

any reason, even as part of a retail transaction. Additionally, the Territories are predominately comprised of small community centers within islands. Family loyalties toward merchants and the fear of community ostracism increase the difficulty of recruiting youth for retail outlet inspections. Ensuring youth safety is also a significant concern when retailer inspections are combined with enforcement. Territories report that maintaining the anonymity of youth inspectors is extremely difficult, if not impossible, in many of these small communities. Youth inspectors have been threatened, verbally harassed, and even injured as a result of their participation in the inspections.

In addition to cultural barriers to the conduct of inspections, accessibility to tobacco outlets often presents significant human and resource challenges for the U.S. Territories. Many Territories include outlying islands with very small populations. In order to conduct compliance inspections in these outlying areas, travel by boat and overnight stays are often required. Such travel is often costly and requires staff to work substantial numbers of hours to complete the required work. These logistical issues further burden the process of complying with the Synar legislative and regulatory requirements. Currently, a Territory must commit significant resources toward the development, implementation, and analysis of the survey of tobacco retail outlets across the Territory, as well as the conduct of law enforcement activities for violators of a Territory's youth tobacco access control law. Given that eligible Territories receive relatively small SAPT Block Grant awards (between \$85,919 and \$756,531), SAMHSA believes that resources expended directly toward the implementation of broader tobacco prevention and control programming would be more productive for obtaining the overall goal of the Synar program—reducing the use of tobacco products by youth.

**Waiver Criteria:** The Administrator of SAMHSA, in his discretion, will grant a waiver to any eligible Territory if:

- A waiver is requested by the eligible Territory at the same time it submits its application for SAPT funds;
- The waiver request is signed by the chief executive officer of the Territory in question;
- The request contains a comprehensive tobacco prevention and control program acceptable to the Administrator; and
- The Territory in question agrees to submit to the Administrator an annual

report on its progress in implementing the plan.

A waiver may be granted for up to three years during which period the Territory in question will be obligated to submit an annual progress report. However, a waiver may be withdrawn as determined appropriate by the Administrator of SAMHSA if the territory fails to submit an annual report or if the progress is determined to be unsatisfactory by the Administrator of SAMHSA. If that should occur, the territory will be required to once again abide by the legislative and regulatory requirements of Synar.

SAMHSA recommends that Territories include the following in their comprehensive tobacco prevention and control plans:

- Public education including information regarding the health consequences of tobacco use, and the problem of youth access to tobacco. Public education may include media campaigns.
- Education and training for retail store owners, managers, and sales clerks on the health consequences of tobacco use and the problem of youth access to tobacco.
- Distribution of culturally sensitive educational materials.
- Community mobilization, which may occur through the formation of community-based coalitions. To be effective, such community coalitions shall support the Territory's capacity to reduce youth use of tobacco products by involving youth in tobacco issues, and by gaining support of the community to reduce a minor's access to tobacco products.
- Environmental strategies including proposals to change or enforce Territorial laws and policies to support efforts to reduce youth use of tobacco products. Examples of possible policy initiatives may include, but not be limited to, encouraging clean indoor air policies, increasing tobacco taxes, or formally supporting youth tobacco cessation programs.

Dated: January 6, 2003.

**Charles G. Curie,**

*Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

#### Rescinding Policy for Resubmitting Revised Applications in Response to SAMHSA Program Announcements

**SUMMARY:** On March 12, 2001, (FR Vol. 66, No. 48, pages 14410-14411), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), HHS, published policy outlining procedures that applicants were required to follow when resubmitting revised applications in response to SAMHSA Program Announcements. The purpose of this notice is to rescind the policy effective February 1, 2003.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and its three Centers, the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), and the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP), publish Program Announcements and Requests for Applications (RFAs) to solicit applications for their grant programs. Program Announcements, unlike RFAs, have continuous application receipt dates; thereby, giving applicants an opportunity to resubmit, for a later receipt date, revised applications that were not funded. Although applicants may still revise and resubmit applications, effective February 1, 2003, SAMHSA is rescinding the policy that outlined specific instructions for revising and resubmitting the applications.

**Contact:** Ms. Sandra Stephens, Extramural Policy Team Leader, Division of Planning and Budget, Office of Policy, Planning, and Budget, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Telephone: (301) 443-9916; Fax: (301) 443-1659.

Dated: February 7, 2003.

**Richard Kopanda,**

*Executive Officer, SAMHSA.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Safe Harbor Agreement for the Urban Wildlands Group, Inc., Los Angeles County, CA

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.