FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Director, Division of Investigative Oversight, Office of Research Integrity, 1101 Wootton Parkway, Suite 750, Rockville, MD 20852, (240) 453–8800.
John Dahlberg, Director, Division of Investigative Oversight, Office of Research Integrity.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Meeting of the President’s Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Office of the President’s Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: As stipulated by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is hereby giving notice that the President’s Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition (PCFSN) will hold a meeting. The meeting will be open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 1, 2012, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Ave. SW., Room 800, Washington, DC 20201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Shelleie Pfohl, Executive Director, President’s Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition, Tower Building, 1101 Wootton Parkway, Suite 560, Rockville, MD 20852, (240) 276–9866. Information about PCFSN, including details about the upcoming meeting, can be obtained at www.fitness.gov and/or by calling (240) 276–9567.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 23, 2010, the President established Executive Order 13545 to amend Executive Order 13265, dated June 6, 2002. Under Executive Order 13545, direction is given for the scope of the President’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports to be expanded to recognize that good nutrition goes hand in hand with fitness and sports participation. Executive Order 13545 gives authority for the title of the Council to be revised to include nutrition.

The primary functions of the PCFSN include (1) Advising the President, through the Secretary, concerning progress made in carrying out the provisions of Executive Order 13545 and shall recommend to the President, through the Secretary, actions to accelerate progress; (2) advising the Secretary on ways to promote regular physical activity, fitness, sports participation, and good nutrition. Recommendations may address, but are not necessarily limited to, public awareness campaigns; Federal, State, and local physical activity; fitness, sports participation, and nutrition initiatives; and partnership opportunities between public- and private-sector health promotion entities; (3) functioning as a liaison to relevant State, local, and private entities in order to advise the Secretary regarding opportunities to extend and improve physical activity, fitness, sports, and nutrition programs and services at the local, State, and national levels; and (4) monitoring the need to enhance programs and educational and promotional materials sponsored, overseen, or disseminated by the Council, and shall advise the Secretary, as necessary, concerning such need. In performing its functions, the Council shall take into account the Federal Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans.

The PCFSN will hold, at a minimum, one meeting in a calendar year. The meeting will be held to (1) assess ongoing Council activities and (2) discuss and plan future projects and programs. The agenda for the planned meeting is being developed and will be posted at www.fitness.gov when it has been finalized.

The meeting that is scheduled to be held May 1, 2012 is open to the public. Every effort will be made to provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities and/or special needs who wish to attend the meeting. Persons with disabilities and/or special needs should call (240) 276–9567 no later than close of business on April 23, 2012, to request accommodations. Members of the public who wish to attend the meeting are asked to pre-register by calling (240) 276–9567. Registration for public attendance must be completed before close of business on April 23, 2012.

Dated: March 9, 2012.

Shelleie Y. Pfohl,
Executive Director, President’s Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Toxicology Program (NTP) Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods: Call for Nominations of High Throughput Screening (HTS) Assays for the Tox21 Initiative

AGENCY: Division of the National Toxicology Program (DNTP), National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), National Institutes of Health (NIH).

ACTION: Call for nominations.

SUMMARY: The multiagency Tox21 Initiative aims to improve hazard assessment of compounds potentially harmful to humans and the environment. This will be accomplished through the use of integrated high throughput screens that provide information on the ability of a substance to perturb biological pathways related to toxicity. On behalf of the Tox21 Consortium and its Assays and Pathways Working Group, the NTP Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (NICEATM) is accepting nominations for HTS biochemical- or cell-based assays. Assays selected for further evaluation and found to be compatible with the HTS program will support Tox21 by providing data on endpoints that serve as markers for initiating or downstream events in toxicity pathways.

DATES: The nomination of HTS assays to Tox21 is an ongoing process and will continue to remain open. Periodic updates to this notice may be posted to reflect new focus areas of the Tox21 HTS program.
NOMINATIONS OF HTS ASSAYS

Nominated assays will be assessed for their overall applicability to the Tox21 HTS program in terms of biological relevance, cost, and potential for adaption to a HTS format. Suitable assays will then be prioritized for use by the NCTT. Protocol information and test data submitted in response to this notice may be incorporated into future NCTT and NICEATM reports and publications as appropriate.

Nominations should consider the following general criteria: (1) Relevance to the goals of the Tox21 Initiative (http://nctt.nih.gov/27543703), (2) high throughput capability of the assay (96-well format or higher, with no obvious impediments to miniaturization to a 1536-well format), (3) evaluation of preliminary assay performance using appropriate reference compounds, (4) validation status of the assay, (5) availability of complete detailed protocols, and (6) efficiency and cost of the assay. A list of compatibility criteria for 1536-well biochemical and cell-based assays is available at http://nctt.nih.gov/27545307.

Assay nominations should be submitted electronically using the online form (http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/contact/Tox21-nomination.htm). When submitting HTS assay nominations and protocol information, please reference this Federal Register notice and provide appropriate contact information (name, affiliation, mailing address, phone, fax, email, and sponsoring organization as applicable). NICEATM prefers submission of the nominations via the Web site identified above; however, submissions by mail, fax, or email are acceptable. Questions about the submission process should be directed to Dr. Warren Casey (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT).

Background Information on NICEATM

NICEATM was established in 1998 to administer and provide scientific support for the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM), which is composed of 15 member Federal agencies and includes the EPA, FDA, NIEHS, and NIH. The ICCVAM Authorization Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 285l–2, 285l–5, available at http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/about/PL106545.htm) established ICCVAM as a permanent interagency committee of the NIEHS under NICEATM. NICEATM and ICCVAM conduct technical evaluations of new, revised, and alternative test methods and strategies applicable to the safety-testing needs of Federal agencies. In 2012, NICEATM began providing support to Tox21 regarding HTS assay nomination and review.

NICEATM and ICCVAM welcome the public nomination of new, revised, and alternative test methods and strategies applicable to the needs of Federal agencies. Additional information about NICEATM can be found on the NICEATM–ICCVAM Web site (http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov).

Dated: April 5, 2012.

John R. Bucher,
Associate Director, National Toxicology Program.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cathryn Niane, Center for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety, AHRR, 540 Gaither Road, Rockville, MD 20850; Telephone (toll free): (866) 403–3697;