

RESEARCH Opportunities

November 2008 Vol. 3, No. 16

Research Excellence for Decision Making

Deadlines

November 21

Episodic Disabilities in Canada: The Prevalence of Canadians with Disabilities that have Episodic Absences from Work and the Impact on Employment and Income

Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC) circulates *Research Opportunities* to the broad research community to increase awareness of the department's Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for policy research. We encourage you to take the time to review the RFPs and submit proposals where the research suits your interests. Information on how to submit a proposal is provided in the RFP. Prospective bidders should ensure they follow the steps outlined in the RFP.

For more information on the research outlined in this publication, please consult the attached RFP document or contact the respective Contracting Authority. If you would like to subscribe to Research Opportunities, please contact nc-hrsdc-research-gd@hrsdc-rhdc.gc.ca. Please note that this mailbox is otherwise used for outgoing emails only. Please do not direct questions related to the above research to this mailbox.

Some of the department's RFPs continue to be posted on MERX, an online service for tendering contracts. If you are interested in additional opportunities for research you can visit www.merx.com for a list of available opportunities. Access to complete descriptions and requirements of federally issued RFPs are available through basic registration, which is free.

Human Resources and Social Development Canada
Strategic Policy Research Directorate
140 Promenade du Portage
Gatineau, Quebec
Canada
K1A 0J9

Episodic Disabilities in Canada: The Prevalence of Canadians with Disabilities that have Episodic Absences from Work and the Impact on Employment and Income

7613-08-0002

Human Resources and Social Development Canada is responsible for ensuring that the issues affecting people with disabilities are considered and reflected in federal policy and program development. As part of this mandate, HRSDC is requesting proposals for a project that will explore episodic disabilities and their impact on employment and income, to promote a fuller understanding of these issues.

In recent years, Canadian disability organizations, in particular the Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation (CWGHR), have begun to study the issues associated with disabilities identified as episodic. An integral part of the work on episodic disabilities by CWGHR has been its collaboration with the Episodic Disabilities Network (EDN), a forum for knowledge exchange and new knowledge development on episodic disabilities. The EDN is comprised of national disability organizations and health charities, as well as people living with episodic disabilities. Disabilities identified by CWGHR and EDN as 'episodic' include 'multiple sclerosis, HIV/AIDS, lupus, Hepatitis C, some forms of mental illness, cancers and arthritis'. Additional disabilities identified in the literature as 'episodic' include musculoskeletal disorders, migraine, and neurological disorders. The episodic nature of

disabilities means that people alternate between periods in which they may be able to work full-time and periods in which they may be able to work part-time or not at all. The change between these states often arises unexpectedly.

The purpose of this project is to develop quantitative analyses which will assist in understanding the prevalence of Canadians with disabilities who have episodic absences from work or work part-time to accommodate their disabilities. The research project will include a compilation and analysis of data from sources including, but not limited to, the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics and the Participation and Activity Limitation Survey.

Closing date: November 21, 2008

Contract value: The cost of the project shall not exceed the available budget of \$50,000 (excluding GST, any travel and accommodation expenses related to a presentation in the National Capital Region, and the Statistics Canada data access fee).

Contracting authority: Robert Hayman, Robert.hayman@servicecanada.gc.ca

Note: See full Request for Proposal (RFP) for complete project description

Please, circulate to interested colleagues and post in a public place.

