

*Type of Request:* New information collection.

*Number of Respondents:* 36.

*Average Hours per Response:* 60 hours.

*Burden Hours:* 2,160 hours.

*Needs and Uses:* In 2012, the Next Generation 911 (NG911) Advancement Act of 2012 (Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, Pub. L. 112–96, Title VI, Subtitle E (codified at 47 U.S.C. 942)) enacted changes to this program. It reauthorized the 911 Implementation Coordination Office (ICO), a joint effort between the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). It delineated the responsibilities of the ICO to include a joint program to establish and facilitate coordination and communication between Federal, State, and local emergency communications systems, emergency personnel, public safety organizations, telecommunications carriers, and telecommunications equipment manufacturers and vendors involved in the implementation of 911 services.

The NG911 Advancement Act provided funding for grants to be used for the implementation and operation of 911 services, E911 services, migration to an IP-enabled emergency network, and adoption and operation of NG911 services and applications; the implementation of IP-enabled emergency services and applications enabled by NG911 services, including the establishment of IP backbone networks and the application layer software infrastructure needed to interconnect the multitude of emergency response organizations; and training public safety personnel, including call-takers, first responders, and other individuals and organizations who are part of the emergency response chain in 911 services. In August 2019, NTIA and NHTSA made \$109,250,000 in grant awards to 36 agencies.

The information collected for the closeout of this grant program will include various reporting requirements. The closeout performance report is a new collection instrument. All grantees will submit the closeout performance report, tangible property report and final financial report in accordance with 2 CFR part 200, the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (OMB Uniform Guidance). It is important for NTIA and NHTSA to have this information so that they can effectively administer the grant program and account for the expenditure of funds.

*Affected Public:* Under this proposed effort, all grantees are required to submit the required report electronically via email. Reporting entities are the 36 grantees, making the total maximum number of respondents 36.

*Frequency:* One time. The reporting entities will be required to submit the Closeout Performance Report, Tangible Property Report and a final financial report.

*Respondents' Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* 47 U.S.C. 942.

This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function and entering the title of the collection.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.*

[FR Doc. 2021–12224 Filed 6–9–21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–WL–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO–C–2021–0016]

#### New Implementation Date for Patent Practitioner Registration Statement and Continuing Legal Education Certification

**AGENCY:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of revised implementation date.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO or Office) is delaying the implementation of the biennial mandatory registration statement required from registered patent practitioners and individuals granted limited recognition to practice before the USPTO in patent matters until November 1, 2024. However, beginning in the spring of 2022, registered patent practitioners and individuals granted recognition to practice before the USPTO in patent matters may voluntarily certify that they have completed six credit hours of

continuing legal education (CLE) in the preceding 24 months.

**DATES:** *New Implementation Date:* The USPTO anticipates that the registration statement will first be collected on November 1, 2024. The voluntary certification of CLE will commence in the spring of 2022.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** William Covey, Deputy General Counsel and Director OED, at 571–272–4097. Please direct media inquiries to the USPTO’s Office of the Chief Communications Officer at 571–272–8400.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the final rule, Setting and Adjusting Patent Fees During Fiscal Year 2020, 85 FR 46932 (Aug. 3, 2020), registered patent practitioners and individuals granted limited recognition to practice before the USPTO in patent matters may be required to biennially submit a mandatory registration statement. See 37 CFR 11.11(a)(2). The final rule also provided that registered patent practitioners and individuals granted limited recognition to practice before the USPTO in patent matters who have completed six credits of CLE in the preceding 24 months (including five hours of CLE in patent law and practice and one hour of CLE in ethics) may voluntarily certify such completion to the OED Director. 37 CFR 11.11(a)(3)(i). In the final rule, the USPTO anticipated that practitioners would first be required to submit a registration statement in the spring of 2022, and that patent practitioners would make the voluntary CLE certification, if desired, when submitting the registration statement. 85 FR 46932, at 46948.

On October 9, 2020, the USPTO published proposed CLE guidelines with a request for comments in the **Federal Register**, seeking public input on the guidelines. 85 FR 64128. The request for comments closed on January 7, 2021. The USPTO received 26 comments, addressing both the proposed CLE guidelines and the provisions of the final patent fee rule which establish the biennial electronic registration statement.

After considering numerous factors, the USPTO has decided to delay the implementation of the registration statement. The decision to delay is based, in part, on the USPTO’s consideration of public comments received regarding the registration statement in response to the request for public comments on the proposed CLE guidelines. The USPTO’s decision is also based on a close analysis of operational priorities and budget. The USPTO notes that delaying

implementation of the registration statement will allow the Office to conserve resources by integrating the registration statement with other USPTO information systems. Based on these considerations, the USPTO anticipates that the registration statement will first be collected on November 1, 2024. Once a new date for collection of the registration statement is certain, the public will be given at least 120 days advance notice.

However, as stated in the 2020 patent fee rule, the USPTO will proceed with the voluntary CLE certification beginning in the spring of 2022. Prior to the implementation of the registration statement (*i.e.*, prior to November 1, 2024), registered patent practitioners and individuals granted limited recognition to practice in patent matters before the Office may voluntarily certify their CLE completion in accordance with 37 CFR 11.11(a)(3)(i) by logging into the Office of Enrollment and Discipline Information System—Customer Interface (OEDIS—CI), available at <https://oedci.uspto.gov/OEDCI/SignInServlet>. As registered patent practitioners and individuals granted limited recognition to practice in patent matters before the USPTO already use the OEDIS—CI system to update other information with OED, the USPTO believes that it will be efficient and convenient for practitioners to make the voluntary CLE certification, if they wish, through this same system. The USPTO will issue more specific guidance and instructions for making the certification in subsequent months.

**Andrew Hirshfeld,**

*Commissioner for Patents, Performing the Functions and Duties of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.*

[FR Doc. 2021–12149 Filed 6–9–21; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Applications for New Awards; Education Research and Special Education Research Grant Programs

**AGENCY:** Institute of Education Sciences, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Education (Department) is issuing a notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2022 for the Education Research and Special Education Research Grant Programs, Assistance Listing Numbers (ALNs) 84.305A, 84.305B, 84.305D, 84.305R, 84.305S,

and 84.324X. This notice relates to the approved information collection under OMB control number 4040–0001.

**DATES:** The dates when applications are available and the deadlines for transmittal of applications invited under this notice are indicated in the chart at the end of this notice and in the Requests for Applications (RFAs) that are posted at the following websites: <https://ies.ed.gov/funding>, [www.ed.gov/programs/edresearch/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/programs/edresearch/index.html), and [www.ed.gov/programs/specialedresearch/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/programs/specialedresearch/index.html).

**ADDRESSES:** For the addresses for obtaining and submitting an application, please refer to our Common Instructions for Applicants to Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs, published in the **Federal Register** on February 13, 2019 (84 FR 3768) and available at [www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-13/pdf/2019-02206.pdf](http://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-13/pdf/2019-02206.pdf).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The contact person associated with a particular research competition is listed in the chart at the end of this notice, as well as in the relevant RFA and application package.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1–800–877–8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Full Text of Announcement**

**I. Funding Opportunity Description**

*Purpose of Program:* In awarding these grants, the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) intends to provide national leadership in expanding knowledge and understanding of (1) developmental and school readiness outcomes for infants and toddlers with or at risk for a disability, (2) education outcomes for all learners from early childhood education through postsecondary and adult education, and (3) employment and wage outcomes when relevant (such as for those engaged in career and technical, postsecondary, or adult education). The IES research grant programs are designed to provide interested individuals and the general public with reliable and valid information about education practices that support learning and improve academic achievement and access to education opportunities for all learners. These interested individuals include parents, educators, learners, researchers, and policymakers. In carrying out its grant programs, IES provides support for programs of research in areas of demonstrated national need.

*Competitions in This Notice:* IES is announcing seven research competitions through two of its centers:

The IES National Center for Education Research (NCER) is announcing five competitions—one competition in each of the following areas: Education research; education research training; systematic replication in education; statistical and research methodology in education; and using longitudinal data to support State education recovery policymaking.

The IES National Center for Special Education Research (NCSER) is announcing two competitions for research to accelerate pandemic recovery in special education.

*NCER Competitions*

*The Education Research Competition.* Under this competition, NCER will consider only applications that address one of the following topics:

- Career and Technical Education.
- Civics Education and Social Studies.
- Cognition and Student Learning.
- Early Learning Programs and Policies.
- Effective Instruction.
- English Learners.
- Improving Education Systems.
- Postsecondary and Adult Education.
- Literacy.
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education.
- Social and Behavioral Context for Academic Learning.

*Note:* While NCER is not now establishing a separate, stand-alone topic area within the Education Research Grants competition inviting research related to COVID–19 as authorized under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP), we invite applications to the standing topics listed above designed to accomplish this purpose. If you intend to submit a project in one of the topic areas identified above that is specifically intended to address COVID–19 learning loss, we ask that you express or state this intention clearly in your proposal and on item 4(b) of the SF424 Federal Application Assistance Form.

*The Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences Competition.* Under this competition, NCER will consider only applications that address one of the following topics:

- Early Career Mentoring Program for Faculty at Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>To qualify as an MSI for the purpose of the Early Career Mentoring Program, the institution must