

Responsibility Review: Prior to awarding a grant, the Department will conduct a responsibility review of each potential grantee through available records. The responsibility review relies on testing available records to determine if the applicant has a satisfactory history of accounting for Federal funds and property. The responsibility review is independent of the competitive process. Applicants failing to meet the requirements of this section may be disqualified for selection as grantees, irrespective of their standing in the competition. Any applicant that is not selected as a result of a Grant Officer's responsibility review will be advised of its appeal rights. The responsibility tests that will be applied are those present in the WIA regulations at 20 CFR 667.170.

Areas Not Competed: In the event that no grant applications are received for a specific service delivery area, or all

applications received are deemed non-responsive, or a grant agreement is not successfully negotiated with a selected applicant, the Department will offer the Governor of the State a right of first refusal to submit an acceptable application if that state has not applied. If the Governor does not accept this offer within 15 days after being notified, the Department may designate another organization, reopen the service delivery area for competitive bidding, allocate the area funds by formula to all other service areas, or transfer the funds for that service area to national account activities.

Notification of Non Selection: Any applicant that is not selected as a potential grantee or whose application has been denied in part or in whole by the Department will be notified in writing by the Grant Officer and advised of all appeal rights.

Notification of Selection: Applicants submitting applications in response to this SGA that are selected as potential grantees will be notified in writing by the Grant Officer. The notification will invite each potential grantee to negotiate the final terms and conditions of the grant as applicable, will establish a reasonable time and place for the negotiations, and will indicate the specific service delivery area and amount of funds to be allocated under the grant. PY 2003 funds will be awarded for the period July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004. Grant plans will be approved for that one year only.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 14th day of April, 2003.

Lorraine H. Saunders,

Grant Officer, Employment and Training Administration.

BILLING CODE 4510-30-P