

and appealing initial agency determinations are contained in 32 CFR part 310; or may be obtained from the system manager.

#### NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:

Individuals seeking to determine whether information about themselves is contained in this system should address written inquiries to Defense Security Service, Office of FOIA and PA, 27130 Telegraph Road, Quantico, VA 22134–2253. Requests for vetting records not covered by this systems notice, including vetting records maintained by other DoD Components and other federal agencies, should be addressed to those DoD Components and federal agencies.

Signed, written requests should contain the requester's full name, telephone number, street address, email address, and name and number of this system of records notice.

In addition, the requester must provide either a notarized statement or an unsworn declaration made in accordance with 28 U.S.C. 1746, in the following format:

If executed outside the United States: "I declare (or certify, verify, or state) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on (date). (Signature)."

If executed within the United States, its territories, possessions, or commonwealths: "I declare (or certify, verify, or state) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on (date). (Signature)."

#### EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:

The DoD is exempting records maintained in DUSDI 02-DoD "Personnel Vetting Records System," from subsections (c)(3), (d)(1), (d)(2), (d)(3), (d)(4), and (e)(1) of the Privacy Act pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(1), (2), (3), (5), (6), and (7). In addition, in the course of carrying out personnel vetting, including records checks for continuous vetting, exempt records from other systems of records may in turn become part of the records maintained in this system. To the extent that copies of exempt records from those other systems of records are maintained in this system, the Department also claims the same exemptions for the records from those other systems that are maintained in this system, as claimed for the original primary system of which they are a part.

An exemption rule for this system has been promulgated in accordance with requirements of 5 U.S.C. 553(b) (1), (2), and (3), (c) and (e) and published in 32

CFR part 310. For additional information contact the system manager.

#### HISTORY:

None.

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED–2018–ICCD–0104]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Recent Graduates Employment and Earnings Survey (RGEES) Standards and Survey Form

**AGENCY:** Federal Student Aid (FSA), Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is proposing an extension of an existing information collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 17, 2018.

**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–2018–ICCD–0104. 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, 550 12th Street SW, PCP, Room 9086, Washington, DC 20202–0023.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Beth Grebeldinger, 202–377–4018.

**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 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. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

*Title of Collection:* Recent Graduates Employment and Earnings Survey (RGEES) Standards and Survey Form.

*OMB Control Number:* 1845–0138.

*Type of Review:* An extension of an existing information collection.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* Individuals or Households.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 22,123.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 7,374.

*Abstract:* The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) of the U.S. Department of Education (Department) is required by regulation to develop an earnings survey to support gainful employment (GE) program evaluations. The regulations specify that the Secretary of Education will publish in the **Federal Register** the survey and the standards required for its administration. NCES has developed the Recent Graduates Employment and Earnings Survey (RGEES) Standards and Survey Form. The RGEES can be used in a debt-to-earnings (D/E) ratio appeal under the GE regulations as an alternative to the Social Security administration earnings data.

Institutions that choose to submit alternate earnings appeal information will survey all Title IV funded students who graduated from GE programs during the same period that the Department used to calculate the D/E ratios, or a comparable period as defined in 668.406(b)(3) of the regulations. The survey will provide an additional source of earnings data for the Department to consider before determining final D/E ratios for programs subject to the gainful employment regulations. Programs with final D/E ratios that fail to meet the

minimum threshold may face sanctions, including the possible loss of Title IV federal student financial aid program funds.

Dated: October 11, 2018.

**Kate Mullan,**

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

[FR Doc. 2018-22520 Filed 10-16-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Application to Pilot; Federal Student Aid's Next Generation Financial Services Environment—Payment Vehicle Account Program Pilot

**AGENCY:** Federal Student Aid, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Education's Federal Student Aid office is issuing a Notice inviting Applications from parties to implement a Pilot of a Payment Vehicle Account Program.

**DATES:**

*Applications Available:* October 17, 2018.

*Deadline for Transmittal of Applications:* November 7, 2018.

*In-Person Presentations for Applications selected to Present (45 minutes) and Discussion Session (45 minutes):* November 21, 2018 to November 28, 2018.

*Intended Award Date:* December 5, 2018.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the Application ("Application") process should email [FSAPaymentVehicle@ed.gov](mailto:FSAPaymentVehicle@ed.gov). If the Department of Education ("Department") provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability in connection with the Application process, the individual's Application remains subject to all other requirements and limitations in this Notice ("Notice").

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Please email [FSAPaymentVehicle@ed.gov](mailto:FSAPaymentVehicle@ed.gov). You may also contact Dr. Charles Patterson, Project Advisor at (202) 377-4133, or Emily Malone, Project Advisor at (202) 377-4624.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### Full Text of Announcement

#### *Summary of Payment Vehicle Account Program Pilot*

Federal Student Aid (FSA), an office of the United States Department of Education, intends to enter into one or more Cooperative Agreements ("Cooperative Agreement") for a Program Pilot ("Pilot"). This Pilot is intended to guide the establishment and delivery of a student-focused electronic Payment Vehicle Account Program ("Program"). This Payment Vehicle Account ("Payment Vehicle Account") will have direct connectivity, through integration with FSA's myStudentAid Super Portal Mobile App ("Super Portal Mobile App"), to a robust set of app functionalities that are important to help students pursue, finance, and complete their postsecondary education.

In the first phase of the selection process for this Pilot, FSA is inviting interested parties to submit Applications to enter into Cooperative Agreements to serve as Pilot Implementer(s) ("Pilot Implementer(s)") in FSA's Payment Vehicle Account Program. FSA will, at its sole discretion, select one or more parties to serve as Pilot Implementer(s) of the Pilot. The Department has determined that a Cooperative Agreement is the appropriate vehicle for this Pilot, because FSA is not acquiring property or services for the direct benefit or use of the Government ("Government"). Rather, FSA is transferring a thing of value (including, and of importance, the authority to use the FSA brand) to the recipient to carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by law, which is to improve service to students and other participants in the student financial assistance programs.

FSA will select one or more eligible Applicants that meet the Program Pilot Requirements set forth in this Notice to serve as Pilot Implementer(s), based upon the selection criteria and using the process set forth in Sections IV and V of this Notice.

Using one or more Cooperative Agreements, FSA will authorize one or more Pilot Implementer(s) to utilize the FSA brand in connection with piloting a Payment Vehicle Account. The Pilot Implementer(s) will, thus, be supported and required to establish a Payment Vehicle Account, and will agree to abide by customer-friendly terms and conditions as defined and updated at FSA's sole discretion. The Pilot is intended to run through December 2020, but may be extended, expanded, or terminated at the sole discretion of FSA. The term of the Cooperative Agreement

will be for the duration of the Pilot, plus 12 months thereafter.

The Pilot will be administered at multiple Schools ("School") that volunteer to participate and are selected by FSA in consultation with the Pilot Implementer(s). Evaluation of the Pilot will be conducted by an independent party using a mixed methods research protocol, which combines quantitative and qualitative assessments to measure benefits and perceptions of Program utility, efficiency, and ease of use by Customers ("Customer") and Schools.

The Government will not make payments to the Pilot Implementer(s) for any aspect of the Pilot. The Pilot Implementer(s) may not charge any fees to participating Customers for any aspect of the Payment Vehicle Account or any other activity in association with the Pilot. Additionally, the Pilot Implementer(s) must ensure that, for participating Schools, the debit fee rate or an interchange rate (including for tuition, fees, and School-owned merchants such as bookstores, cafeterias, etc.) will be assessed at \$0 or 0 percent.

Student participation in the Pilot is voluntary. The Pilot Implementer(s) and Pilot Participant(s) ("Pilot Participant(s)") must have policies to protect the security and privacy of the personal and private information of Customers who elect to participate in the Program. See Section I and Subsection *Privacy of Customer Information and Restrictions on Marketing Use*, for more information.

All personal and related transaction information is the property of the participating Customer and named Issuing Financial Services Institution ("Issuing Financial Services Institution") of the Payment Vehicle Account as required by Federal and State laws that apply to financial services institutions. Any use of participating Customer-specific Payment Vehicle Account information must be authorized with explicit participating Customer opt-in methods on a by-occurrence basis, and *not* through general or blanket opt-in methods. Under the Cooperative Agreement, the Pilot Implementer(s) will be required to provide noncustomer specific, aggregated or disaggregated Program-related information to FSA by way of reports that ensure the anonymity of participating Customers.

### I. Opportunity Description

*Definitions:* For purposes of this Notice and the Pilot, the following definitions apply: