

otherwise regulate the course of this meeting, to recess, reconvene, postpone or adjourn the meeting, and otherwise exercise its authority under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Dated: January 10, 2001.

John T. Conway,

Chairman.

[FR Doc. 01-1341 Filed 1-11-01; 2:12 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education (DOE).

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, 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 March 19, 2001.

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. 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: January 10, 2001.

John Tressler,

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

Office of Education Research and Improvement

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Standards for Evaluation of the Performance of OERI Grants, Cooperative Agreements, and Contracts.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs; Businesses or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 1.

Burden Hours: 1.

Abstract: P.L. 103-227 reauthorized the Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI) and required the Assistant Secretary to establish standards for evaluating the performance of recipients of OERI grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts (20 U.S.D. 6011 (I)(2)(B)(ii)).

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, DC 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 Kathy Axt at her internet address Kathy_Axt@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. 01-1245 Filed 1-12-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

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 February 15, 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, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 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: January 10, 2001.

John Tressler,

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

Office of the Undersecretary

Type of Review: New.

Title: Evaluation of the State Grants Program and Teacher Recruitment Grants Program of Title II of the Higher Education Act.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 2,200
Burden Hours: 1,000

Abstract: In 1999, the federal government funded a major effort toward increasing teacher quality through the State Grants Program and Teacher Recruitment Grants Program. Together, the programs allow states, institutions of higher education, and/or local education agencies to increase the quality of the teacher workforce through certification reform, recruitment efforts, alternative certification routes, and accountability measures. This evaluation looks at both programs to determine how federal funds were spent, what issues arose in implementing the programs, and the impact of the programs.

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. 01-1244 Filed 1-12-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA Nos. 84.339A; 84.339B]

Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education—Learning Anytime Anywhere Partnerships (LAAP) (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 enhance the delivery, quality, and accountability of postsecondary education and career-oriented lifelong learning through asynchronous distance education.

For fiscal year (FY) 2001, the Secretary encourages applicants to design projects that focus on the invitational priorities set forth in the

invitational priorities section of this application notice.

Eligible Applicants: Partnerships consisting of two or more independent agencies, organizations, or institutions, including institutions of higher education, associations, corporations, community organizations, and other public and private institutions, agencies, and organizations.

Note: A nonprofit organization must serve as the fiscal agent for a funded partnership.

Applications Available: January 16, 2001.

Deadline for Transmittal of Preapplications: March 15, 2001.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: June 15, 2001.

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

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: August 8, 2001.

Available Funds: \$15,500,000.

Note: Federal funds available under this competition may not pay for more than 50 percent of the cost of a project. Grantees are required to share project costs by matching the requested Federal funds dollar for dollar. The non-Federal share of project costs may be in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including services, supplies, or equipment.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$100,000 to \$500,000 per year.

Estimated Size of Awards: \$333,333 per year.

Estimated Number of Awards: 30–40.

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

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

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

Authorized Activities

Funds awarded to an eligible partnership must be used to conduct one or more of the following activities:

(a) Develop and assess model distance learning programs or innovative educational software.

(b) Develop methodologies for the identification and measurement of skill competencies.

(c) Develop and assess innovative student support services.

(d) Support other activities consistent with the statutory purpose of this program.

Invitational Priorities

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 (34 CFR 75.105(c)(1)).

Invitational Priority 1—Projects that achieve economies of scale by delivering programs over large geographic regions covering more students, faculty and institutions; and by promoting cost-sharing, resource sharing, and faculty collaboration across institutions.

Invitational Priority 2—Projects that develop high quality, interactive software that is both modular or sufficiently flexible for faculty modification of academic content, as well as portable for wide-scale implementation across institutions.

Invitational Priority 3—Projects that package courses and programs to assist students in accessing the offerings of multiple providers and to assist institutions in cooperating and sharing resources.

Invitational Priority 4—Projects that use skill competencies and learning outcomes to measure student progress and achievement in asynchronous distance learning programs.

Invitational Priority 5—Projects that improve quality and accountability of asynchronous distance education, thereby ensuring that credentials are meaningful, providers are accountable, and courses meet high standards.

Invitational Priority 6—Projects that create new asynchronous distance education opportunities for underserved learners, especially those who have not always been well served by traditional campus-based education or common forms of distance education, including: individuals with disabilities; individuals who have lost their jobs; individuals making the transition from welfare to the workforce; and individuals seeking basic or technical skills or their first postsecondary education experience.

Invitational Priority 7—Projects that improve support services for students seeking asynchronous distance education to ensure that they have complete and convenient access to needed services such as registration, financial aid, advising, assessment, counseling, libraries, and many others.

Invitational Priority 8—Projects that remove or revise institutional, system, State, or other policies, which are barriers to the implementation of new types of asynchronous distance education.

Selection Criteria

The Secretary selects from the criteria in 34 CFR 75.210 to evaluate preapplications and applications for this competition. Under 34 CFR 75.201, the