

increasing importance to the literacy and adult education field.

(d) *Assessing Progress toward National Educational Goal 6.* Goal 6, the adult literacy and lifelong learning goal, states that: "By the year 2000, every adult American will be literate and will possess the knowledge and skills necessary to compete in a global economy and exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship." Gauging progress toward this goal is a primary concern of the Institute and a complex undertaking that challenges all sectors of the literacy field. As a result, there is growing interest in development of innovative approaches for measuring and documenting this progress in a variety of service settings.

(e) *The Role of Adult Learners in Literacy and Adult Education Programs.* As the primary consumers of literacy and adult education services, adult learners have the greatest personal stake in the quality of these services, and unique contributions to make in setting policy for, planning, and implementing programs. The Institute is interested in learning more about how current and former adult learners can play meaningful roles at every level of the literacy field nationwide.

Subpart B—How Does an Individual Apply for a Fellowship?

§ 1100.10 What categories of fellowship does the Institute award?

(a) The Institute awards two categories of Literacy Leadership Fellowships:

- (1) Career Literacy Worker Fellowships; and
 - (2) Adult Learner Fellowships.
- (b) [Reserved]

§ 1100.11 How does an individual apply for a fellowship?

An individual shall apply to the Director for a fellowship award in response to an application notice published by the Director in the **Federal Register**. The application must describe a plan for one or more of the activities stated in § 1100.3 that the applicant proposes to conduct under the fellowship. The application must also indicate which category of fellowship, as described in § 1100.10(b), most accurately describes the applicant.

Subpart C—How Does the Director Award a Fellowship?

§ 1100.20 How is a fellow selected?

(a) The Director rates applications using the selection criteria in § 1100.21 and then determines the order in which applications in each category will be

ranked. The Director may consider the following in making this determination:

(1) The rating of the applications based on the criteria in § 1100.21, plus any bonus points an applicant may have been awarded for addressing an Institute priority or priorities, as established annually.

(2) Whether the selection of an application would increase the diversity of fellowship projects awarded under this program.

(b) The Director determines the number of awards to be made in each category and chooses the corresponding number of top-ranked applications for each category.

§ 1100.21 What selection criteria does the Director use to rate an applicant?

The Director uses 34 CFR 75.217 and the following criteria in evaluating each applicant for a fellowship:

(a) *Quality of the plan for the proposed activity.* (40 points) The Director reviews the quality of each proposed project to ensure that—

(1) The design of the project is of high quality;

(2) The applicant's project is feasible;

(3) The project addresses critical questions in innovative ways;

(4) The applicant's project relates to the purposes of the fellowship program and the work of the Institute; and

(5) If the proposed activities include research, the likely validity of the research hypothesis proposed, the usefulness of the objectives to be achieved, and the effectiveness of the methodology to be followed.

(b) *Significance of the proposed project.* (30 points) The Director assesses the significance of the proposed project to ensure that—

(1) The project addresses important issues in literacy or adult education;

(2) Project results are likely to contribute to the knowledge base in literacy or adult education, and to federal policy initiatives in these or related areas;

(3) The project will enhance literacy or adult education practice;

(4) The project will complement or enhance related activities of value to the field; and

(5) The project builds research capacity within the field.

(c) *Qualifications of the applicant.* (30 points) The Director reviews the qualifications of each applicant to ensure—

(1) The appropriateness and quality of the applicant's background, education, and work experiences as they relate to the proposed project, as shown in documentation that may include recommendations of present or former supervisors or colleagues;

(2) Demonstrated ability to produce a final product that is comprehensive and useful;

(3) If relevant, demonstrations of motivation and the ability to overcome obstacles in pursuing educational or career goals; and

(4) If relevant, evidence of the availability of additional support to carry out the proposed activity.

§ 1100.22 How does the Director determine the amount of a fellowship?

The amount of a fellowship includes—

(a) A stipend, based on—

(1) The fellow's current annual salary; prorated for the length of the fellowship not to exceed \$30,000 salary reimbursement; or

(2) If a fellow has no current salary, the fellow's education and experience; and

(b) A subsistence allowance and necessary travel expenses related to the fellowship, consistent with 5 U.S.C. chapter 57.

§ 1100.23 What payment methods may the Director use?

(a) The Director will pay a fellowship award directly to the fellow or through the fellow's employer.

(b) The Director considers the preferences of the fellow in determining whether to pay a fellowship award directly to the fellow or through the fellow's employer; however, the Director pays a fellowship award through the fellow's employer only if the employer enters into an agreement with the Director to comply with the provisions of § 1100.24.

§ 1100.24 What are the procedures for payment of a fellowship award directly to the fellow?

(a) If the Director pays a fellowship award directly to the fellow after the Director determines the amount of a fellowship award, the fellowship recipient shall submit a payment schedule to the Director for approval. The Director advises the recipient of the approved schedule.

(b) If a fellow does not complete the fellowship, or if the Institute terminates the fellowship, the fellow shall return to the Director a prorated portion of the stipend and any unused subsistence allowance and travel funds at the time and in the manner required by the Director.

§ 1100.25 What are the procedures for payment of a fellowship award through the fellow's employer?

(a) If the Director pays a fellowship award through the fellow's employer, the employer shall submit a payment schedule to the Director for approval.