

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Department is proposing an extension without change of a currently approved information collection request (ICR).

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 22, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for proposed information collection requests should be submitted within 30 days of publication of this notice. Click on this link www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain to access the site. Find this information collection request (ICR) by selecting "Department of Education" under "Currently Under Review," then check the "Only Show ICR for Public Comment" checkbox. *Reginfo.gov* provides two links to view documents related to this information collection request. Information collection forms and instructions may be found by clicking on the "View Information Collection (IC) List" link. Supporting statements and other supporting documentation may be found by clicking on the "View Supporting Statement and Other Documents" link.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Bryan Williams, 202-453-6715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department 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: Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), Stronger Connections Grant (SCG) Program.

OMB Control Number: 1810-0770.

Type of Review: An extension without change of a currently approved ICR.

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

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 56.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 3,360.

Abstract: The Department of Education (the Department) requests an

extension of the information collection under the School Improvement Programs section of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), and the Stronger Connections Grant (SCG), OMB number 1810-0770. Under this program, the Department awards grants to State educational agencies (SEAs) for the purpose of providing competitive grants to high-need local educational agencies (LEAs) for activities under section 4108 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA).

Eligible applicants for the SCG funds include those in any of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Bureau of Indian Education, and the Outlying Areas. Each SEA will award no less than 95 percent of its SCG allocation on a competitive basis to high-need LEAs as determined by the State. The SEA will reserve no more than 1% of its SCG allocation for administration and will use any remaining funds not awarded to LEAs for State-level activities to support section 4108 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA).

This information collection will support the Department in providing effective technical assistance, monitoring and oversight to ensure that these funds are awarded and used as required by the BSCA—*i.e.*, that the funds are awarded to high-need LEAs on a competitive basis for activities allowable under section 4108 of the ESEA. Department staff will review the information submitted by SEAs (1) for monitoring purposes, to verify that SEAs are implementing the BSCA requirements for SEA award of the SCG funds; and (2) to understand the manner in which SEAs are implementing these requirements. This information will enable the Department to provide effective technical assistance and support to States. If this information is not collected, the Department will be unable to fully and adequately meet monitoring and technical assistance responsibilities as States implement this program.

Dated: November 17, 2022.

Kun 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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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2022-SCC-0136]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Evaluating the Impact of the Professional Learning Community: Evaluating the Impact of the Professional Learning Community: Emergent Literacy (PLC-EL)

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Department is proposing a new information collection request (ICR).

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 23, 2023.

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-2022-SCC-0136. 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* site is not available to the public for any reason, the Department 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 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 Manager of the Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance and Strategy Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave. SW, LBJ, Room 6W203, Washington, DC 20202-8240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Janelle Sands, 202-245-6786.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 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, 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. The Department is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department 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: Evaluating the Impact of the Professional Learning Community: Emergent Literacy (PLC-EL).

OMB Control Number: 1850-NEW.

Type of Review: A new ICR.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals and Households.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 1,726.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 3,156.

Abstract: The current authorization for the Regional Educational Laboratories (REL) program is under the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, Part D, Section 174, (20 U.S.C. 9564), administered by the Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences (IES), National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance (NCEE). The goal of the REL program is to partner with educators and policymakers to conduct work that is change-oriented and supports meaningful local, regional, or state decisions about education policies, programs, and practices to improve outcomes for students.

School readiness, particularly language and literacy readiness, in South Carolina (SC) remains a high-leverage need. This need is reflected in the state's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA). The KRA measures four domains of learning and development, including language and literacy. Demonstrating readiness occurs when students show the foundational skills and behaviors that prepare them for instruction based on kindergarten standards. In 2020/21 Modified KRA scores in SC revealed that only 27 percent of incoming kindergartners

demonstrated readiness (South Carolina Education Oversight Committee, 2021). Achievement gaps were also observed, with 17 percent of African American kindergartners and 13 percent of Hispanic kindergartners meeting the demonstrating readiness mark, compared to 35 percent of White students. There is a clear need to improve equity in learning opportunities and in school readiness outcomes among SC children. Members of the SC research partnership have identified teacher professional development (PD) in language and literacy as a critical component to improving the quality of early learning and are specifically interested in understanding the effectiveness of and the facilitators and barriers to implementation of the Professional Learning Community: Emergent Literacy (PLC-EL; Kosanovich et al., 2020).

The purpose of this study is to understand the impact of the PLC-EL program on preschool teachers' knowledge, practice, and student achievement in print knowledge, phonological awareness, oral language, and vocabulary. In addition, this study will identify factors that influence program effectiveness and the facilitators and barriers of effective implementation that inform scale-up initiatives across the state. This study will use a randomized controlled trial design to help ensure that—all else equal—this study will yield the strongest, most reliable evidence possible on which to base policy and practice. The study sample will include approximately 100 preschool centers across SC, 2,940 students, 226 preschool teachers, 25 PLC-EL Facilitators, center leaders, and a subset of district and state education leaders.

The study findings will help the Office of Early Learning & Literacy (OELL) at SCDE meet its goals of improving equitable access to high-quality PD for educators and equitable access to high-quality instruction for students by training facilitators to implement the PLC-EL in a large sample of preschool centers in four separate regions of the state. In addition, the study findings will provide the OELL at SCDE with actionable information about facilitators and barriers to implementation that can be used to inform scale-up initiatives across the state.

Dated: November 17, 2022.

Juliana Pearson,

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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ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

AGENCY: U.S. Election Assistance Commission

ACTION: Sunshine Act Notice; notice of public meeting agenda.

SUMMARY: Public Meeting: U.S. Election Assistance Commission Local Leadership Council Meeting.

DATES: Wednesday, December 14, 2022, 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. Eastern.

ADDRESSES: Virtual via Zoom.

The meeting is open to the public and will be livestreamed on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpN6i0g2r1F4ITWhwvBwwZw>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristen Muthig, Telephone: (202) 897-9285, Email: kmuthig@eac.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose: In accordance with the Government in the Sunshine Act (Sunshine Act), Public Law 94-409, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552b), the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) will conduct a virtual meeting of the EAC Local Leadership Council.

Agenda: The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) Local Leadership Council will discuss the organizational structure and consider the adoption of the initial committee Bylaws. The Bylaws serve to establish the guidelines for the conduct of the Local Leadership Council members, meetings, and subcommittees. The Bylaws cover several topics including the process for calling and conducting meetings, establishment of committees, the structure of the Executive Committee, the makeup of Regional Committees, and the process of holding elections.

Background: The Local Leadership Council was established in June 2021 under agency authority pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 2). The Advisory Committee is governed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, which sets forth standards for the formation and use of advisory committees. The