

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7584-2]

Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) Internship Assistance Agreement Competition: Solicitation Notice

SUMMARY: This document solicits cooperative agreement proposals from educational institutions and non-profit organizations that are interested in obtaining EPA financial assistance to provide educational and training opportunities, in the form of internships, for students in the hazardous waste management field. These cooperative agreements will be awarded under Section 311(b)(3) and (9) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act and Section 8001 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act. This cooperative agreement would enable students to (1) gain knowledge of alternative or innovative treatment technologies and real work experience in the hazardous waste management field, and (2) earn academic credit.

Depending on the availability of funds, it is anticipated that a total of approximately \$250,000 over five years, including direct and indirect costs, will be awarded in FY04. Proposals may request funding with a total project cost of up to \$50,000 per year with a duration of up to five years. It is anticipated that OSWER would provide funding for up to five (5) interns per summer, for a twelve-week summer internship, at a stipend of approximately \$10,000 per intern. The project period, however, would run April to April of each year. Funding will only cover stipends and student round-trip travel costs. Stipends may be used to cover housing costs.

Eligibility Information: Only accredited four (4)-year educational institutions subject to OMB Circular A-21 and non-profit organizations, as defined in OMB Circular A-122, are eligible to apply. However, non-profit organizations described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 are not eligible to apply. For profit training schools are not eligible.

Deadline to Submit Proposals: Proposals must be submitted no later than February 4, 2004. Please do not e-mail proposals.

Proposal Format Requirements: Proposal length is limited to fifteen (15) pages, with 1-inch margins, and no attachments.

Address

Proposals must be mailed to:

1. Official Mailing Address

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER), Mail Code 5103T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460, Attention: Nancy Allinson. Telephone Number: 202-566-1915. Fax Number: 202-566-1943.

Agency Points of Contact:

Nancy Allinson, Project Officer, 202-566-1915 (tel), 202-566-1943 (fax), Nancy.Allinson@EPA.Gov, (Eligibility/process issues).

Loren Danforth, Alternate Contact, 202-566-1921, Loren.Danforth@EPA.gov.

Please submit all content-related questions to <http://clu-in.org/proposals/oswerintern>.

Environmental Protection Agency**Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) Internship Assistance Agreement Competition: Solicitation Notice****I. Funding Opportunity Description**

This document solicits cooperative agreement proposals from educational institutions and non-profit organizations that are interested in obtaining EPA financial assistance to provide educational and training opportunities for students in the hazardous waste management field. This cooperative agreement will be awarded under Section 311(b)(3) and (9) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act and Section 8001 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act. The cooperative agreement would enable students to (1) gain knowledge of alternative or innovative treatment technologies and real work experience in the hazardous waste management field, and (2) earn academic credit.

Since the inception of the summer internship program in the 1990's, OSWER has placed an average of approximately 5-10 students in internships at Headquarters and some Regional offices each year. Students who participate as interns come from culturally diverse backgrounds and have majors including engineering (e.g., civil, industrial, chemical and environmental) physics, information systems, general science, public policy, environmental science, economics, and international studies. Examples of projects are: Preparing an assessment of the successes and failures of different remediation technologies; scanning five

year reviews on Superfund and Landfill sites to obtain data on the components and condition of installed cap cover systems for analysis; developing protocols to aid first responders in suspicious powder releases (counter terrorism); and, researching nationwide innovative treatment technologies for input to a database.

II. Award Information

1. Depending on the availability of funds, it is anticipated that a total of approximately \$250,000 over five years, including direct and indirect costs, will be awarded in FY04. Proposals may request funding with a total project cost of up to \$50,000 per year with a duration of up to five years. It is anticipated that OSWER would provide funding for up to (5) interns per summer, for a twelve-week summer internship, at a stipend of approximately \$10,000 per intern, of which some portion may be used for round trip travel costs. The project period, however, would run April to April of each year. Funding will only cover stipends and student round-trip travel costs. Stipends may be used to cover housing costs.

Based on CERCLA statute 311(b)(3), EPA requires cost sharing at a minimum of 5%. The Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) is 66.607.

2. The resulting award will be a Cooperative Agreement. Cooperative Agreements involve substantial involvement between EPA Project Officer and the selected applicant. Anticipated substantial Federal involvement for this project will include:

a. The Project Officer will be part of the final evaluation of the interns for placement. The final decision rests with the recipient.

b. EPA's project officer will closely monitor the recipient's performance to ensure that Agency funding for stipends is used solely for that purpose.

III. Eligibility Information

1. **Eligible Applicants:** Only accredited four (4)-year educational institutions subject to OMB Circular A-21 and non-profit organizations, as defined in OMB Circular A-122, are eligible to apply. However, non-profit organizations described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 are not eligible to apply. For profit training schools are not eligible.

2. **Cost-Sharing or Matching:** Based on CERCLA statute 311(b)(3), EPA requires cost sharing at a minimum of 5%.