**Section 2250.60 Applicant Selection Procedures**

a) The Commission shall review the Illinois AmeriCorps program proposals in both the formula-funded and competitive categories and select proposals for submission to the Corporation for federal funding within each category.

b) As part of this review process, the Commission shall have the authority to consult with persons with specialized knowledge in the subject matter of the priorities established by the Act for national service.

c) Criteria for selecting programs for national service funding by the Commission shall be identified and included in the RFP. Priority areas will be delineated in the RFP. They may include criteria for addressing priority areas or target populations in addition to other applicant selection criteria.

d) The Commission is not required to select any responding applicant if it is not in the interest of the people of Illinois. The Commission may negotiate with applicants and may make selections that are in the best interest of the public. The Department may issue a new RFP if applicants are not deemed appropriate.

e) The decisions of the Commission shall be final and binding. Applicants shall be notified by mail of the decision of the Commission. Programs whose proposals have been selected for submission to the Corporation for federal funding shall be notified by the Commission of the decision of the Corporation relating to their proposals.