



## **FFIS Weekly Update – May 25, 2010**

### **Weekly News:**

#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **1) May 20, 2010: CMS Releases Letter on Community Living Initiative**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) released a State Medicaid Director letter on the administration's initiatives to address barriers to community living for individuals with disabilities and older Americans. To view the letter, see: <http://www.cms.gov/smdl/downloads/SMD10008.pdf>

##### **2) May 17, 2010: HHS Releases Letter to Head Start Grantees on Program Integrity Initiatives**

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a letter to Head Start grantees to address the fraud and mismanagement in the program, as documented in a recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report. The letter, which outlines Head Start reforms, is available at: [http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/05/head\\_start\\_letter.html](http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/05/head_start_letter.html)

#### **HEALTH CARE REFORM**

##### **May 21, 2010: Treasury Issues Guidance on Therapeutic Discovery Project Program**

The Department of the Treasury announced the guidelines for applying for the new program created by the health care reform law, which will provide tax credits and grants for biomedical research. To view the guidance and fact sheet, go to: <http://www.treasury.gov/press/releases/tg712.htm>

#### **JUSTICE**

##### **1) May 18, 2010: House Passes Bill Providing Incentive Payments to States for DNA Collection**

The House passed legislation (H.R. 4614) allowing bonuses to be given to states that have implemented a system for collecting and using DNA evidence from suspects in violent crimes. Specifically, the bill would create a 10% bonus payment in Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) for states able to cross reference collected DNA with persons arrested for violent crimes, and a 5% bonus in Byrne JAG funding for states that comply with minimum standards for DNA collection provisions. For more information see: [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:h4614eh.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h4614eh.txt.pdf)

##### **2) May 20, 2010: OJJDP Announces Final Plan for FY 2010**

The Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) published its final FY 2010 plan for discretionary funding. To view this notice, go to: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-12092.pdf>

#### **LABOR**

##### **May 18, 2010: ETA Releases Information for SCSEP**

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) released program year (PY) 2010 instructions and allotments for Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). To view the information, see: [http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr\\_doc.cfm?docn=2902](http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=2902)

## **NATURAL RESOURCES**

### **May 20, 2010: Fish and Wildlife Service Announces \$5 Million in State Wildlife Grants**

The Fish and Wildlife Service announced today that nearly \$5 million in grants will be going to six state fish and wildlife agencies to help conserve and recover Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) through the State Wildlife Grants (SWG) Competitive Program. Follow this link for more details: <http://www.fws.gov/news/NewsReleases/showNews.cfm?newsId=B6D2BEC5-DE7C-7BE2-087E55900D97C8DA>

## **NUTRITION**

### **1) May 18, 2010: FNS Posts Requirements for TEFAP for Audit Purposes**

Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) released a policy memorandum to clarify the audit-related tracking and notification requirements for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). To view the guidance, go to: [http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/policymemo/pmfd106\\_TEFAP-TrackingforAudit.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/policymemo/pmfd106_TEFAP-TrackingforAudit.pdf)

### **2) May 19, 2010: USDA Unveils New Consumer Information Resources About SNAP**

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced new resources for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to help increase program participation. For more information, see: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cga/PressReleases/2010/0272.htm>

## **ARRA:**

## **EDUCATION**

### **May 20, 2010: ED Begins Competition for \$437 Million in Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) Grants**

The Department of Education (ED) made \$437 million in Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) grant applications available for school districts, non-profits, and states. TIF grants support local projects that reward teachers, principals, and other school personnel who improve student achievement. Applications are due July 6, 2010, and grants will be awarded in September 2010. These funds are available through both the ARRA and the FY 2010 appropriations. For more information, click here: <http://www2.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2010/05/05202010.html>

Access the Notice of final priorities, requirements, definitions, and selection criteria from the *Federal Register* here: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-12218.pdf>

## **ENERGY**

### **May 24, 2010: DOE Releases Notice of Application Deadline Guideline**

The Department of Energy (DOE) published a notice advising the public that applications for the formula grants of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program funded by ARRA will not be accepted after June 25, 2010. Click here to view the notice: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-12405.pdf>

## **Labor**

### **May 24, 2010: ETA Releases Clarification on WOTC Target Group Requirements**

ETA released a clarification to final guidance to state workforce agencies regarding implementation of the Work Opportunity Tax Credit Program under ARRA. The guidance is available at: <http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEGL/TEGL03-09c3.pdf>