

VIII. Other Information

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice.

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Dated: February 4, 2011.

Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana,
Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 2011-2897 Filed 2-8-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Advisory Commission on Accessible Instructional Materials in Postsecondary Education for Students With Disabilities

AGENCY: Advisory Commission on Accessible Instructional Materials in Postsecondary Education for Students with Disabilities, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of an open meeting and public hearing.

SUMMARY: The notice sets forth the schedule and agenda of the meeting of the Advisory Commission on Accessible Instructional Materials in Postsecondary Education for Students with Disabilities. The notice also describes the functions of the Commission. Notice of the meeting is required by section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and is intended to notify the public of its opportunity to attend.

DATES: *Open Meeting:* February 24–25, 2011.

Public Hearing: February 24, 2011.

TIME: February 24, 2011: The open meeting will occur from 8:30 a.m.–3:30

p.m. and the public hearing will occur from 4 p.m.–9 p.m.

February 25, 2011: The open meeting will occur from 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront Hotel, 225 East Coastline Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Shook, Program Specialist, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, United States Department of Education, 550 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20202; telephone: (202) 245-7642, fax: 202-245-7638.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Advisory Commission on Accessible Instructional Materials in Postsecondary Education for Students with Disabilities (the Commission) is established under Section 772 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act, Public Law 110-315, dated August 14, 2008. The Commission is established to conduct a comprehensive study, which will—(I) “assess the barriers and systemic issues that may affect, and technical solutions available that may improve, the timely delivery and quality of accessible instructional materials for postsecondary students with print disabilities, as well as the effective use of such materials by faculty and staff; and (II) make recommendations related to the development of a comprehensive approach to improve the opportunities for postsecondary students with print disabilities to access instructional materials in specialized formats in a time frame comparable to the availability of instructional materials for postsecondary nondisabled students.”

In making recommendations for the study, “the Commission shall consider—(I) how students with print disabilities may obtain instructional materials in accessible formats within a time frame comparable to the availability of instructional materials for nondisabled students; and to the maximum extent practicable, at costs comparable to the costs of such materials for nondisabled students; (II) the feasibility and technical parameters of establishing standardized electronic file formats, such as the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard as defined in Section 674(e)(3) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, to be provided by publishers of instructional materials to producers of materials in specialized formats, institutions of higher education, and eligible students; (III) the feasibility of establishing a national clearinghouse, repository, or file-sharing network for electronic files in specialized formats and files used in producing

instructional materials in specialized formats, and a list of possible entities qualified to administer such clearinghouse, repository, or network; (IV) the feasibility of establishing market-based solutions involving collaborations among publishers of instructional materials, producers of materials in specialized formats, and institutions of higher education; (V) solutions utilizing universal design; and (VI) solutions for low-incidence, high-cost requests for instructional materials in specialized formats.”

The Commission will meet in open session on Thursday and Friday, and will discuss the work of Commission to date. The Commission will also discuss the structure and content of the Commission report and review the timeline for completing the report. The Commission’s discussion will address the four areas that members have identified as being crucial to the development of the report: Legal, Technology, Market Model and Low Incidence/High Cost. The Commission will focus on an analysis of Legal and Technology issues.

The purpose of the public hearing is for the Commission to receive information from its stakeholders on issues pertaining to accessible instructional materials in postsecondary education. The public hearing session will address issues related to law, technology, the market model, and low-incidence/high-cost materials. Additionally, the public hearing will focus on individual experiences related to accessible instructional materials in postsecondary education.

Detailed minutes of the meeting and hearing, will be available to the public within 14 days of the meeting. Records are kept of all Commission proceedings and are available for public inspection at the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, United States Department of Education, 550 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20202, Monday–Friday during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Additional Information

Individuals who will need accommodations for a disability in order to attend the meeting (e.g., interpreting services, assistive listening devices, or material in alternative format) should notify Elizabeth Shook at (202) 245-7642, no later than February 18, 2011. We will make every attempt to meet requests for accommodations after this date, but, cannot guarantee their availability. The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Participants who wish to comment at the public hearing are encouraged to register in advance by calling Janet Gronneberg at CAST at 781-245-2212 (voice) or 781-245-9320 (TTY) or jgronneberg@cast.org by February 18, 2011. The Commission requests that organizations with multiple participants designate no more than one individual to speak on its behalf. Participants who register in advance, including remote participants, must report to the hearing registration desk at least thirty minutes prior to their scheduled time. A period of time will be reserved for individuals who choose to not register in advance. Participation in the hearing for unregistered participants will be subject to availability. Comments should be limited to five minutes per person or organization, but participants have the option of supplementing their testimony with written statements that will be part of the official hearing record. Technology to facilitate PowerPoint presentations will be available.

Members of the public who would like to offer comments as part of the public hearing remotely may submit written comments to AIMCommission@ed.gov or by mail to Advisory Commission on Accessible Instructional Materials in Postsecondary Education for Students with Disabilities, 550 12th St., SW., Room PCP-5113, Washington, DC 20202. All submissions will become part of the public record. Members of the public also have the option of participating in the open meeting and public hearing remotely. Remote access will be provided via an internet webinar service utilizing VoiP (Voice Over Internet Protocol). Login information will be provided via the Commission's public listserv at pscpublic@lists.cast.org and posted at the following site: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/aim/index.html>.

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Dated: February 3, 2011.

Alexa Posny,

Assistant Secretary, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 2011-2833 Filed 2-8-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Assessment Governing Board; Meeting

AGENCY: Department of Education, National Assessment Governing Board.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting and partially closed sessions.

SUMMARY: The notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the National Assessment Governing Board. This notice also describes the functions of the Board. Notice of this meeting is required under Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This document is intended to notify members of the general public of their opportunity to attend. Individuals who will need special accommodations in order to attend the meeting (e.g. interpreting services, assistive listening devices, materials in alternative format) should notify Munira Mwalimu at 202-357-6938 or at Munira.Mwalimu@ed.gov no later than February 14, 2011. We will attempt to meet requests after this date, but cannot guarantee availability of the requested accommodation. The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

DATES: March 3-5, 2011.

Times:

March 3: Committee Meetings: Assessment Development Committee: Closed Session—12 p.m.—4:15 p.m.

Executive Committee: Open Session—4:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.; Closed Session—5:15 p.m. to 6 p.m.

March 4:

Full Board: Open Session—8:15 a.m. to 10 a.m.; Closed Session—12:45 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.; Open Session—2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Committee Meetings:

Assessment Development Committee: Closed Session—10:20 a.m. to 12:0 p.m.; Open session 12:25 p.m.—12:30 p.m.

Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology: Open Session—10:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Reporting and Dissemination Committee: Open Session—10:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

March 5:

Nominations Committee: Closed Session—7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.

Full Board: Closed Session—8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.; Open Session—9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Location: Marriott Miami Biscayne Bay, 1633 North Bayshore Drive, Miami, FL 33132

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Munira Mwalimu, Operations Officer, National Assessment Governing Board,

800 North Capitol Street, NW., Suite 825, Washington, DC 20002-4233, Telephone: (202) 357-6938.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Assessment Governing Board is established under Section 302 of Title III, Public Law 107-279 (which amended Pub. L. 107-110), the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act. The Board is established to formulate policy guidelines for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The Board's responsibilities include the following: selecting subject areas to be assessed, developing assessment frameworks and specifications, developing appropriate student achievement levels for each grade and subject tested, developing standards and procedures for regional and national comparisons, developing guidelines for reporting and disseminating results, and releasing initial NAEP results to the public.

On March 3, from 12 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., the Assessment Development Committee will meet in closed session to review 250 secure NAEP test items for the NAEP Long Term Trend in reading and mathematics for ages 9, 13, and 17 for the 2012 operational assessment and the 2016 pilot test. Board members will be provided with secure test items for review that cannot be discussed in an open meeting. Premature disclosure of these secure materials would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP assessments, and is therefore protected by exemption 9(B) of section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C.

On March 3, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m., the Executive Committee will meet in open session and thereafter in closed session from 5:15 p.m. to 6 p.m. During the closed session on March 3, the Executive Committee will receive a briefing from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) on options for NAEP contracts covering assessment years beyond 2011 and discuss budget implications for the NAEP assessment schedule and for international linking studies. The discussion of contract options and costs will address the congressionally mandated goals and Board policies on NAEP assessments. This part of the meeting must be conducted in closed session because public discussion of this information would disclose independent government cost estimates and contracting options, adversely impacting the confidentiality of the contracting process. Public disclosure of information discussed would significantly impede implementation of