

pursue a discrimination complaint by filing a grievance through your agency's administrative or negotiated grievance procedures, if such procedures apply and are available.

Contact the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), Equal Employment Opportunity and Cultural Diversity Office (EEOCD) to make contact with an EEO Counselor; or the Manpower, Personnel and Security Directorate (MPS1) for additional information concerning administrative or negotiated grievances. (See contact information below).

Whistleblower Protection Laws

A Federal employee with authority to take, direct others to take, recommend or approve any personnel action must not use that authority to take or fail to take, or threaten to take or fail to take, a personnel action against an employee or applicant because of disclosure of information by that individual that is reasonably believed to evidence violations of law, rule or regulation; gross mismanagement; gross waste of funds; an abuse of authority; or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, unless disclosure of such information is specifically prohibited by law and such information is specifically required by Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or the conduct of foreign affairs.

Retaliation against an employee or applicant for making a protected disclosure is prohibited by 5 U.S.C.

2302(b)(8). If you believe that you have been the victim of whistleblower retaliation, you may file a written complaint (Form OSC-11) with the U.S. Office of Special Counsel at 1730 M Street NW., Suite 218, Washington, DC 20036-4505 or online through the OSC Web site—<http://www.osc.gov>.

Contact the DISA, Office of Inspector General (IG) for additional information concerning or to report fraud, waste and abuse. (See contact information below).

Retaliation for Engaging in Protected Activity

A Federal agency cannot retaliate against an employee or applicant because that individual exercises his or her rights under any of the Federal antidiscrimination or whistleblower protection laws listed above. If you believe that you are the victim of retaliation for engaging in protected activity, you must follow, as appropriate, the procedures described in the Antidiscrimination Laws and Whistleblower Protection Laws sections or, if applicable, the administrative or negotiated grievance procedures in order to pursue any legal remedy.

For additional information, contact the OSC (see contact information above); or the appropriate DISA office (see contact information below).

Disciplinary Actions

Under the existing laws, each agency retains the right, where appropriate, to

discipline a Federal employee for conduct that is inconsistent with Federal Antidiscrimination and Whistleblower Protection Laws up to and including removal. If OSC has initiated an investigation under 5 U.S.C. 1214, however, according to 5 U.S.C. 1214(f), agencies must seek approval from the Special Counsel to discipline employees for, among other activities, engaging in prohibited retaliation. Nothing in the No FEAR Act alters existing laws or permits an agency to take unfounded disciplinary action against a Federal employee or to violate the procedural rights of a Federal employee who has been accused of discrimination.

Contact MPS1 for additional information concerning disciplinary actions. (See contact information below).

Additional Information

For further information regarding the No FEAR Act regulations, refer to 5 CFR part 724, as well as the appropriate offices within your agency (e.g., EEO/civil rights office, human resources office or legal office). Additional information regarding Federal antidiscrimination, whistleblower protection and retaliation laws can be found at the EEOC Web site—<http://www.eeoc.gov> and the OSC Web site—<http://www.osc.gov>.

DISA office	Phone No. (DSN 327)	Web site	E-mail address
Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Cultural Diversity (EEOCD).	(703) 607-6458	http://www.disa.mil/main/eeo.html	
Office of General Counsel (GC)	(703) 607-6091	http://www.disa.mil/main/gc.html ..	Generalcounsel@disa.mil IG-Hotline@ncr.disa.mil
Office of Inspector General (IG)	24 Hr Hotline: (703) 607-6317	http://www.disa.mil/mail/ig.html	
Manpower, Personnel and Security (MPS1).	Main: (703) 607-6300	
	(703) 607-4740 or 4403	http://www.disa.mil/main/mps.html	

Existing Rights Unchanged

Pursuant to section 205 of the No FEAR Act, neither the Act nor this notice creates, expands or reduces any rights otherwise available to any employee, former employee or applicant under the laws of the United States, including the provisions of law specified in 5 U.S.C. 2302(d).

November 13, 2006.

L. M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, DoD.

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BILLING CODE 5001-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Revised Non-Foreign Overseas Per Diem Rates

AGENCY: DoD, Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of revised non-foreign overseas per diem rates.

SUMMARY: The Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee is publishing Civilian Personnel Per Diem Bulletin Number 250. This bulletin lists revisions in the per diem rates prescribed for U.S. Government

employees for official travel in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands and Possessions of the United States. AEA changes announced in Bulletin Number 194 remain in effect. Bulletin Number 250 is being published in the **Federal Register** to assure that travelers are paid per diem at the most current rates.

DATES: *Effective Date:* December 1, 2006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document gives notice of revisions in per diem rates prescribed by the Per Diem Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee for non-foreign areas outside the continental United States. It supersedes Civilian Personnel Per Diem Bulletin Number 249.

Distribution of Civilian Personnel Per Diem Bulletins by mail was discontinued. Per Diem Bulletins published periodically in the **Federal Register** now constitute the only notification of revisions in per diem

rates to agencies and establishments outside the Department of Defense. For more information or questions about per diem rates, please contact your local travel office. The text of the Bulletin follows:

Dated: November 13, 2006.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, DoD.

BILLING CODE 5001-06-M

Maximum Per Diem Rates for official travel in Alaska, Hawaii, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands and Possessions of the United States by Federal Government civilian employees.

LOCALITY	MAXIMUM LODGING		M&IE RATE	MAXIMUM PER DIEM		EFFECTIVE DATE
	AMOUNT (A)	+ (B)		= (C)		
THE ONLY CHANGE IN CIVILIAN BULLETIN 250 IS AN UPDATE TO THE RATE FOR OTHER, HAWAII.						
ALASKA						
ADAK	120		79		199	07/01/2003
ANCHORAGE [INCL NAV RES]						
05/01 - 09/15	170		93		263	05/01/2006
09/16 - 04/30	95		85		180	05/01/2006
BARROW	159		95		254	05/01/2002
BETHEL	125		78		203	05/01/2006
BETTLES	135		62		197	10/01/2004
CLEAR AB	90		82		172	10/01/2006
COLD BAY	90		73		163	05/01/2002
COLDFOOT	165		70		235	10/01/2006
COPPER CENTER						
05/01 - 09/30	129		75		204	04/01/2006
10/01 - 04/30	89		71		160	04/01/2006
CORDOVA						
05/01 - 09/30	95		74		169	05/01/2006
10/01 - 04/30	85		72		157	04/01/2005
CRAIG						
04/15 - 09/14	125		67		192	04/01/2006
09/15 - 04/14	95		64		159	04/01/2006
DEADHORSE	95		67		162	05/01/2002
DELTA JUNCTION	90		82		172	04/01/2006
DENALI NATIONAL PARK						
06/01 - 08/31	122		66		188	04/01/2006
09/01 - 05/31	70		61		131	04/01/2006
DILLINGHAM	114		69		183	06/01/2004
DUTCH HARBOR-UNALASKA	121		84		205	04/01/2006
EARECKSON AIR STATION	90		82		172	10/01/2006
EIELSON AFB						
05/01 - 09/15	169		88		257	04/01/2006
09/16 - 04/30	75		79		154	04/01/2006
ELMENDORF AFB						
05/01 - 09/15	170		93		263	05/01/2006
09/16 - 04/30	95		85		180	05/01/2006
FAIRBANKS						
05/01 - 09/15	169		88		257	04/01/2006
09/16 - 04/30	75		79		154	04/01/2006
FOOTLOOSE	175		18		193	06/01/2002
FT. GREELY	90		82		172	04/01/2006
FT. RICHARDSON						
05/01 - 09/15	170		93		263	05/01/2006
09/16 - 04/30	95		85		180	05/01/2006
FT. WAINWRIGHT						
05/01 - 09/15	169		88		257	04/01/2006
09/16 - 04/30	75		79		154	04/01/2006
GLENNALLEN						

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LOCALITY	MAXIMUM LODGING		M&IE RATE (B)	MAXIMUM PER DIEM		EFFECTIVE DATE
	AMOUNT (A)	+		RATE (C)	=	
05/01 - 09/30	171		79		250	04/01/2006
10/01 - 04/30	69		69		138	04/01/2006
SITKA-MT. EDGE CUMBE						
05/01 - 09/30	119		75		194	04/01/2006
10/01 - 04/30	99		73		172	04/01/2006
SKAGWAY						
05/01 - 09/30	135		82		217	04/01/2005
10/01 - 04/30	98		78		176	04/01/2005
SLANA						
05/01 - 09/30	139		55		194	02/01/2005
10/01 - 04/30	99		55		154	02/01/2005
SPRUCE CAPE						
05/01 - 09/30	123		91		214	04/01/2006
10/01 - 04/30	99		88		187	04/01/2006
ST. GEORGE	129		55		184	06/01/2004
TALKEETNA	100		89		189	07/01/2002
TANANA	125		86		211	05/01/2006
TOGIAK	100		39		139	07/01/2002
TOK	90		65		155	05/01/2006
UMIAT	350		35		385	10/01/2006
VALDEZ						
05/01 - 10/01	129		80		209	04/01/2006
10/02 - 04/30	79		75		154	04/01/2006
WASILLA						
05/01 - 09/30	134		84		218	04/01/2006
10/01 - 04/30	80		79		159	04/01/2006
WRANGELL						
05/01 - 09/30	135		82		217	04/01/2005
10/01 - 04/30	98		78		176	04/01/2005
YAKUTAT	110		68		178	03/01/1999
[OTHER]	90		82		172	10/01/2006
AMERICAN SAMOA						
AMERICAN SAMOA	122		73		195	12/01/2005
GUAM						
GUAM (INCL ALL MIL INSTAL)	135		90		225	06/01/2005
HAWAII						
CAMP H M SMITH	149		100		249	05/01/2006
EASTPAC NAVAL COMP TELE AREA	149		100		249	05/01/2006
FT. DERUSSEY	149		100		249	05/01/2006
FT. SHAFTER	149		100		249	05/01/2006
HICKAM AFB	149		100		249	05/01/2006
HONOLULU (INCL NAV & MC RES CTR)	149		100		249	05/01/2006
ISLE OF HAWAII: HILO	112		93		205	05/01/2006
ISLE OF HAWAII: OTHER	150		95		245	05/01/2006
ISLE OF KAUAI	188		102		290	05/01/2006
ISLE OF MAUI	159		95		254	05/01/2006
ISLE OF OAHU	149		100		249	05/01/2006
KEKAHA PACIFIC MISSILE RANGE FAC	188		102		290	05/01/2006
KILAUEA MILITARY CAMP	112		93		205	05/01/2006

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LOCALITY	MAXIMUM LODGING		M&IE RATE	MAXIMUM PER DIEM		EFFECTIVE DATE
	AMOUNT (A)	+		=	RATE (C)	
LANAI	175		130		305	05/01/2006
LUALUALEI NAVAL MAGAZINE	149		100		249	05/01/2006
MCB HAWAII	149		100		249	05/01/2006
MOLOKAI	153		95		248	05/01/2006
NAS BARBERS POINT	149		100		249	05/01/2006
PEARL HARBOR [INCL ALL MILITARY]	149		100		249	05/01/2006
SCHOFIELD BARRACKS	149		100		249	05/01/2006
WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD	149		100		249	05/01/2006
[OTHER]	112		93		205	12/01/2006
MIDWAY ISLANDS						
MIDWAY ISLANDS						
INCL ALL MILITARY	100		45		145	06/01/2006
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS						
ROTA	129		91		220	05/01/2006
SAIPAN	121		94		215	05/01/2006
TINIAN	85		80		165	06/01/2005
[OTHER]	55		72		127	04/01/2000
PUERTO RICO						
AGUADILLA	87		70		157	07/01/2006
BAYAMON	195		77		272	08/01/2006
CAROLINA	195		77		272	08/01/2006
CEIBA						
05/01 - 11/30	155		57		212	08/01/2006
12/01 - 04/30	185		57		242	08/01/2006
FAJARDO [INCL ROOSEVELT RDS NAVS]						
05/01 - 11/30	155		57		212	08/01/2006
12/01 - 04/30	185		57		242	08/01/2006
FT. BUCHANAN [INCL GSA SVC CTR,	195		77		272	08/01/2006
HUMACAO						
05/01 - 11/30	155		57		212	08/01/2006
12/01 - 04/30	185		57		242	08/01/2006
LUIS MUNOZ MARIN IAP AGS	195		77		272	08/01/2006
LUQUILLO						
05/01 - 11/30	155		57		212	08/01/2006
12/01 - 04/30	185		57		242	08/01/2006
MAYAGUEZ	109		73		182	07/01/2006
PONCE						
01/01 - 05/31	139		73		212	07/01/2006
06/01 - 07/31	230		82		312	07/01/2006
08/01 - 11/30	139		73		212	07/01/2006
12/01 - 12/31	230		82		312	07/01/2006
SABANA SECA [INCL ALL MILITARY]	195		77		272	08/01/2006
SAN JUAN & NAV RES STA	195		77		272	08/01/2006
[OTHER]	62		57		119	01/01/2000
VIRGIN ISLANDS (U.S.)						
ST. CROIX						
04/15 - 12/14	135		92		227	05/01/2006
12/15 - 04/14	187		97		284	05/01/2006

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LOCALITY	MAXIMUM LODGING AMOUNT		M&IE RATE (B)	MAXIMUM PER DIEM RATE (C)	EFFECTIVE DATE
	(A)	+			
ST. JOHN					
04/15 - 12/14	163		98	261	05/01/2006
12/15 - 04/14	220		104	324	05/01/2006
ST. THOMAS					
04/15 - 12/14	240		105	345	05/01/2006
12/15 - 04/14	299		111	410	05/01/2006
WAKE ISLAND					
WAKE ISLAND	152		15	167	06/01/2006

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BILLING CODE 5001-06-C

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; Overview Information; National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)—Small Business Innovative Research Program (SBIR)—Phase I; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.133S-1.

Dates: Applications Available: November 17, 2006. Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: January 31, 2007.

Eligible Applicants: Entities that are, at the time of award, small business concerns as defined by the Small Business Administration (SBA). This definition is included in the application package.

All technology, science, or engineering firms with strong research capabilities in any of the priority areas listed in this notice are encouraged to participate.

Consultative or other arrangements between these firms and universities or other non-profit organizations are permitted, but the small business concern must serve as the grantee. For Phase I projects, at least two-thirds of the research and/or analytic activities must be performed by the proposing firm. Furthermore, the total of all consultant fees, facility leases or usage fees, and other subcontracts or purchase agreements may not exceed one-third of the total funding award.

If it appears that an applicant organization does not meet the

eligibility requirements, we will request an evaluation by the SBA. Under circumstances in which eligibility is unclear, we will not make an SBIR award until the SBA makes a determination.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration has requested \$5,000,000 for the SBIR program for FY 2007, of which we intend to use an estimated \$1,125,000 for new Phase I awards. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Note: The estimated amount of funds available for new Phase I awards is based upon the estimated threshold SBIR allocation for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), minus prior commitments for Phase II continuation awards.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$70,000-75,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$72,000.

Maximum Award: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding \$75,000 for a single budget period of six months. The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the **Federal Register**.

Note: The maximum award amount includes direct and indirect costs and fees.

Estimated Number of Awards: 15.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to six months for Phase I awards.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The purpose of this program is to stimulate technological innovation in the private sector, strengthen the role of small business in meeting Federal research or research and development (R/R&D) needs, increase the commercial application of the U.S. Department of Education (ED or the Department) supported research results, and improve the return on investment from federally funded research for economic and social benefits to the Nation.

Note: This program is in concert with President George W. Bush's New Freedom Initiative (NFI) and NIDRR's Final Long-Range Plan for FY 2005-2009 (Plan). The NFI can be accessed on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/newfreedom>

The Plan, which was published in the **Federal Register** on February 15, 2006 (71 FR Doc 8165), can be accessed on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/nidrr/policy.html>

Through the implementation of the NFI and the Plan, NIDRR seeks to—(1) Improve the quality and utility of disability and rehabilitation research; (2) Foster an exchange of expertise, information, and training to facilitate the advancement of knowledge and understanding of the unique needs of traditionally underserved populations; (3) Determine best strategies and programs to improve rehabilitation outcomes for underserved populations; (4) Identify research gaps; (5) Identify mechanisms of integrating research and practice; and (6) Disseminate findings.