

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. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2023–24 (ECLS–K:2024) Kindergarten and First-Grade Field Test Data Collection, National Sampling, and National Recruitment.

OMB Control Number: 1850–0750.

Type of Review: A revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals and households.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 20,895.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 15,599.

Abstract: The Early Childhood Longitudinal Study (ECLS) program, conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) within the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) of the U.S. Department of Education (ED), draws together information from multiple sources to provide rich, descriptive data on child development, early learning, and school progress. The ECLS program studies deliver national data on children's status at birth and at various points thereafter; children's transitions to non-parental care, early care and education programs, and school; and children's experiences and growth through the elementary grades. The Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2023–24 (ECLS–K:2024) is the fourth cohort in the series of early childhood longitudinal studies that began with the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 1998–99 (ECLS–K) and continued with the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Birth Cohort (ECLS–B), and the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2010–11 (ECLS–K:2011).

In preparation for the ECLS–K:2024 data collections, several OMB packages have been cleared or have been planned for submission. Prior to the field test collection of data from parents of preschool-aged children, in-person focus groups with parents of preschoolers and usability testing of the preschool parent survey instruments were conducted in 2019 (OMB 1850–0803 v.246 and OMB 1850–0803 v.253, respectively). The field test with

preschool parents was conducted in the spring of 2020 (OMB 1850–0750 v.19). In order to test recruitment messages and materials for the field test and national data collections, online focus groups with school administrators, teachers, and parents were conducted in fall 2019 and spring 2020 (OMB 1850–0803 v.255 & v.264). Additionally, usability testing of the kindergarten and first-grade field test instruments was conducted in early 2021 (OMB 1850–0803 v.280).

This current request is to conduct a field test of the ECLS–K:2024 kindergarten and first-grade data collection activities to evaluate the design of the national study's kindergarten and first-grade surveys and child assessments, as well as the operational procedures (that is, sampling and recruitment) for the national kindergarten and first-grade data collections in the fall 2023, spring 2024, and spring 2025. This data collection to evaluate the kindergarten and first-grade instruments and procedures is referred to throughout the remainder of this package as the K–1 field test. District and school sampling and recruitment activities for the K–1 field test will occur in spring 2022, while student sampling will occur in August and September 2022. From September through November 2022, trained study field staff will visit the participating schools to conduct in-person, one-on-one child assessments. Parents, teachers, and school administrators will also be asked to complete web surveys. As testing and development continues, it is anticipated that changes to the surveys, website language, and respondent materials will be necessary; a change request describing these changes will be submitted in spring 2022 prior to the K–1 field test data collection. Furthermore, this package also includes a request to conduct national district and school sampling and recruitment from fall 2022 to spring 2023. These recruitment activities will closely mimic what will be done in the K–1 field test, but will occur over a much longer period of time.

Dated: September 2, 2021.

Stephanie Valentine,

PRA Coordinator, Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance and Strategy Division, Office of Chief Data Officer, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development.

[FR Doc. 2021–19331 Filed 9–7–21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED–2021–SCC–0095]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS 2023) Field Test Data Collection and Main Study Sampling, Recruitment, and Data Collection

AGENCY: Institute of Educational Science (IES), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is proposing a revision of a currently approved collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before October 8, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for proposed information collection requests should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this information collection request by selecting “Department of Education” under “Currently Under Review,” then check “Only Show ICR for Public Comment” checkbox. Comments may also be sent to ICDocketmgr@ed.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Carrie Clarady, 202–245–6347.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Education (ED), 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, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. 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. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS 2023) Field Test Data Collection and Main Study Sampling, Recruitment, and Data Collection.

OMB Control Number: 1850–0695.

Type of Review: A revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals and households.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 50,996.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 20,336.

Abstract: The Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), within the U.S. Department of Education (ED), is an international assessment of fourth and eighth grade students' achievement in mathematics and science. Since its inception in 1995, TIMSS has continued to assess students every 4 years (1995, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2011, 2015, and 2019), with the next TIMSS assessment, TIMSS 2023, being the eighth iteration of the study. In TIMSS 2023, approximately 65 countries or education systems will participate. The United States will participate in TIMSS 2023 to continue to monitor the progress of its students compared to that of other nations and to provide data on factors that may influence student achievement.

TIMSS is led by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), an international collective of research organizations and government agencies that create the frameworks used to develop the assessment, the survey instruments, and the study timeline. IEA decides and agrees upon a common set of standards, procedures, and timelines for collecting and reporting data, all of which must be followed by all participating countries. As a result, TIMSS is able to provide a reliable and comparable measure of student skills in participating countries. In the U.S., NCES conducts this study in collaboration with the IEA and a number of contractors to ensure proper implementation of the study and adoption of practices in adherence to the IEA's standards. Participation in TIMSS is consistent with NCES's mandate of acquiring and disseminating data on educational activities and

student achievement in the United States compared with foreign nations [The Educational Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (ESRA 2002, 20 U.S.C. 9543)].

A previous request to conduct sampling and recruitment activities associated with the TIMSS 2023 field test, which will be conducted in March and April 2022, was approved by OMB in May 2021 (OMB #1850–0695 v.16). Because TIMSS is a collaborative effort among many parties, the United States must adhere to the international schedule set forth by the IEA, including the availability of final field test and main study plans as well as draft and final questionnaires. In order to meet the international data collection schedule, to align with recruitment for other NCES studies (e.g., the National Assessment of Education Progress, NAEP), and for schools to put the TIMSS 2023 field test assessment on their Spring 2022 calendars, recruitment activities for the field test will begin in June of 2021. This package requests approval for the field test data collection materials and the main study sampling, recruiting, and data collection plans. Recruitment activities for the main study will begin in January 2022, with the data collection activities currently scheduled to begin in March 2023.

Dated: September 2, 2021.

Stephanie Valentine,

PRA Coordinator, Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance and Strategy Division, Office of Chief Data Officer, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development.

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BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board Chairs

AGENCY: Office of Environmental Management, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open virtual meeting

SUMMARY: This notice announces an online virtual meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) Chairs. The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires that public notice of this online virtual meeting be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Wednesday, October 6, 2021; 12:00 p.m.–4:15 p.m. EDT, and Thursday, October 7, 2021; 12:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. EDT

ADDRESSES: Online Virtual Meeting. To attend, please contact Alyssa Harris by email, Alyssa.Harris@em.doe.gov, no

later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on Monday, October 4, 2021.

To Submit Public Comment: Public comments will be accepted via email prior to and after the meeting. Comments received no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, September 29, 2021 will be read aloud during the virtual meeting. Comments will also be accepted after the meeting by no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 to be included in the official meeting record. Please send comments to Alyssa Harris at Alyssa.Harris@em.doe.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alyssa Harris, EM SSAB Federal Coordinator, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585. Email: Alyssa.Harris@em.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board: The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE–EM and site management in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

Tentative Agenda Topics

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

- Update from Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
- Chairs Round Robin
- Public Comment
- EM–4 Update
- Membership Recruitment and Package Education
- Board Business/Open Discussion

Thursday, October 7, 2021

- FY 2022 Budget Update
- Office of Technology Development Overview
- Public Comment
- Charge #1 Discussion and Path Forward
- Charge #2 Discussion and Path Forward
- Board Business/Open Discussion

Public Participation: The online virtual meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting by sending them to Alyssa Harris at the aforementioned email address. The Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the conference call in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Individuals wishing to make public comments should email them as directed above.

Minutes: Minutes will be available by writing Alyssa Harris at the email address listed above. Minutes will also be available at the following website: <https://energy.gov/em/listings/chairs-meetings>.