



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF SURPLUS FEDERAL PROPERTY
FOR EDUCATIONAL UTILIZATION**

**The Veterans Affairs Regional Office (VARO) Building
1801 Assembly St.
Columbia, SC 29201
GSA CONTROL NUMBER: 4-G-SC-0637-AA**

March 29, 2017

The U.S. Department of Education (Department) is pleased to advise you that the subject property in Columbia, South Carolina has been determined surplus to the needs of the federal government and may be available for acquisition by eligible educational organizations at substantial Public Benefit Allowance discount.

The Veterans Administration Regional Office (VARO) Building is located at 1801 Assembly Street, adjacent to the Strom Thurmond Complex. The block is bounded on the north by Richland Street, the east by Assembly Street, the south by Laurel Street and the west by Park Street. The VARO Building houses five floors plus a basement, a sub-basement, and a mechanical penthouse and has gross square footage of 83,640. The main entrance for public and employee pedestrian access to the building fronts Assembly Street near the corner of Assembly and Laurel Street. On-street parking near the front of the building provides a few parking spaces. There is no vehicular access to the building or onsite parking for the public, handicapped, or other needs. The site is zoned C-1 by the City of Columbia.

The U.S. Department of Education (Department) has authority under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, to award surplus federal real estate to educational institutions as grants-in-aid at Public Benefit Allowance discounts ranging from 40 to 100 percent off the current fair market value of property in return for an organization's contractual commitment to utilize the land and buildings for approved education programs. A brochure describing the Federal Real Property Assistance Program in more detail can be found under the Resources tab.

Please be advised that this property has been determined to be suitable for homeless use under the Stewart B. McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Any homeless interests that are received by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will receive priority over other uses, including education.

If your organization has an interest in acquiring the subject property, **please advise LaToya Cannon in writing no later than April 21, 2017:**

U.S. Department of Education
Federal Real Property Assistance Program
Attn: LaToya Cannon
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
LBJ-MS-L-OM-2-2C123
Washington, DC 20202

You may also provide your expression of interest via e-mail at LaToya.Cannon@ed.gov. Please include your anticipated program of use for the property with your expression of interest. I would be pleased to furnish you appropriate application materials and further guidance upon receipt of your expression of interest. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (202) 401-9506 or contact me via e-mail.

Please be advised that the U.S. General Services Administration has strict timelines governed by Federal regulations as to when the Department must respond. Responding expeditiously with an expression of interest will allow your organization the maximum amount of time for completing and submitting the application materials.

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