

information collected consists of petitions, reports, and accreditation notifications. The information collected is required to determine if accrediting agencies or foreign medical and foreign veterinary medical programs comply and are comparable to the Secretary of Education's criteria for recognition outlined in 34 CFR 600.55 and CFR 600.56. The information is used to allow the Secretary to make determinations on new, extension and/or continuing recognition or comparability status. Only postsecondary institutions and countries deemed to be using comparable standards obtain Title IV funding for its students.

Kate Mullan,

Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Office of the Chief Privacy Officer, Office of Management.

[FR Doc. 2015-31484 Filed 12-14-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Funding Additional Awards; Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice Program

AGENCY: Institute of Education Sciences, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Deputy Director for Policy and Research, delegated the duties of the Director, of the Institute of Education Sciences (Institute) announces the Institute's intent to fund three additional grant awards under the Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice Program, specifically under the Supporting Early Learning from Preschool Through Early Elementary School Grades topic. The Institute takes this action because of the number of high-quality applications received and the fact that funding is available in fiscal year (FY) 2016 to support these additional grant awards. The Institute expects to use an estimated \$1.8 million for the three additional awards in FY 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Allen Ruby. Telephone: (202) 219-1591 or by email: Allen.Ruby@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf or a text telephone, call the Federal Relay Service, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 15, 2015, the Institute published a notice inviting applications in the **Federal Register** (80 FR 20203) for new awards in FY 2016 under the Research

Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice Program. The notice indicated that the Institute would award a maximum of four grants under the Supporting Early Learning from Preschool Through Early Elementary School Grades topic but also that this number may be increased through a notice in the **Federal Register**.

In response to that notice and the accompanying Request for Applications (RFA), the Institute received seven high-quality applications for grants under the Supporting Early Learning from Preschool Through Early Elementary School Grades topic. All seven applications received high scores by peer reviewers. Because sufficient funds are available, the Institute intends to fund all seven applications.

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the RFA in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the program contact listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available via the Federal Digital System at: www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.305N.

Delegation of Authority: The Secretary of Education has delegated authority to Ruth Neild, Deputy Director for Policy and Research, to perform the functions and duties of the Director for the Institute of Education Sciences.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 9501 *et seq.*

Dated: December 10, 2015.

Ruth Neild,

Deputy Director for Policy and Research.

[FR Doc. 2015-31517 Filed 12-14-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2015-ICCD-0139]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2017-2019

AGENCY: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 3501 *et seq.*), ED is proposing a new information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before February 16, 2016.

ADDRESSES: To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number ED-2015-ICCD-0139. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting the Docket ID number or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ, Room 2E103, Washington, DC 20202-4537.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Kashka Kubdzela via email at kashka.kubzdela@ed.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Education is especially interested in