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[FR Doc. 00-31529 Filed 12-11-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-U

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, 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 January 11, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Lauren Wittenberg, Acting Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, N.W., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Lauren\_Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov.

**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 Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that 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.

Dated: December 6, 2000.

**John Tressler,**

*Leader Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

### Office of Vocational and Adult Education

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* America's Career Resource Network State Grant Annual Performance Report.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 59.

Burden Hours: 4,720.

*Abstract:* Section 118(e) of the Carl D. Perkins Act (PL 105-332) requires the Department of Education to report annually to Congress on specific activities carried out by States via grants under Section 118. This information can be obtained via the annual progress reports required of grantees by Section 74.51 Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR).

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO\_IMG\_Issues@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request. Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Sheila Carey at (202) 708-6287 or via her internet address Sheila\_Carey@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The leader, regulatory information management group, 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 January 11, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Lauren Wittenberg, Acting Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, N.W., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Lauren\_Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov.

**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 Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that 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.

Dated: December 6, 2000.

**John Tressler,**

*Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

### Office of the Undersecretary

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* Evaluation of the Federal Class Size Reduction Program.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Affected Public:* State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 1,298.

Burden Hours: 1,044.

*Abstract:* For the past two years, the federal government has supported an effort to promote the hiring of high quality teachers to reduce the size of classrooms in the early elementary grades. This evaluation looks at the early implementation of the program and assesses how the federal class size

reduction (CSR) funds were spent, what issues arose in implementing the program, the impact of the program on class size, and the impact of the program on teaching.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO\_IMG\_Issues@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Jacqueline Montague at (202) 708-5359 or via her internet address Jackie\_Montague@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 00-31531 Filed 12-11-00; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA Nos. 84.116A; 84.116B]

### Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education—Comprehensive Program (Preapplications and Applications) Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001

*Purpose of Program:* To provide grants or enter into cooperative agreements to improve postsecondary education opportunities.

*Eligible Applicants:* Institutions of higher education or combinations of those institutions and other public and private nonprofit institutions and agencies.

*Deadline for Transmittal of Preapplications:* January 26, 2001.

*Deadline for Transmittal of Final Applications:* April 27, 2001.

**Note:** All applicants must submit a preapplication to be eligible to submit a final application.

*Deadline for Intergovernmental Review:* June 26, 2001.

*Applications Available:* December 12, 2000.

*Available Funds:* It is anticipated that approximately \$17,000,000 will be available for an estimated 130 new awards under the Comprehensive Program. The actual level of funding, if any, is contingent on final congressional

action and the number and quality of applications.

*Estimated Range of Awards:* \$50,000 to \$200,000 per year.

*Estimated Average Size of Awards:* \$131,000.

*Estimated Number of Awards:* 130.

**Note:** The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

*Project Period:* Up to 36 months.

*Applicable Regulations:* The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99.

### Priorities

#### Invitational Priorities

While applicants may propose any project within the scope of 20 U.S.C. 1138(a), under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) the Secretary is particularly interested in applications that meet one or more of the following invitational priorities. However, an application that meets one or more of these invitational priorities does not receive competitive or absolute preference over other applications:

*Invitational Priority 1—*Projects to make more productive use of resources to improve teaching and learning; and to increase learning productivity—that is, to transform programs and teaching to promote more student learning relative to institutional resources expended.

*Invitational Priority 2—*Projects to disseminate innovative postsecondary educational programs which have already been locally developed, implemented, and evaluated.

*Invitational Priority 3—*Projects to support new ways of ensuring equal access to postsecondary education, and to improve rates of retention and program completion, especially for low-income and underrepresented minority students, whose retention and completion rates continue to lag disturbingly behind those of other groups.

*Invitational Priority 4—*Projects to improve campus climates for learning by creating an environment that is safe, welcoming, and conducive to academic growth for all students.

*Invitational Priority 5—*Projects to support innovative reforms of undergraduate, graduate, and professional curricula that improve not only what students learn, but how they learn.

*Invitational Priority 6—*Projects to support the professional development of full- and part-time faculty by assessing and rewarding effective teaching; promoting new and more effective teaching methods; and improving the preparation of graduate students who will be future faculty members.

*Invitational Priority 7—*Projects to promote innovative school-college partnerships and to improve the preparation of K-12 teachers, in order to enhance students' preparation for, access to, and success in college.

#### Methods for Applying Selection Criteria

For preapplications (preliminary applications) and final applications (applications), the Secretary gives equal weight to each of the selection criteria. Within each of these criteria, the Secretary gives equal weight to each of the factors.

#### Selection Criteria

In evaluating preapplications and final applications for grants under this program competition, the Secretary uses the following selection criteria chosen from those listed in 34 CFR 75.210.

*Preapplications.* In evaluating preapplications, the Secretary uses the following selection criteria:

(a) *Need for the project.* The Secretary reviews each proposed project for its need, as determined by the following factors:

(1) The magnitude or severity of the problem to be addressed by the proposed project.

(2) The magnitude of the need for the services to be provided or the activities to be carried out by the proposed project.

(b) *Significance.* The Secretary reviews each proposed project for its significance, as determined by the following factors:

(1) The potential contribution of the proposed project to increased knowledge or understanding of educational problems, issues, or effective strategies.

(2) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development or demonstration of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies.

(3) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project, especially improvements in teaching and student achievement.

(4) The potential replicability of the proposed project or strategies, including, as appropriate, the potential for implementation in a variety of settings.

(c) *Quality of the project design.* The Secretary reviews each proposed project for the quality of its design, as determined by the extent to which the design of the proposed project is appropriate to, and will successfully address, the needs of the target population or other identified needs.

(d) *Quality of the project evaluation.* The Secretary reviews each proposed