

Dated: February 11, 2011.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2011-3472 Filed 2-15-11; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Comment Request.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Education (the Department), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the reporting burden on the public and helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. The Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 18, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be electronically mailed to [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov) or mailed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., LBJ, Washington, DC 20202-4537. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that Federal agencies provide interested parties an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection

necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: February 11, 2011.

**Darrin A. King,**

*Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.*

### Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

*Type of Review:* Revision.

*Title of Collection:* Annual

Performance Report of Independent Living for Older Individuals Who are Blind.

*OMB Control Number:* 1820-0608.

*Agency Form Number(s):* ED(RSA)-7-OB FORM.

*Frequency of Responses:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit; State, Local, or Tribal Government, State Educational Agencies or Local Educational Agencies.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 56.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 446.

*Abstract:* This data collection instrument is being submitted to obtain approval for information collection on the Independent Living Services For Older Individuals Who Are Blind program. Through this program, grants are made to states to support services for individuals age 55 or older whose severe visual impairment makes competitive employment difficult to obtain but for whom independent living goals are feasible. This data will be used to evaluate and construct a profile for the program nationwide. The respondents will be the managers of the Independent Living Services For Older Individuals Who Are blind program in each of the 56 states and territories. The revisions to this instrument consist of two additional items in Part I to capture the amount of other federal funds made available to the program, and the carryover for those funds. In Part III, the order of requested information was rearranged to avoid double counting of consumers in the race and ethnicity categories; an item was added to capture the number of consumers served who are homeless; and items were added to capture the number of consumers referred from nursing homes, assisted living facilities, government/social

service agencies, and self referrals. In Part IV, section C was revised to omit "assistive technology" and avoid the overlap with section B—specifically B2 and C2 which asked for the same information. The word "regained" was changed to "maintained" or "gained" wherever it appeared in the document as appropriate. Finally, in Part VI, we added language to link the information requested to that already provided in Part IV, and added items to capture the number of consumers who died while receiving services.

Copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 4519. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., LBJ, Washington, DC 20202-4537. Requests may also be electronically mailed to [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov) or faxed to 202-401-0920. Please specify the complete title of the information collection and OMB Control Number when making your request.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Notice of Submission for OMB Review

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13).

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before March 18, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Education Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10222, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503, be faxed to (202) 395-5806 or e-mailed to [oir\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oir_submission@omb.eop.gov) with a cc: to [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov). Please note that written comments received in

response to this notice will be considered public records.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The OMB is particularly interested in comments which: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: February 10, 2011.

**Darrin A. King,**

*Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.*

**Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development**

*Type of Review:* NEW.

*Title of Collection:* Equitable Distribution of Effective Teachers.

*OMB Control Number:* Pending.

*Agency Form Number(s):* N/A.

*Frequency of Responses:* Once.

*Affected Public:* State, Local, or Tribal Government, State Education Agencies or Local Education Agencies.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 42.

*Total Estimated Annual Burden Hours:* 135.

*Abstract:* The most recent reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act in 2002 required that states provide assurances and develop plans to "ensure that poor and minority children are not taught at higher rates than other children by inexperienced, unqualified, or out of field teachers" (Section 1111 (b)(8)(C)). In 2009, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) requirements reinforced the focus on equitable distribution of teachers by requiring states applying for education stimulus funds to provide updated assurances and to publicize their most recent "equity plans." ARRA also establishes

competitive grants to help states build their pool of effective teachers and address inequities in the distribution of teachers. In addition to their focus on the equitable distribution of teacher quality, federal programs also have been promoting shifts in how teacher quality is measured, away from teacher qualifications and toward measures of instructional practice and effectiveness at raising student achievement. Federal programs such as the Teacher Incentive Fund and Race to the Top have provided incentives for states and districts to move in this direction, including funds to support some of the technical aspects of development.

Federal policymakers need to know whether the policies and programs they sponsor under these laws contribute to teacher quality for disadvantaged students. Hence, the U.S. Department of Education requires a study documenting the state and local actions to (a) develop new measures of teacher quality, (b) analyze the distribution of teacher quality, and (c) develop and implement plans to ensure teacher quality for disadvantaged students. To inform federal policymakers, the study will examine the implementation of these activities with attention to implementation challenges, the role of state and local context, and the roles of the federal programs designed to foster these activities.

The planned data collections will serve four objectives:

1. To examine how states and districts analyze the distribution of teacher quality, plan actions to address inequities, and monitor progress.
2. To examine how states and districts are changing their measures of teacher quality, and to understand their experiences in doing so.
3. To examine state and local actions to improve teacher quality for disadvantaged students (i.e., students in high-poverty or high-minority schools).
4. To describe the perceived contributions of federal programs to state and local actions aimed at improving the quality of teachers for disadvantaged students, and how state and local contexts mediate these contributions.

To address these objectives, our design includes telephone interviews with state education agencies and local education agencies.

Requests for copies of the information collection submission for OMB review may be accessed from the RegInfo.gov Web site at <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain> or from the Department's Web site at <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and

by clicking on link number 4426. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., LBJ, Washington, DC 20202-4537. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov) or faxed to 202-401-0920. Please specify the complete title of the information collection and OMB Control Number when making your request.

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**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Public Comment on Setting Achievement Levels in Writing**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment Governing Board.

**ACTION:** Notice, Public Comment on Setting Achievement Levels in Writing.

**SUMMARY:** The National Assessment Governing Board (Governing Board) is soliciting public comments and recommendations to improve the design proposed for setting achievement levels for NAEP in writing. This notice provides opportunity for public comment and submitting recommendations for improving the design proposed for setting achievement levels for the 2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in Writing.

The proposed Design Document, available at <http://www.wested.org/cs/naep/print/docs/naep/welcome.html>, describes the process that will produce cutscores to represent the lower boundary of each of three NAEP achievement levels: Basic, Proficient, and Advanced. The Governing Board has contracted with WestEd to assist in gathering feedback on the design document. Additional information on the Governing Board's work and NAEP achievement levels can be found at <http://www.nagb.org>

Public and private individuals and organizations are invited to provide written comments and recommendations. Voluntary participation by all interested parties is urged. This notice sets forth the review schedule, identifies the kinds of information that the Governing Board is seeking to obtain regarding the Design