



MHEC
Creating a state of achievement

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Elisabeth A. Sachs
Interim Secretary

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 28, 2011

TO: Ms. Tina M. Bjarekull
Dr. William E. Kirwan
Ms. Elizabeth Kulbicki-Hepler
Dr. Joseph R. Urgo
Mr. H. Clay Whitlow
Dr. David Wilson
College and University Chief Academic Officers

FROM: Elisabeth A. Sachs *EAS/AS*
Interim Secretary of Higher Education

SUBJECT: Request for Academic Program

Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) has asked the Maryland Higher Education Commission (the Commission) to circulate the attached Request for Proposals to all Maryland institutions of higher education. APG has conducted an analysis of the needs their active duty personnel and civilian employees and has determined that there is a requirement for a **Master of Science in Systems Engineering**.

Institutions have 30 calendar days in which to respond, therefore responses will be due **by May 27, 2011**. Copies of any proposal should be forwarded to both:

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| Email to: Benjamin.Foresta1@us.army.mil Benjamin Forresta Lead Systems Engineering, RDECOM Aberdeen Proving Grounds 410-306-4825 | Email to: Acadprop@mhec.state.md.us Dr. Sue A. Blanshan Director of Academic Affairs Maryland Higher Education Commission 410-260-4533 |
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After the May 27, 2011 closing date, APG will consult with the Commission as to whether or not a proposal has been accepted. If none of the in-state higher education institutions submit an acceptable response to the RFP, APG may submit the Request for Proposals to one or more out-of-state higher education institutions. The Commission will need to approve any program from any institution, in-state or out-of-state, utilizing the application and procedures found in COMAR 13B.02.01 and 13B.02.03.

EAS:SAB:ct

Request for Academic Program (RFAP) - APG

The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) is working in support of anticipated training requirements at Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) is soliciting proposals on the following academic program:

Master of Science **in** **Systems Engineering**

GOAL: To establish a program to serve the local needs of engineers at Aberdeen Proving Ground and a Maryland institution of higher education that will provide academic opportunities in support of the BRAC and future educational needs.

PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

- I. Overview: This program will serve a diverse number of organizations at APG that require the skills associated with an advanced degree in Systems Engineering. Diverse sets of missions and organizations at APG will benefit from a program that includes application of systems engineering principles that include systems of systems (integration of several complex systems to deliver an integrated capability). A specific example of systems of systems would be applied to an integrated military network that includes a variety of RF and Optical Sensors integrated by a communications network that interconnect mobile ground and airborne platforms with soldiers and fixed command centers and provides the ability to manage a large amount of sensor data to allow/support decision making by commanders on the ground.

Students enrolling in this program will include government employees who have a Bachelors Degree in engineering and who are pursuing the MS Degree to enhance their technical capabilities. The majority of the students will have several years of experience as an engineer in the Government but may include employees who have recently graduated from an undergraduate program (less than 2 years). It is likely that employees of companies providing engineering support services to the APG community would also take advantage of a local program.

The Master's Degree in Systems Engineering shall be designed to address the student learning outcomes identified by systems engineering practices identified by the International Council on Systems Engineering.

- II. Design:
- The program must meet one of the following; a; Be accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), b; Meet the fundamental requirements of INCOSE's Certified Systems Engineering Professional accreditation, or incorporate emerging Systems Engineering concepts being explored via the Systems Engineering Research Center lead by Stevens Institute of Technology and their team along with fundamental principles of INCOSE.
 - The partnering institution should provide the students with academic support services

- The partnering institution shall provide textbook purchasing and registration services at APG
- Distance learning programs would also be acceptable and provide some degree of flexibility to employees who must balance frequent travel for work with the academic program.

III. Location: It is desired that programs be conveniently accessible to the workforce at APG and in the APG area (either on the installation or no more than a few miles from the installation)

Institutions requesting any additional information may contact:

Benjamin Forresta
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(410) 306-4825
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Maryland Higher Education Contact Person:

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