

March 22, 2000

The Honorable Richard W. Riley
Secretary of Education
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202-0100

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am pleased to submit the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Fiscal Year 2001 Annual Federal Plan of Executive Agency Actions to Assist Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Consistent with Executive Order 12876, the NRC has established HBCU Program goals for FY 2001 based on a percentage of the NRC budget for grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements available for institutions of higher education. The NRC's program is conducted under a cooperative agreement with Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education. The program is designed to enable students and faculty members from HBCUs to conduct research at designated Federal facilities in several areas of science and engineering.

Should you have questions regarding the NRC's HBCU Program, please contact Mrs. Irene Little, Director, Office of Small Business and Civil Rights, at 301-415-7380.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard A. Meserve

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/enclosure:
Catherine W. LeBlanc, DOE
Jennifer Kron, OMB

A. Executive Summary

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Faculty/Student Research Participation Program is designed to introduce students and faculty members from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to research and development activities related to the mission of the NRC. The agency's program is conducted under a cooperative agreement with Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education. Participants perform research and development activities associated with (1) NRC's technical assistance projects that are conducted at Department of Energy (DOE) laboratories, and (2) other projects conducted at DOE laboratories where the subject matter and outcomes are NRC-mission related.

The goals of the agency's program include the following:

- **assist faculty and students in becoming familiar with research areas related to the Agency's mission;**
- **continue support of technical research for HBCU college faculty and student education;**
- **strengthen the educational capacity of HBCUs; and**
- **encourage students to seek employment in scientific fields.**

A primary objective of the agency's program is to provide opportunities for faculty and students to participate in research and development studies at schools where more advanced equipment and technology are applied.

In Fiscal Year 2001, the agency's program will be funded at \$250,000. This represents a 47 percent increase over the Fiscal Year 2000 funding of \$170,000. In Fiscal Year 2002, the agency anticipates funding at \$275,000, which represents a \$25,000 increase (10 percent) over Fiscal Year 2001 funding.

Enclosure

B. Summary of Planned Awards to HBCUs by Category: FY 2001

1. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

AGENCY

2. Richard A. Meserve

Chairman

NAME/SIGNATURE OF REPRESENTATIVE

TITLE

3. TOTAL UNIVERSE OF FUNDS FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (IHEs)

\$ 4,252,000

CATEGORY	AWARDS TO IHE+	AWARDS TO HBCUs*	Awards to HBCUs as % of total Awards to IHE
1. Research & Development	\$4,002,000	\$250,000	5.8%
2. Program Evaluation			
3. Training			
4. Facilities and Equipment			
5. Fellowships, Traineeships, Internships, Recruitment, and IPAs			
6. Student Tuition Assistance, Scholarships, and Other Aid			
7. Direct Institutional Subsidies			
8. Third Party Awards			
9. Private Sector Involvement			
10. Administrative Infrastructure			
11. Other			
Total	\$4,002,000	\$250,000	5.8%

Richard A. Meserve, Chairman

Agency Head (Typed)

/RA/

AGENCY HEAD SIGNATURE

+IHE = Institutions of Higher Education

*HBCUs = Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Enclosure

C. Table of Planned FY 2001 Agency Awards to HBCUs by Institution and Category

The total amount of \$250,000 (planned Fiscal Year 2001 awards) will be awarded in the Research and Development category. Solicitations will go out to undergraduate and graduate students, and faculty at HBCUs. All applicants will be considered for these awards. Final award decisions will be based on applicant capability, availability, interest, and availability of projects that are NRC-mission related. For on-campus research projects, assignment will be based on the capabilities of the HBCU for performing on-campus research work that is NRC-mission related.

D. Planned to HBCUs and Narrative Information

Fiscal Year 2001 activities will involve projects that support the agency's mission. Priority of assignments will be as follows: (1) NRC's technical assistance projects that are conducted at DOE laboratories, and (2) other projects conducted at DOE laboratories where the subject matter and outcomes are NRC-mission related. Assignments will involve areas of study in fields such as nuclear engineering, health physics, human factors, computer science, risk and performance assessment. Students and faculty at all HBCUs will be considered for these awards.