

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 April 30, 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: March 26, 2001.

John Tressler,

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

Office of the Undersecretary

Type of Review: Reinstatement.

Title: GEPA 424 Data Collection on the Distribution of Federal Education Funds.

Frequency: Biennially.

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

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden: Responses: 125.

Burden Hours: 6,488.

Abstract: This data collection fulfills a Congressional mandate to obtain information on the distribution of Federal education funds to school districts. Specifically, this data collection obtains information on subgrants and contracts made under state-administered programs as well as programs that provide funds directly to school districts.

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 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.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Office of Elementary and Secondary Education**

[CFDA No. 84.338]

Reading Excellence Program

ACTION: Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001.

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM: The Reading Excellence Program provides competitive grants to eligible State educational agencies to award competitive subgrants to local educational agencies to fund local reading improvement programs and tutorial assistance programs.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State educational agencies (SEAs) that were not funded in FY 1999 or FY 2000; Puerto Rico; the

Virgin Islands; Guam; American Samoa; and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE: March 28, 2001.

DEADLINE FOR TRANSMITTAL OF APPLICATIONS: May 7, 2001.

Note: An application for an award may be submitted by electronic mail (email), regular mail, or hand delivery.

Special instructions for applications submitted by email: Applications submitted by email should include an electronic return receipt and should be emailed to: grantspolicy@ed.gov.

Applications submitted by email may be submitted in one of the following formats: (1) Microsoft Word (Version Word 95 or Word 97) or (2) portable document format (PDF). The preferred version is Word 97; however, all versions must have text search capability. The electronic version will be the official file copy. The returned receipt and copy will be considered proof of receipt. All forms requiring original signatures (ED-424, Application for Federal Education Assistance; SF 424B, Assurances: Non-Construction Programs; ED 80-0013, Certifications Regarding Lobbying, Debarment, Suspension and other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; ED 80-0014, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions; and Form LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities) must be mailed to the Department by the deadline date, as set out above under the **DEADLINE FOR TRANSMITTAL** section. Please send a hard copy of your application in addition to the electronic copy to ensure that your application is formatted properly when printed.

Note: Some of the procedures in these instructions for transmitting applications differ from those in 34 CFR 75.102 (EDGAR). Under 5 U.S.C. 553, the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed regulations. However, these exceptions to EDGAR make procedural changes only and do not establish new substantive policy. Therefore, under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A), the Secretary has determined that proposed rulemaking is not required.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 22, 2001.

Estimated Available Funds:
\$316,495,390.

Estimated Range of Awards:
\$500,000-\$60,000,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards:
\$21,125,693.

Estimated Number of Awards: 15.
Project Period: Up to 36 months.