grantee institutions. The U.S. Embassy in the host country of the exchange must approve all exchange program foreign visitors. However, grantee institutions should describe in detail the recruitment and selection process they recommend. The grantee institution will also provide the names of American participants and brief (two pages) biographical data on each American participant to the Office of Citizen Exchanges for information purposes. Priority will be given to foreign participants who have not previously traveled to the United States.

**Adherence to All Regulations Governing the J Visa**

The Office of Citizen Exchanges of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs is the official program sponsor of the exchange program covered by this RFGP, and an employee of the Bureau will be the “Responsible Officer” for the program under the terms of 22 CFR part 62, which covers the administration of the Exchange Visitor Program (J visa program). Under the terms of 22 CFR part 62, organizations receiving grants under this RFGP will be third parties “cooperating with or assisting the sponsor in the conduct of the sponsor’s program.” The actions of grantee organization programs shall be “imputed to the sponsor in evaluating the sponsor’s compliance with” 22 CFR part 62. Therefore, the Bureau expects that any organization receiving a grant under this competition will render all assistance necessary to enable the Bureau to fully comply with 22 CFR part 62 et seq.

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs places great emphasis on the secure and proper administration of Exchange Visitor (J visa) Programs and adherence by grantee program organizations and program participants to all regulations governing the J visa program status.

Therefore, proposals should explicitly state in writing that the applicant is prepared to assist the Bureau in meeting all requirements governing the
administration of Exchange Visitor Programs as set forth in 22 CFR part 62. If your organization has experience as a designated Exchange Visitor Program Sponsor, the applicant should discuss their record of compliance with 22 CFR part 62 et. seq., including the oversight of their Responsible Officers and Alternate Responsible Officers, screening and selection of program participants, provision of pre-arrival information and orientation to participants, monitoring of participants, proper maintenance and security of forms, record-keeping, reporting and other requirements.

The Office of Citizen Exchanges of ECA will be responsible for issuing DS–20212 forms to participants in this program.

A copy of the complete regulations governing the administration of Exchange Visitor (J) programs is available at [http://exchanges.state.gov](http://exchanges.state.gov) or from:


**Program Data Requirements**

Organizations awarded grants will be required to maintain specific data on program participants and activities in an electronically accessible database format that can be shared with the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs as required. As a minimum, the data must include the following: name, address, contact information and biographic sketch of all persons who travel internationally on funds provided by the grant or who benefit from the grant funding but do not travel.

**Budget Guidelines**

The Bureau has an overall budget of $400,000 for this competition. Grants awarded to eligible organizations with less than four years of experience in conducting international exchange programs will be limited to $60,000. The Bureau has set a ceiling of $135,000 for proposals funded under this competition. The Bureau encourages applicants to provide maximum levels of cost sharing and funding from private sources in support of its programs.

Applicants must submit a comprehensive budget for the entire program. Grant awards may not exceed $135,000. There must be a summary budget as well as breakdowns reflecting both administrative and program budgets. Applicants may provide separate sub-budgets for each program component, phase, location, or activity to provide clarification.

Since Bureau grant assistance constitutes only a portion of total project funding, proposals should list and provide evidence of other anticipated sources of financial and in-kind support. To be eligible for consideration under this competition, proposals must provide a minimum of 50 percent cost sharing of the amount of grant funds sought from ECA, although proposals with higher cost sharing levels are welcome.

**Example:** A proposal requests $125,000 in grant funds from ECA, for a project with a total budget of $500,000. The required minimum allowable cost sharing offered must amount to at least $62,500. In this case, the cost sharing far exceeds the minimum, since actual cost sharing is $375,000.

When cost sharing is offered, it is understood and agreed that the applicant must provide the minimum amount of cost sharing as stipulated in this RFP and later included in an approved grant agreement. Cost sharing may be in the form of allowable direct or indirect costs. For accountability, you must maintain written records to support all allowable costs, which are claimed as being your contribution to cost participation, as well as costs to be paid by the Federal government. Such records are subject to audit. The basis for determining the value of cash and in-kind contributions must be in accordance with OMB Circular A–110, (Revised), Subpart C.23—Cost Sharing and Matching. In the event you do not provide the minimum amount of cost sharing as stipulated in the approved budget, ECA’s contribution will be reduced proportionately to the contribution.

The following project costs are eligible for consideration for funding:

1. **Travel costs.** International and domestic airfares; visas; transit costs; ground transportation costs. Please note that all air travel must be in compliance with the Fly America Act. There is no charge for J–1 visas for participants in Bureau sponsored programs. Please note that Tibetan participants may not travel to the U.S. primarily for English language instruction.

2. **Per Diem.** For the U.S. program, organizations have the option of using a flat $160/day for project participants or the published U.S. Federal per diem rates for individual American cities. For activities outside the U.S., the published Federal per diem rates must be used.

**Note:** U.S. escorting staff must use the published Federal per diem rates, not the flat rate. Per diem rates may be accessed at [http://www.policyworks.gov/](http://www.policyworks.gov/).

3. **Interpreters:** If needed, interpreters for the U.S. program are available through the U.S. Department of State Language Services Division. Typically, a pair of simultaneous interpreters is provided for every four visitors who need interpretation. Bureau grants do not pay for foreign interpreters to accompany delegations from their home country. Grant proposal budgets should contain a flat $160/day per diem for each Department of State interpreter, as well as home-program-home air transportation of $400 per interpreter plus any U.S. travel expenses during the program. Salary expenses are covered centrally and should not be part of an applicant’s proposed budget. Locally arranged interpreters with adequate skills and experience may be used by the grantee in lieu of State Department interpreters, with the same 1:4 interpreter to participant ratio. Costs associated with using their services may not exceed rates for U.S. Department of State interpreters.

4. **Book and cultural allowance:** Foreign participants are entitled to and escorts are reimbursed a one-time cultural allowance of $150 per person, plus a participant book allowance of $50. U.S. program staff members are not eligible to receive these benefits.

5. **Consultants.** Consultants may be used to provide specialized expertise, design or manage development projects or to make presentations. Honoraria generally do not exceed $250 per day. Subcontracting organizations may also be used, in which case the written agreement between the prospective grantee and subcontractor should be included in the proposal. Subcontracts should be itemized in the budget.

6. **Room rental.** Room rental may not exceed $250 per day.

7. **Materials development.** Proposals may contain costs to purchase, develop, and translate materials for participants.

8. **Equipment.** Proposals may contain limited costs to purchase equipment crucial to the success of the program, such as computers, fax machines and copy machines. However, equipment costs must be kept to a minimum, and costs for furniture are not allowed.

9. **Working Meal.** The grant budget may provide for only one working meal during the program. Per capita costs may not exceed $5–8 for a lunch and $14–20 for a dinner, excluding room rental. The number of invited guests may not exceed participants by more than a factor of two-to-one. Interpreters must be included as participants.

10. **Return travel allowance.** A return travel allowance of $750 for each foreign participant may be included in the budget. This may be used for incidental
expenses incurred during international travel.

11. Health Insurance. Foreign participants will be covered under the terms of a U.S. Department of State-sponsored health insurance policy. The premium is paid by the U.S. Department of State directly to the insurance company. Applicants are permitted to include costs for travel insurance for U.S. participants in the budget.

12. Administrative Costs. Costs necessary for the effective administration of the program may include salaries for grant organization employees, benefits, and other direct or indirect costs per detailed instructions in the Solicitation Package. Please refer to the Solicitation Package for complete budget guidelines and formatting instructions.

Deadline for Proposals

All proposal copies must be received at the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs by 5 p.m. Washington, DC time on Friday, May 30, 2003. Faxed documents will not be accepted at any time. Documents postmarked the due date but received on a later date will not be accepted. Each applicant must ensure that the proposals are received by the above deadline.

Applicants must follow all instructions in the Solicitation Package. The original and ten copies of the application should be sent to:

U.S. Department of State, SA–44,
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Ref.: ECA/PE/C/WHAEAP–03–49, Program Management, ECA/EX/PM, Room 534, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547.

Applicants must also submit the “Executive Summary” and “Proposal Narrative” sections of the proposal on a 3.5” diskette, formatted for DOS. These documents must be provided in ASCII text (DOS) format with a maximum line length of 65 characters. The Bureau will transmit these files electronically to the Public Affairs section at the U.S. Embassy for its review, with the goal of reducing the time it takes to get embassy comments for the Bureau’s grants review process.

Diversity, Freedom and Democracy Guidelines

Pursuant to the Bureau’s authorizing legislation, programs must maintain a non-political character and should be balanced and representative of the diversity of American political, social, and cultural life. “Diversity” should be interpreted in the broadest sense and encompass differences including, but not limited to ethnicity, race, gender, religion, geographic location, socioeconomic status, and physical challenges. Applicants are strongly encouraged to adhere to the advancement of this principle both in program administration and in program content. Please refer to the review criteria under the ‘Support for Diversity’ section for specific suggestions on incorporating diversity into the total proposal. Public Law 104–319 provides that “in carrying out programs of educational and cultural exchange in countries whose people do not fully enjoy freedom and democracy,” the Bureau “shall take appropriate steps to provide opportunities for participation in such programs to human rights and democracy leaders of such countries.” Public Law 106–113 requires that the governments of the countries described above do not have inappropriate influence in the selection process. Proposals should reflect advancement of these goals in their program contents, to the full extent deemed feasible.

Review Process

The Bureau will acknowledge receipt of all proposals and will review them for technical eligibility. Proposals will be deemed ineligible if they do not fully adhere to the guidelines stated herein and in the Solicitation Package. The Program Office and the Public Diplomacy section overseas will review all eligible proposals. Eligible proposals will be subject to compliance with Federal and Bureau regulations and guidelines and forwarded to Bureau grant panels for advisory review. Proposals may also be reviewed by the Office of the Legal Adviser or by other Department elements. Final funding decisions are at the discretion of the Department of State’s Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs. Final technical authority for assistance awards resides with the Bureau’s Grants Officer.

Review Criteria

Technically eligible applications will be competitively reviewed according to the criteria stated below. These criteria are not rank ordered and all carry equal weight in the proposal evaluation:

1. Program planning to achieve program objectives: Proposals should clearly demonstrate how the institution plans to achieve the program’s objectives. Objectives should be reasonable, feasible, and flexible. The proposal should contain a detailed agenda and relevant work plan that demonstrates substantive undertakings and achievable capacity. Agendas and plans should adhere to the program overview and guidelines described above.

2. Institutional Capacity: The proposed personnel and institutional resources should be adequate and appropriate to achieve the program or project’s goals. For technical projects, foreign experts and their local partners will be required to have the necessary education, training and experience for the work to be undertaken, in addition to language skills where applicable.

3. Institutional Record/Ability: Proposals should demonstrate an institutional record of successful development or exchange programs, including responsible fiscal management and full compliance with all reporting requirements for past Bureau grants as determined by Bureau Grant Staff. The Bureau will consider the past performance of prior recipients and the demonstrated potential of new applicants. Many successful applicants will have a multiyear track record of successful work in the selected country or within the region.

4. Multiplier effect/impact: Proposed programs should strengthen long-term mutual understanding, including maximum sharing of information and establishment of long-term institutional and individual linkages.

5. Support of Diversity: Proposals should demonstrate substantive support of the Bureau’s policy on diversity. Achievable and relevant features should be cited in both program administration (selection of participants, program venue and program evaluation) and program content (orientation and wrap-up sessions, program meetings, resource materials and follow-up activities).

6. Follow-on Activities: Proposals should identify other types of exchanges or linkages that might be undertaken after completion of the Bureau supported activity.

7. Monitoring and Project Evaluation Plan: Proposals should provide a detailed plan for monitoring and evaluating the program. The evaluation plan should identify anticipated outcomes and performance requirements clearly related to program objectives and activities and include procedures for ongoing monitoring and corrective action when necessary. The identification of best practices relating to project administration is also encouraged, as is the discussion of unforeseen difficulties.

8. Cost-effectiveness/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 must provide 30% cost sharing (of the amount of grant funds requested from ECA) through other
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4341]

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Request for Grant Proposals: English as a Foreign Language (EFL) Institutes for Teachers and Administrators From Jordan and Morocco

SUMMARY: The Fulbright Teacher Exchange Branch, Office of Global Educational Programs of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) announces an open competition for an assistance award program to support the development of two single-country teacher-training institutes. Accredited, post-secondary educational institutions meeting the provisions described in Internal Revenue Code section 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) may submit proposals to develop two English-as-a-Foreign Language (EFL) Institutes for teachers and administrators from Jordan and Morocco. Each Institute will provide an intensive five-week academic and one-week site visit program for 8–10 qualified English teachers and administrators from one of the respective countries.

Program Information

Overview

The Bureau asks for detailed proposals from U.S. institutions of higher education, which have expertise in the field of EFL. Proposals should demonstrate deep understanding of the local educational systems in Jordan and Morocco as well as the issues confronting English language education. Special expertise in handling cross-cultural programs is highly desired. Proposals should also outline practical and feasible follow-on activities that build on the achievements of the Institute while promoting the continued exchanges of ideas between the participants and the U.S. institution receiving the grant.

Project Objectives

The proposal should reflect three overall goals: First, to produce a highly focused seminar setting or “Institute” that updates participants in best practices in EFL at the primary through secondary levels; second, to provide participants with train-the-trainer skills that will enable them to conduct workshops on institute topics in their home countries in the future; and third, to provide participants with opportunities to interact with Americans, thereby allowing them to gain awareness and understanding of U.S. culture and society.

Guidelines

Project Planning and Implementation

Grant Inception and Duration

Pending availability of FY 2003 funds, the Institute should begin— and in-country follow-on workshops be conducted—as soon as local and international conditions allow.

Planning

With the concurrence of the Jordanian and Moroccan Ministries of Education, participants will be recruited and selected in-country by the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy, the Department of State’s Regional English Language Officers (RELOs), and the Fulbright Commissions. U.S. embassy officials will work with the Ministries to facilitate follow-on training activities.

After the participants have been selected but prior to their arrival in the U.S., the grantee institution will be responsible for conducting an initial planning visit to both countries to consult with representatives from the U.S. Embassy, Fulbright Commissions, RELOs and local educators. During these meetings and in coordination with the local Fulbright Commission, the grantee institution will conduct a three-day pre-departure orientation workshop for the participants. For information on contacting the Fulbright Commissions please refer to the POGI. This workshop should provide information about the Institute, its goals, and expectations of participants. It should also offer a framework for integrating the Institute and its objectives into participants’ previous training, and promote team-building strategies. At the workshops, organizers should seek input about the needs of local teachers, review comparative teaching practices, and address issues about participants’ stay in the U.S.

In planning for the Institute, the U.S. grantee organization will identify and select specific training and instructional materials (up to a value of approximately $800–$1,000 per set) in consultation with the State Department, RELOs and local experts. Costs for the purchase of the materials and for their shipment will be paid through a separate contract. The grantee organization should not budget for these sets of materials. The materials will support the five-week academic program of the Institute as well as the in-country follow-on workshops.

Numerous sets of these materials will be sent to both Jordan and Morocco and distributed to local teachers and schools participating in the follow-on workshops.

Possible Activities

The Institute should begin by building momentum through an initial meeting with the U.S. embassy, Fulbright Commissions, RELOs and local experts. Costs for the purchase of the materials and for their shipment will be paid through a separate contract. The grantee organization should not budget for these sets of materials. The materials will support the five-week academic program of the Institute as well as the in-country follow-on workshops.

Numerous sets of these materials will be sent to both Jordan and Morocco and distributed to local teachers and schools participating in the follow-on workshops.

Authority

Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87–256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is “to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries * * *; to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations * * * and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world.” The funding authority for the program above is provided through legislation.

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.

Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal Bureau procedures.


Patricia S. Harrison,
Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 03–10177 Filed 4–23–03; 8:45 am]

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