

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to section 19(b)(2) of the Act, that the proposed rule change (File No. SR–NSCC–2007–13) be and hereby is approved.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹²

Florence E. Harmon,
Deputy Secretary.
[FR Doc. E7–20987 Filed 10–24–07; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

8(a) Business Development Program Regulation Changes; Tribal Consultation

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice of tribal consultation meeting.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announces that it is holding a tribal consultation meeting in Denver, Colorado on the topic of the 8(a) Business Development (BD) program regulations. Testimony presented at this tribal consultation meeting will become part of the administrative record for SBA’s consideration when the Agency deliberates on approaches to changes in the regulations pertaining to the 8(a) BD program.

DATES: The Tribal Consultation meeting date is Sunday, November 11, 2007, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (MST), Denver, Colorado. The Tribal Consultation meeting pre-registration deadline date is November 5, 2007.

ADDRESSES:

- 1. The Tribal Consultation meeting address is the Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center, Centennial C Room, 650 15th Street, Denver, CO 80202.
- 2. Send pre-registration requests to attend and/or testify to Ms. Delcine Montgomery of SBA’s Office of Native American Affairs, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW., Washington, DC 20416; or

Delcine.Montgomery@SBA.gov; or Facsimile to 202/481–1597.

3. Send all written comments to Mr. Joseph Loddo, Associate Administrator for Business Development, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW., Washington, DC 20416; *Joseph.Loddo@SBA.gov*; or Facsimile to 202/481–2740.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Delcine Montgomery, Business Development Specialist for SBA’s Office of Native American Affairs, at *Delcine.Montgomery@SBA.gov* or 202/205–6195 or by facsimile 202/481–1597.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

SBA is in the process of reassessing its rules relating to the 8(a) BD program, particularly those directly affecting tribally-owned and ANC-owned 8(a) firms. 13 CFR 124.506, 124.513, and 124.519. Part of SBA’s analysis pertains to a recent report issued by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) titled “Increased Use of Alaska Native Corporations’ Special 8(a) Provisions Calls for Tailored Oversight” (GAO–06–399). This GAO report concluded that SBA needs to tailor its regulations and policies to provide greater oversight over its ANCs’ 8(a) procurements. GAO determined that without sufficient oversight, there is the potential for unintended consequences or abuse.

In response, SBA is considering regulatory changes to the 8(a) BD program to address the issues and concerns raised in the report, particularly those relating to ANC and tribal participation in the 8(a) BD mentor/protégé program. It is SBA’s intent that any changes contemplated and instituted will incorporate the business development intent and mission of the 8(a) BD program as established by the Small Business Act. This notice provides information for the purpose, format, scheduling, and registration for the tribal consultation meeting.

Tribal Consultation Meeting

The purpose of this tribal consultation meeting is to conform to the

requirements of Executive Order 13175, Tribal Consultations; to provide interested parties with an opportunity to discuss their views on the issues; and for SBA to obtain the views of these SBA’s stakeholders on approaches to the 8(a) BD program regulations. SBA considers tribal consultation meetings a valuable component of its deliberations and believes that this tribal consultation meeting will allow for constructive dialogue with the Tribal community, Tribal Leaders, Tribal Elders, elected members of Alaska Native Villages or their appointed representatives, and principals of tribally-owned and ANC-owned 8(a) firms.

The format will consist of a panel of SBA representatives who will represent the Agency and moderate the discussions. Oral and written testimony will become part of the record for SBA’s consideration. Written testimony may be submitted in lieu of oral testimony. SBA will analyze the testimony, both oral and written, along with any written comments received. SBA officials may ask questions of a presenter to clarify or further explain the testimony. The purpose of the tribal consultation meeting is to assist SBA with gathering information to potentially develop new proposals. SBA respectfully requests that the testimony focus on the issues as discussed in the GAO report, general issues as they pertain to the 8(a) BD program regulations and the mentor/protégé program, or the unique concerns of the tribal communities. SBA respectfully requests that presenters do not raise issues pertaining to other SBA small business programs. Presenters may provide a written copy of their testimony. SBA will accept written material that the presenter wishes to provide that further supplements his or her testimony. Electronic or digitized copies are encouraged.

The tribal consultation meeting will be held for one day. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. (MST), with a break from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. SBA will adjourn early if all those scheduled have delivered their testimony.

VENUE INFORMATION

Location	Address	Date	Registration closing date
Denver, Colorado	Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center, Centennial C Room, 650 15th Street, Denver, CO 80202.	November 11, 2007	November 5, 2007.

efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

¹² 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

Registration

SBA respectfully requests that any elected or appointed representative of the tribal communities or principal of a tribally-owned or ANC-owned 8(a) firm that is interested in attending please pre-register in advance and indicate whether you would like to testify at the hearing. Registration requests should be received by SBA at least 5 business days prior to the tribal consultation meeting date. Please contact Ms. Delcine Montgomery of SBA's Office of Native American Affairs in writing at Delcine.Montgomery@SBA.gov or by facsimile to 202/481-1597. If you are interested in testifying please include the following information relating to the person testifying: Name, Organization affiliation, Address, Telephone number, E-mail address and Fax number. SBA will attempt to accommodate all interested parties that wish to present testimony. Based on the number of registrants it may be necessary to impose time limits to ensure that everyone who wishes to testify has the opportunity to do so. SBA will confirm in writing the registration of presenters and attendees.

(Authority: 15 U.S.C. 634)

Stephen D. Kong,

Deputy General Counsel.

[FR Doc. E7-21049 Filed 10-24-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**Audit and Financial Management Advisory (AFMAC) Committee Meeting**

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Appendix 2 of Title 5, United States Code, Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given that the U.S. Small Business Administration, Audit and Financial Management Advisory AFMAC (Committee) will host a public meeting on Tuesday, November 6, 2007 at 1 p.m. The meeting will take place at the U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW., Office of the Chief Financial Officer Conference Room, 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20416. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the SBA's FY 2007 Financial Statements, FY 2007 Financial and Information Systems Audits, Credit Subsidy Modeling, FMFIA Assurance and A-123 Internal Control Program Results, FY 2007 Financial Report, FY 2007 Agency Performance Report and Information Systems Controls. The AFMAC was established by the Administrator of the SBA to provide recommendation and advice regarding the Agency's financial management, including the financial

reporting process, systems of internal controls, audit process and process for monitoring compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

Anyone wishing to attend must contact Jennifer Main in writing or by fax. Jennifer Main, Chief Financial Officer, 409 3rd Street, SW., 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20416, phone: (202) 205-6449, fax: (202) 205-6969, e-mail: Jennifer.Main@sba.gov.

Matthew Teague,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. E7-21043 Filed 10-24-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

[Docket No. SSA-2007-0081]

Office of the Commissioner; Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2008

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commissioner has determined—

(1) A 2.3 percent cost-of-living increase in Social Security benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (the Act), effective for December 2007;

(2) An increase in the Federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) monthly benefit amounts under title XVI of the Act for 2008 to \$637 for an eligible individual, \$956 for an eligible individual with an eligible spouse, and \$319 for an essential person;

(3) The student earned income exclusion to be \$1,550 per month in 2008 but not more than \$6,240 in all of 2008;

(4) The dollar fee limit for services performed as a representative payee to be \$35 per month (\$68 per month in the case of a beneficiary who is disabled and has an alcoholism or drug addiction condition that leaves him or her incapable of managing benefits) in 2008;

(5) The dollar limit on the administrative-cost assessment charged to attorneys representing claimants to be \$79 in 2008;

(6) The national average wage index for 2006 to be \$38,651.41;

(7) The Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) contribution and benefit base to be \$102,000 for remuneration paid in 2008 and self-employment income earned in taxable years beginning in 2008;

(8) The monthly exempt amounts under the Social Security retirement earnings test for taxable years ending in calendar year 2008 to be \$1,130 and \$3,010;

(9) The dollar amounts ("bend points") used in the primary insurance amount benefit formula for workers who become eligible for benefits, or who die before becoming eligible, in 2008 to be \$711 and \$4,288;

(10) The dollar amounts ("bend points") used in the formula for computing maximum family benefits for workers who become eligible for benefits, or who die before becoming eligible, in 2008 to be \$909, \$1,312, and \$1,711;

(11) The amount of taxable earnings a person must have to be credited with a quarter of coverage in 2008 to be \$1,050;

(12) The "old-law" contribution and benefit base to be \$75,900 for 2008;

(13) The monthly amount deemed to constitute substantial gainful activity for statutorily blind individuals in 2008 to be \$1,570, and the corresponding amount for non-blind disabled persons to be \$940;

(14) The earnings threshold establishing a month as a part of a trial work period to be \$670 for 2008; and

(15) Coverage thresholds for 2008 to be \$1,600 for domestic workers and \$1,400 for election workers.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jeffrey L. Kunkel, Office of the Chief Actuary, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235, (410) 965-3013. Information relating to this announcement is available on our Internet site at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/COLA/index.html>. For information on eligibility or claiming benefits, call 1-800-772-1213, or visit our Internet site, Social Security Online, at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

In accordance with the Act, the Commissioner must publish within 45 days after the close of the third calendar quarter of 2007 the benefit increase percentage and the revised table of "special minimum" benefits (section 215(i)(2)(D)). Also, the Commissioner must publish on or before November 1 the national average wage index for 2006 (section 215(a)(1)(D)), the OASDI fund ratio for 2007 (section 215(i)(2)(C)(ii)), the OASDI contribution and benefit base for 2008 (section 230(a)), the amount of earnings required to be credited with a quarter of coverage in 2008 (section 213(d)(2)), the monthly exempt amounts under the Social Security retirement earnings test for 2008 (section 203(f)(8)(A)), the formula for computing a primary insurance amount for workers who first become eligible for benefits or die in 2008 (section 215(a)(1)(D)), and the formula