

considered as meeting an announced deadline if they are received on or before the deadline date, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., eastern time, between Monday and Friday (excluding Federal holidays).

ACF cannot accommodate transmission of applications by facsimile. Therefore, applications transmitted to ACF by fax will not be accepted regardless of date or time of submission and time of receipt.

Receipt acknowledgement for application packages will not be provided to applicants who submit their package via mail, courier services, or by hand delivery. Applicants will receive an electronic acknowledgement for applications that are submitted via Grants.gov.

Late Applications: Applications that do not meet the criteria above are considered late applications. ACF shall notify each late applicant that its application will not be considered in the current competition.

Any application received after 4:30 p.m. eastern time on the deadline date will not be considered for competition.

Applicants using express/overnight mail services should allow two working days prior to the deadline date for receipt of applications. Applicants are cautioned that express/overnight mail services do not always deliver as agreed.

Extension of Deadlines: ACF may extend application deadlines when circumstances such as acts of God (floods, hurricanes, etc.) occur, or when there are widespread disruptions of mail service, or in other rare cases. A determination to extend or waive deadline requirements rests with the Chief Grants Management Officer.

Other Submission Requirements: Submission by Mail: An applicant must provide an original application with all attachments, signed by an authorized representative and two copies. The application must be received at the address below by 4:30 p.m. eastern time on or before the closing date.

Applications should be mailed to: Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services' Operations Center, 1515 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22209, Attention: Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services, Assets for Independence Program.

Hand Delivery: An applicant must provide an original application with all attachments signed by an authorized representative and two copies. The application must be received at the address below by 4:30 p.m. eastern time on or before the closing date. Applications that are hand delivered

will be accepted between the hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday. Applications should be delivered to: Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services' Operations Center, 1515 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22209; Attention: Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services, Assets for Independence Program.

Electronic Submission: <http://www.Grants.gov>. Please see Section IV.2 Content and Form of Application Submission of the February 9 announcement, for guidelines and requirements when submitting applications electronically.

Informational Conference Calls: The Office of Community Services will host two informational telephone conference calls concerning the Assets for Independence Program and the grant application process on June 20 and 21, 2005 at 2 p.m. until approximately 3 p.m. These calls will be open to all interested individuals. Please call the Office of Community Services on (202) 401-4626 or go to the OCS Asset Building Web site at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov> to register for a call and for dial-in information. Participants are strongly encouraged to register, as the number of lines is limited. OCS plans to make handout materials available to all individuals who register for either of the informational calls.

Announcement Availability: The Assets for Independence Program announcement and all application materials are available at <http://www.Grants.gov>. Standard forms and certifications may also be found at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofsf/forms.htm>. Finally, the OCS Asset Building Web site at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/assetbuilding> provides much information about the Assets for Independence Program and the application process. The page includes links to all required forms as well as to a guidebook for developing an AFI Project and applying for an AFI grant.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James Gatz, Manager, Assets for Independence Program, Telephone: (202) 401-4626 or e-mail: AFIPProgram@acf.hhs.gov. An array of helpful information is posted on the OCS Asset Building Web site at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/assetbuilding>.

Dated: June 6, 2005.

Josephine B. Robinson,

Director, Office of Community Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

ACYF/FYSB; Notice of Clarification for the FY 05 Community-Based Abstinence Education Program Announcement HHS-2005-ACF-ACYF-CE-0099, CFDA# 93.010

AGENCY: Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB), Administration on Children, Youth, and Families (ACYF), ACF, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of clarification.

SUMMARY: This notice is to inform interested parties of a clarification to the Community-Based Abstinence Education Announcement that was published on May 20, 2005. The following clarification must be noted:

FYSB recognizes that abstinence education, as it has been so successfully implemented across the country, achieves a very beneficial impact on the development of youth in every aspect. Applicants should note that Community-Based Abstinence Education applications will only be evaluated on the extent to which they satisfy the specific eligibility criteria outlined in Section III. *Eligibility* and the evaluation criteria outlined in Section V.I *Evaluation Criteria*, which include an agency's experience and commitment to Abstinence Education as defined by Section 510(b)(2) of Title V of the Social Security Act. Curricula developed or selected for implementation in the Community-Based Abstinence Education grant program must be responsive to the eight elements of the Section 510 abstinence education definition (elements A through H) and may not be inconsistent with any aspect of this definition.

For the purposes of this announcement, a Positive Youth Development approach shall mean programs that help young people to abstain from sexual activity until marriage.

For further information about this clarification or any aspects thereof related to the Community-Based Abstinence Education program please contact Jeffrey Trimbath, Director, Abstinence Education, Family and Youth Services Bureau at 1-866-796-1591.

Dated: June 7, 2005.

Wade F. Horn,

Assistant Secretary for Children and Families.

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