

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**[Docket No.: ED–2021–SCC–0155]****Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Borrower Defenses Against Loan Repayment****AGENCY:** Federal Student Loan (FSA), Department of Education (ED).**ACTION:** Notice.**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is proposing an extension without change of a currently approved collection.**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 3, 2022.**ADDRESSES:** To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number ED–2021–SCC–0155. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting the Docket ID number or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. If the [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) site is not available to the public for any reason, ED will temporarily accept comments at ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. Please include the docket ID number and the title of the information collection request when requesting documents or submitting comments. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the PRA Coordinator of the Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance and Strategy Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave. SW, LBJ, Room 6W208D, Washington, DC 20202–8240.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Beth Grebeldinger, 202–377–4018.**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: Borrower Defenses Against Loan Repayment.*OMB Control Number:* 1845–0132.*Type of Review:* An extension without change of a currently approved collection.*Respondents/Affected Public:* Individuals and Households.*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 150,000.*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 150,000.*Abstract:* This is a request for an extension of the current information collection for Form 1845–0132. The U.S. Department of Education (ED) continues to require the collection of this information from borrowers who believe they have cause to request the borrower defense to loan repayment forgiveness of a student loan as noted in regulation in 1998 Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA) (Sec. 455(h)). This burden continues to be necessary to ensure Heald, Everest and/or WyoTech College borrowers who wish to invoke the borrower defense against repayment of federal student loans can do so in a uniform and informed manner.

Dated: October 28, 2021.

Kate Mullan,*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 EDUCATION****[Docket No.: ED–2021–SCC–0156]****Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; School Pulse Panel 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 new information collection.**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 3, 2022.**ADDRESSES:** To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number ED–2021–SCC–0149. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting the Docket ID number or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. If the [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) site is not available to the public for any reason, ED will temporarily accept comments at ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. Please include the docket ID number and the title of the information collection request when requesting documents or submitting comments. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance and Strategy Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave. SW, LBJ, Room 6W208B, Washington, DC 20202–4537.**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: School Pulse Panel Data Collection Activities.

OMB Control Number: 1850–NEW.

Type of Review: A new information collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 17,280.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 4,752.

Abstract: The School Pulse Panel is a new study conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), part of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), within the United States Department of Education, to collect extensive data on issues concerning the impact of the COVID–19 pandemic on students and staff in U.S. public primary, middle, high, and combined-grade schools. The survey will ask school district staff and sampled school principals about topics such as instructional mode offered; enrollment counts of subgroups of students using various instructional modes; learning loss mitigation strategies; safe and healthy school mitigation strategies; special education services; use of technology; use of federal relief funds; and information on staffing. Because this data collection is extremely high priority and time sensitive, it has begun data collection under Emergency Clearance (see OMB# 1850–0963). NCES is also submitting this parallel ICR package to undergo the usual 60-day and 30-day clearance processes so that data collection can continue beyond the expiration of the emergency clearance. NCES is not submitting documents for review at this time; associated materials can be found under the OMB control number 1850–0963 (ED–2021–SCC–0149). New and revised documents will be included under this new number during the 30-day public review period.

The administration of the School Pulse Panel study is in direct response to President Biden’s Executive Order 14000: Supporting the Reopening and Continuing Operation of Schools and Early Childhood Education Providers. It will be one of the nation’s few sources of reliable data on a wealth of information focused on school reopening efforts, virus spread mitigation strategies, services offered for students and staff, and technology use, as reported by school district staff and principals in U.S. public schools. About 1200 public elementary, middle, high, and combined-grade schools will be selected to participate in a panel where school and district staff will be asked to provide requested data monthly during the 2021–22 school years. This approach provides the ability to collect detailed information on various topics while also assessing changes in reopening efforts over time. Given the high demand for data collection during this time, the content of the survey may change on a quarterly basis.

Dated: October 28, 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. 2021–23841 Filed 11–1–21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology

AGENCY: Office of Science, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open virtual meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces an open meeting of the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST). The Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Monday, November 29, 2021; 12:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

ADDRESSES: Information to participate virtually can be found on the PCAST website closer to the meeting at: www.whitehouse.gov/PCAST/meetings.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Sarah Domnitz, Designated Federal Officer, PCAST, email: PCAST@ostp.eop.gov or telephone: (202) 881–6399.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: PCAST is an advisory group of the nation’s leading scientists and engineers,

appointed by the President to augment the science and technology advice available to him from the White House, cabinet departments, and other Federal agencies. See the Executive Order at www.whitehouse.gov. PCAST is consulted on and provides analyses and recommendations concerning a wide range of issues where understanding of science, technology, and innovation may bear on the policy choices before the President. The Designated Federal Officer is Dr. Sarah Domnitz. Information about PCAST can be found at: www.whitehouse.gov/PCAST.

Tentative Agenda: PCAST will hear from invited speakers on and discuss various aspects of biomanufacturing, the Federal science and technology workforce, and the National Nanotechnology Initiative. Additional information and the meeting agenda, including any changes that arise, will be posted on the PCAST website at: www.whitehouse.gov/PCAST/meetings.

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. It is the policy of the PCAST to accept written public comments no longer than 10 pages and to accommodate oral public comments whenever possible. The PCAST expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted oral or written statements.

The public comment period for this meeting will take place on November 29, 2021, at a time specified in the meeting agenda. This public comment period is designed only for substantive commentary on PCAST’s work, not for business marketing purposes.

Oral Comments: To be considered for the public speaker list at the meeting, interested parties should register to speak at PCAST@ostp.eop.gov, no later than 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time on November 22, 2021. To accommodate as many speakers as possible, the time for public comments will be limited to two (2) minutes per person, with a total public comment period of up to 10 minutes. If more speakers register than there is space available on the agenda, PCAST will select speakers on a first-come, first-served basis from those who registered. Those not able to present oral comments may file written comments with the council.

Written Comments: Although written comments are accepted continuously, written comments should be submitted to PCAST@ostp.eop.gov no later than 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time on November 22, 2021, so that the comments may be made available to the PCAST members for their consideration prior to this meeting.