DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13).

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 10, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Education Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10222, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503, be faxed to (202) 395–5806 or e-mailed to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov with a cc: to ICDocketMgr@ed.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. The OMB is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: August 6, 2010.

Sheila Carey,
Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.

Office of Postsecondary Education
Type of Review: Revision.

Title of Collection: Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education Program Reports (FIPESE).
OMB #: 1840–0793.
Agency Form Number(s): N/A.
Frequency of Responses: Annually.
Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions.
Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 901.
Estimated Annual Burden Hours: 10,426.

Abstract: This collection includes an annual and a final performance report for use with all of the following FIPSE programs: Comprehensive (84.116B), EU–U.S. (84.116J), U.S.-Brazil (84.116M), North America (84.116N), and U.S.-Russia (84.116S) Programs. Also included is an annual and a final performance report for Congressionally-Directed grants [earmarks] (84.116Z). A total of five (5) forms comprise this collection. We need to collect this data in order to evaluate and assess each grantee for continued funding and assessment of their project.

Requests for copies of the information collection submission for OMB review may be accessed from the RegInfo.gov Web site at http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain or from the Department’s Web site at http://edicsweb.ed.gov. by selecting the “Browse Pending Collections” link and by clicking on link number 4304. When you access the information collection, click on “Download Attachments” to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., LBJ, Washington, DC 20202–4537. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address ICDocketMgr@ed.gov or faxed to (202) 401–0920. Please specify the complete title and OMB Control Number of the information collection when making your request.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Equity and Excellence Commission

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.

ACTION: Notice of Establishment of the Equity and Excellence Commission.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Secretary of Education (Secretary) announces the establishment of the Equity and Excellence Commission (Equity Commission or Commission). The Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (Pub. L. 92–463, as amended; 5 U.S.C.A., Appendix 2) shall govern the Equity Commission.

Purpose: The Secretary is establishing the Commission in order to collect information, analyze issues, and obtain broad public input regarding how the Federal government can increase educational opportunity by improving school funding equity. The Commission will also make recommendations for restructuring school finance systems to achieve equity in the distribution of educational resources and further student performance, especially for the students at the lower end of the achievement gap. The Commission will examine the disparities in meaningful educational opportunities that give rise to the achievement gap, with a focus on systems of finance, and recommend appropriate ways in which Federal policies could address such disparities.

In order to achieve this purpose, the Commission will collect and analyze information related to the issues described above, including information and comment from members of the public. To this end, the Commission will conduct no fewer than four (4) town hall meetings in different parts of the country, in addition to convening at such other times as the Commission deems appropriate, to gather information and will utilize other means of outreach to encourage and facilitate a public discussion of the issues. Approximately fifteen (15) months after the appointment of the members, the Commission will submit a report to the Secretary outlining its findings and any recommendations. The Commission’s report will address, at a minimum, the following:

- Options for how Federal, State, and local governments could establish funding systems to ensure that all students receive equal educational opportunities.
- The cost of education in different settings, with consideration of students’ educational needs, school needs, and variations in geography.

The Secretary will share a copy of the report with Congress through the United States Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the United States House of Representatives Committees on Appropriations and on Education and Labor.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: U.S. Department of Education, White House
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Equity and Excellence Commission

AGENCY: Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Request for Nominations to Serve on the Equity and Excellence Commission.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Education (Secretary) invites interested parties to submit nominations for individuals to serve on the Equity and Excellence Commission.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Equity and Excellence Commission (Equity Commission or Commission) will be established by the Secretary of Education and governed by the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (Pub. L. 92–463, as amended; 5 U.S.C.A., Appendix 2). The Commission will collect information, analyze issues, and obtain broad public input regarding how the Federal government can increase educational opportunity by improving school funding equity. The Commission will also make recommendations for restructuring school finance systems to achieve equity in the distribution of educational resources and further student performance, especially for the students at the lower end of the achievement gap. The Commission will examine the disparities in meaningful educational opportunities that give rise to the achievement gap, with a focus on systems of finance, and recommend appropriate ways in which Federal policies could address such disparities. The Commission will submit a report to the Secretary outlining its findings and any recommendations. The Secretary will share a copy of this report with Congress through the United States Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the United States House of Representatives Committees on Appropriations and on Education and Labor.

The Commission will be composed of approximately 15 members, including persons who have knowledge of and expertise in systems of school finance, taxes, or civil rights. The Secretary intends that at least one-third of the members will have experience working in or with State educational agencies or local educational agencies. The Commission will also include ex officio members from the Department, including, but not limited to, the Deputy Secretary, the General Counsel, and the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

Nomination Process: Any interested person or organization may nominate one or more qualified individuals for membership. If you would like to nominate an individual or yourself for appointment to the Commission, please submit the following information to the Department’s White House Liaison Office:

- A copy of the nominee’s resume;
- A cover letter that provides the reason(s) for nominating the individual; and
- Contact information for the nominee (name, title, and business address, phone number, fax number, and e-mail address).

In addition, the cover letter must state that the nominee (if you are nominating someone other than yourself) has agreed to be nominated and is willing to serve on the Commission. Nominees will be appointed based on:

- Technical qualifications, professional experience, and demonstrated knowledge of issues related to systems of school finance, taxes, and civil rights; and
- Demonstrated experience, integrity, impartiality, and good judgment.

The Secretary will appoint members for the life of the Commission, which will span approximately 15 months. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the full term for which the member’s predecessor was appointed will be appointed for the remainder of such term.

Members will serve without compensation. However, members may receive reimbursement for travel expenses for attending Commission meetings, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by the Federal travel regulations. These members will serve as Special Government Employees (SGEs) and, as SGEs, will be chosen for their individual expertise, qualifications, and experience; they will provide advice and make recommendations based on their independent judgment and will not be speaking for or representing the views of any nongovernmental organization or recognizable group of persons.

DATES: Nominations for individuals to serve on the Commission must be submitted (postmarked, if sending by mail; submitted electronically: or received, if hand-delivered) by September 10, 2010.

ADDRESSES: You may submit nominations, including attachments, by any of the following methods:

- Electronically: Send to: WhiteHouseLiaison@ed.gov (specify in the e-mail subject line, “Equity Commission Nomination”).
- Mail, express delivery, hand delivery, messenger, or courier service: Submit one copy of the documents listed above to the following address: U.S. Department of Education, White House Liaison Office, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 7C109, Washington, DC 20202, Attn: Karen Akins.

For questions, contact Karen Akins, White House Liaison Office, at (202) 401–3677, at (202) 205–0723 (fax), or via e-mail at WhiteHouseLiaison@ed.gov.


Arne Duncan,
Secretary of Education.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Nevada

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Nevada Test Site. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of this meeting be announced in the Federal Register.

DATES: Wednesday, September 1, 2010, 4 p.m.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Denise Rupp, Board Administrator, 232 Energy Way, M/S 505, North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030. Phone: (702) 657–9088; Fax (702) 295–5300 or e-mail: ntscab@nv.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board: The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations...