

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests****AGENCY:** Department of Education.**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, 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 May 15, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and requests for copies of the proposed information collection requests should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patrick J. Sherrill (202) 708-8196.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

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. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

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: March 11, 1998.

Gloria Parker,*Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.***Office of Postsecondary Education***Type of Review:* Extension.

Title: **Federal Register** Notice Inviting Applications for the Participation in the Quality Assurance (QA) Program.

Frequency: One time.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government.

Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 125.*Burden Hours:* 400.*Abstract:* Financial Aid

Administrators in a letter of application to the Department of Education will describe their institutions commitment to quality assurance and to the reduction of error in the processing and awarding of student aid dollars.

Office of Postsecondary Education*Type of Review:* Revision.

Title: Application for Ability to Benefit Testing Approval.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; Businesses or other for-profits; Not-for-profit institutions.

Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 150,090.*Burden Hours:* 77,040.

Abstract: The Secretary will publish a list of approved tests which can be used by postsecondary educational institutions to establish the ability to benefit for a student who does not have a high school diploma or its equivalent.

[FR Doc. 98-6695 Filed 3-13-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request****AGENCY:** Department of Education.**ACTION:** Submission for OMB review; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 15, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Danny Werfel, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, N.W., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503. Requests for copies of the proposed information collection requests should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651.

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