to section 906.5(b) of the Finance Board regulations and exempt under section 552b(c)(8) of title 5 of the United States Code.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Elaine L. Baker, Secretary to the Board, (202) 408–2837.

William W. Ginsberg,

Managing Director.

[FR Doc. 98–17540 Filed 6–26–98; 2:48 pm]

BILLING CODE 6725–01–P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Monday, July 6, 1998.

PLACE: Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, 20th and C Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20551.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Personnel actions (appointments, promotions, assignments, reassignments, and salary actions) involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.

2. Any items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Lynn S. Fox, Assistant to the Board; 202–452–3204.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: You may call 202–452–3206 beginning at approximately 5 p.m. two business days before the meeting for a recorded announcement of bank and bank holding company applications scheduled for the meeting; or you may contact the Board's Web site at http://www.bog.frb.fed.us for an electronic announcement that not only lists applications, but also indicates procedural and other information about the meeting.

Dated: June 26, 1998.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 98–17558 Filed 6–26–98; 3:36 pm]

BILLING CODE 6210–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Program Announcement 98035]

Epidemiologic Research Studies of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection Notice of Availability of Funds

A. Purpose

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 1998 funds for new and competitive continuation cooperative agreements for epidemiologic and behavioral research studies of AIDS and HIV infection. This program addresses the ''Healthy People 2000'' priority area of HIV Infection. These awards will help support researchers in the conduct of HIV-related epidemiologic research studies that foster prevention of HIV infection or HIV-related disease in children. These include studies that address the follow-up of HIV-infected children and other HIV epidemiologic studies.

Research Issue: HIV Infection in Children—Follow Up of Perinatally-Infected Children

Applications are solicited for continued prospective follow-up of HIV-infected children enrolled in the Perinatal AIDS Collaborative Transmission Study (PACTS) between 1986 and 1998. This is a research issue of programmatic interest to the health care community and to CDC for FY 1998. This issue is considered significant to gaining a greater understanding of the epidemiology of AIDS and HIV infection. Follow-up should be done at least every 3 months, and include: (1) collecting information on HIV-related clinical conditions, HIV-related medication use, hospitalizations, and vital status; and (2) collecting blood specimens for viral load testing, lymphocyte immunophenotyping, and storage for other HIV-related testing. Applicants will use a common data collection instrument, protocol, and data management system designed and implemented in collaboration with CDC.

Applications submitted by organizations that examine additional important HIV-related epidemiologic research issues will also be accepted and considered for funding.

B. Eligible Applicants

Applications may be submitted by public and private nonprofit organizations and by governments and their agencies; that is, universities, colleges, research institutions, hospitals, other public and private nonprofit organizations, State and local governments or their bona fide agents, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments, Indian tribes, or Indian tribal organizations.

C. Availability of Funds

Approximately $4.5 million is available in FY 1998 to fund approximately 6 awards. It is expected that awards will range from $250,000 to $1.5 million. It is expected that 4 projects addressing HIV infection in children and 2 other HIV epidemiologic studies will be funded. Awards will begin on or about September 29, 1998, and will be made for a 12-month budget period, within a project period of up to 3 years. Funding estimates may change.

Funding Preferences

Preference will be given to competing continuation applications from satisfactorily performing projects over applications for projects not already receiving support under the program.

D. Program Requirements

In conducting activities to achieve the purpose of this program, the recipient will be responsible for the activities listed under ''Recipient Activities,'' below, and CDC will be responsible for conducting activities listed under ''CDC Activities'', below:

Recipient Activities

Applicants addressing the same research issue should be willing to participate in collaborative studies with other CDC-sponsored researchers, including using common data collection instruments, specimen collection protocols, and data management procedures, as determined in post-award grantee planning conferences. Applicants will be required to pool data for analysis and publication. Applicants are also required to:

A. Develop the research study protocol and data collection forms.

B. Identify, recruit, obtain informed consent from, and enroll an adequate number of study participants as determined by the study protocol and the program requirements.

C. Continue to follow study participants as determined by the study protocol.

D. Establish procedures to maintain the rights and confidentiality of all study participants.

E. Perform laboratory tests (when appropriate) and data analysis as determined in the study protocol.

F. Collaborate and share data and specimens (when appropriate) with other collaborators to answer specific research questions.

G. Conduct data analysis with all collaborators as well as present and publish research findings.

CDC Activities

A. Provide technical assistance in the design and conduct of the research.

B. Provide technical guidance in the development of study protocols, consent forms, and data collection forms.

C. Assist in designing a data management system.

D. Assist in performance of selected laboratory tests.

E. Coordinate research activities among the different sites.

F. Assist in the analysis of research information and the presentation and publication of research findings.

E. Application Content

Competing Applications (New Applications and Competing Continuation Applications)

Use the information in the Program Requirements, Other Requirements, and Evaluation Criteria sections to develop the application content. Your application will be evaluated on the criteria listed, so it is important to follow them in laying out your program plan.

Applicants should identify their proposed research issue on line one of the face page of the application form. Applicants must demonstrate adequate capacity for continued follow-up of children, routine virologic and immunologic testing, data management, and specimen storage. Applicants also must demonstrate the capacity to analyze data and specimens collected in the PACTS project to address important issues related to preventing HIV infection and its manifestations in children, and provide proposed analyses to be completed during the project period.

In future years, noncompeting continuation applications submitted within the approved project period should include:

A. brief progress report describing the accomplishments of the preceding budget period;

B. new or significantly revised items or information (objectives, scope of activities, operational methods, evaluation), that is, not in the initial application; and

C. annual budget and justification (budget items that are unchanged from the preceding budget period do not need rejustification, simply list the items in the budget and note that they are continuation items).

F. Submission and Deadline

On or before JULY 31, 1998, submit the original and five copies of PHS–398 (OMB Number 0925–0001) (adhere to the instructions on the Errata Instruction Sheet for PHS 398) to: Kevin Moore, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Announcement 98035, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 255 East Paces Ferry Road, N.E., Room 300, Mail Stop E–15, Atlanta, Georgia 30305–2209.

Applications must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier by the deadline date. If your application does not arrive in time for submission to the independent review panel, it will not be considered in the current competition unless you can provide proof that you mailed it on or before the deadline (i.e., receipt from U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier; private metered postmarks are not acceptable).

G. Evaluation Criteria

Each application will be evaluated individually against the following criteria by an independent reviewer group appointed by CDC. Applicants will be ranked on a scale of 100 maximum points according to the research area identified. All applicants must state which research category they are addressing. Applicants should demonstrate the applicant's ability to address the research problem in a collaborative manner with other collaborators. Applications will be reviewed and evaluated based on the evidence submitted.

HIV Infection in Children

A. Recruitment, Retention, and Adherence to Study Protocol (20 Points)

(1) Extent of applicant's experience in perinatal and pediatric HIV infection epidemiologic research.

(2) Evidence of ability to successfully follow HIV-infected children in longitudinal research studies.

(3) Evidence of ability to collect complete data from HIV-infected children.

B. Description and Justification of Research Plans (30 Points)

(1) Extent of familiarity and quality of experience pertinent to proposed research activities.

(2) Understanding of the research objectives as evidenced by high quality of the proposed plan for research and a study design that is appropriate to answer research questions.

(3) Originality of research, extent to which it does not replicate past or present research efforts, and direct relevance of research to guiding current efforts to prevent perinatal HIV transmission and HIV disease progression in children.

(4) Feasibility of plans to follow study participants, and adequacy of sample size to address research questions. This includes demonstration of the experience of the investigator in enrolling and following such persons, and the comprehensiveness of the plan to protect the rights and confidentiality of all participants.

(5) Thoroughness of plans for data management, data analysis, and laboratory analysis; reasonableness of data collected; and statistical rigor.

(6) Extent to which proposal demonstrates feasible plans for coordinating research activities of multiple clinical sites, where appropriate, and with CDC. Letters of support from cooperating organizations that demonstrate the nature and extent of such cooperation should be included.

(7) The degree to which the applicant has met the CDC Policy requirements regarding the inclusion of women, ethnic, and racial groups in the proposed research. This includes: (a) The proposed plan for the inclusion of both sexes and racial and ethnic minority populations for appropriate representation; (b) the proposed justification when representation is limited or absent; (c) a statement as to whether the design of the study is adequate to measure differences when warranted; and (d) a statement as to whether the plans for recruitment and outreach for study participants include the process of establishing partnerships with community(ies) and recognition of mutual benefits.

C. Research Capability (30 Points)

(1) Capacity to conduct study as evidenced by quality of experience with similar or related research as evidenced by previous related research, including demonstration of ability to collect, manage, and analyze accurate data in a timely manner.

(2) Demonstration of working relationships with proposed collaborators.

(3) Demonstration of epidemiologic, behavioral, administrative, clinical, laboratory, data management, and statistical expertise needed to conduct proposed research.

D. Staffing, Facilities, and Time-line (20 Points)

(1) Availability of qualified personnel with realistic and sufficient percentage-time commitments, and the clarity of the descriptions of the duties and responsibilities of project personnel.

(2) Adequacy of plans for project oversight to assure quality of data.

(3) Adequacy of facilities, equipment, data processing and analysis capacity, and systems for management of data security and participant confidentiality.

(4) Adequacy of time line for completion of project activities.

E. Other (not Scored)

(1) *Budget:* Will be reviewed to determine the extent to which it is reasonable, clearly justified, consistent with the intended use of funds, and allowable. All budget categories should be itemized.

(2) *Human Subjects:* Does the application adequately address the institutional review board requirements for the protection of human subjects?

_____ Yes _____ No

Comments: _____

Other HIV/AIDS Epidemiologic Research Studies

A. Familiarity With and Access to Study Population (25 Points)

(3) Extent of applicant's knowledge of issues faced by study population and experience in working with this population.

(4) Existence of linkages to facilitate recruitment from and referral to programs providing services for the study population and letters of support from these programs.

(5) Feasibility of plans to involve the study population, their advocates, or service providers in the development of research and intervention activities and to inform them of research results.

(6) Evidence that plans for recruitment of and outreach for study participants will include establishing partnerships with communities.

B. Description and Justification of a Research Plan (40 Points)

(1) Quality of the review of the scientific literature pertinent to the proposed study, including theoretical basis for research, and relevance of research questions.

(2) The originality of research, the extent to which it does not replicate past or present research efforts (including ongoing efforts not yet described in publications), and relevance to guiding current HIV prevention efforts.

(3) Applicant's understanding of the research objectives as evidence by high quality of the proposed research plan with a study design that is appropriate to answer research questions.

(4) Feasibility of plans to sample, recruit, enroll, test, interview, and follow study participants and adequacy of sample size to address research questions. This includes demonstration of the availability of HIV-infected potential study participants and persons at risk for HIV infection and the experience of the investigator in enrolling and following such persons in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner; the degree to which the applicant has met the CDC Policy requirements regarding the inclusion of women, ethnic, and racial groups in the proposed research, including: (a) the proposed plan for the inclusion of both sexes and racial and ethnic minority populations for appropriate representation, (b) the proposed justification when representation is limited or absent, (c) a statement as to whether the design of the study is adequate to measure differences when warranted, and (d) a statement as to whether the plans for recruitment and outreach for study participants include the process of establishing partnerships with community(ies) and recognition of mutual benefits; comprehensiveness of the plan to protect the rights and confidentiality of all participants; and proposed justification when representation is limited or absent.

(5) Thoroughness of analysis plans, reasonableness for data collected, statistical rigor and complexity.

(6) Extent to which study proposal demonstrates assurance of compliance with multisite research requirements (e.g., common protocol, data collection, and computer and data management systems), if appropriate.

C. Demonstrate Staff's Capability to Conduct Research (20 Points)

(1) Capacity to conduct study as evidenced by experience with similar or related research as evidenced by their previous related research.

(2) Extent of the team's productive working relations with proposed collaborators.

(3) Ability, willingness, and need to collaborate with researchers from other study sites in study design and analysis, including use of common forms, and sharing of specimens (when appropriate) and data.

D. Staffing, Facilities, and Time-line (15 Points)

(1) Availability of qualified personnel with realistic and sufficient percentage-time commitments; and the clarity of the description of duties and responsibilities of project personnel with epidemiologic, behavioral, administrative, clinical, laboratory, data management, and statistical responsibilities.

(2) Adequacy of the facilities, equipment, data processing and analysis capacity, and systems for management of data security and participant confidentiality.

(3) Adequacy of time line.

E. Other (not Scored)

(1) Budget: Will be reviewed to determine the extent to which it is reasonable, clearly justified, consistent with the intended use of funds, and allowable. All budget categories should be itemized.

(2) Human Subjects: Does the application adequately address the institutional review board requirements for the protection of human subjects?

_____ Yes _____ No

Comments: _____

H. Other Requirements

Technical Reporting Requirements

Provide CDC with original plus two copies of

1. Annual progress report;

2. Financial status report, no more than 90 days after the end of the budget period; and

3. Final financial status report and performance report, no more than 90 days after the end of the project period send all reports to: Kevin Moore, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 255 East Paces Ferry Road, N.E., Room 300, Mail Stop E–15, Atlanta, GA 30305–2209.

For descriptions of the following Other Requirements, see Attachment 1:

AR98–1 Human Subjects
AR98–2 Requirements for Inclusion of Women and Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Research
AR98–4 HIV/AIDS Confidentiality Provisions
AR98–5 HIV Program Review Panel Requirements
AR98–6 Patient Care
AR98–7 Executive Order 12372 Review
AR98–8 Public Health System Reporting Requirements
AR98–9 Paperwork Reduction Act
AR98–10 Smoke-Free Workplace Requirements

AR98–11 Healthy People 2000

AR98–12 Lobbying Restrictions

I. Authority and Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number

This program is authorized under the Public Health Service Act, Sections 301(a) and 317(k)(2) [42 U.S.C. 241(a) and 247b(k) (2)], as amended. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number is 93.943.

J. Where To Obtain Additional Information

To receive additional written information and to request an application kit, call 1–888–GRANTS4 (1–888–472–6874). You will be asked to leave your name and address and to identify the Announcement number, 98035. If you have questions after reviewing the contents of all the documents, business management technical assistance may be obtained from: Kevin Moore, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Announcement 98035, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 255 East Paces Ferry Road, N.E., Room 300, Mail Stop E–15, Atlanta, GA 30305–2209, Telephone (404) 842–6550, E-mail kgm1@cdc.gov.

See also the CDC Internet home page at: www.cdc.gov

For program technical assistance, contact: Jeff Efird, Acting Chief, Epidemiology Branch, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention Surveillance & Epidemiology, National Center for HIV, STD, TB Prevention Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 1600 Clifton Road, NE., Mail Stop E–45, Atlanta, Georgia 30333, Telephone (404) 639–6130, E-mail jle1@cdc.gov.

Eligible applicants are encouraged to call before developing and submitting their applications.

Dated: June 23, 1998.

John L. Williams,

Director, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

[FR Doc. 98–17305 Filed 6–29–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163–18–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

[Program Announcement 98096]

Economic Evaluation of Engineering Control Interventions for Drywall Sanding Construction Activities; Notice of Availability of Funds

A. Purpose

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 1998 funds for a cooperative agreement program to conduct an economic evaluation and variable analyses of engineering control interventions during drywall sanding construction activities. This program addresses the ''Healthy People 2000'' priority area of Occupational Safety and Health.

The purpose of the program is to identify the financial and behavior factors which are affected by implementing drywall sanding engineering controls. These factors may occur throughout the construction-model hierarchy from the individual worker on up to the building owner. A successful project will serve as an example throughout the construction industry that the cost and benefits of providing a clean and safe working environment should be evaluated from the big-picture perspective as opposed to the level of acquisition. Such an example could lead to new implementation strategies to increase the use of engineering controls and ultimately improve the construction work environment.

B. Eligible Applicants

Applications may be submitted by public and private nonprofit and for-profit organizations and by governments and their agencies; that is, universities, colleges, research institutions, hospitals, other public and private nonprofit and for-profit organizations, State and local governments or their bona fide agents.

Note: Public Law 104–65 states that an organization described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to receive Federal funds constituting an award, grant, cooperative agreement, contract, loan, or any other form.

C. Availability of Funds

Approximately $95,000 is available in FY 1998 to fund one award. It is expected that the award will be renewed on an annual basis for an additional two years at an approximate amount of $95,000 per year. It is expected that the awards will begin on or about September 1, 1998, with 12-month budget periods within project periods of up to three years. The funding estimate is subject to change.

Continuation awards within an approved project period will be made on the basis of satisfactory progress as evidenced by required reports and the availability of funds.

Use of Funds: The applicant should allocate funds for at least one annual CDC/NIOSH directed meeting.

Programmatic Interest: The applicant should address the availability of drywall sanding dust exposure reduction interventions and the economic impact and related variable analyses of some or all of the identified interventions upon the various organizational layers (e.g. worker, subcontractor, general contractor, building owner) within the building construction process.

D. Program Agreement Requirements

In conducting activities to achieve the purpose of this program, the recipient will be responsible for activities under A. (Recipient Activities), and CDC/NIOSH will be responsible for the activities listed under B. (CDC/NIOSH Activities).

A. Recipient Activities

1. Develop, implement, and evaluate a study protocol.
2. Provide statistical analysis of the data.
3. Disseminate study results to the construction safety and health community.
4. Collaborate with CDC/NIOSH on these activities and the activities listed below.

B. CDC/NIOSH Activities

1. Providing scientific and technical collaboration including study design and protocol development, and data analysis.
2. Monitor and evaluate scientific and operational accomplishments of the project through site visits, telephone calls, and review of technical reports and interim data analysis.
3. Collaborate with awardee(s) on data analysis, and interpretation of findings.
4. Review the results of the study and collaborate, where appropriate, in the preparation and publication of results in peer-reviewed journals and construction industry trade publications.

E. Application Content

Use the information in the Program Requirements, Other Requirements, and