

8. For borrowers who have or had loans other than from the Direct Loan program, what have your experiences been when trying to access or participate in PSLF?

9. How can communications about PSLF requirements be improved?

10. What are the common questions that borrowers have about PSLF?

Opportunities To Strengthen PSLF for Borrowers Who Currently Work in Public Service

11. What operational steps can the Department take to strengthen PSLF and better serve public service workers who currently owe student debt, including borrowers who have already applied for and been denied PSLF?

12. What steps can the Department take to improve borrowers' experiences in applying for PSLF?

13. What steps or improvements can servicers make to improve borrowers' experiences in applying for PSLF?

14. What can the Department do to better partner with employers to ensure that all borrowers know about the benefits of PSLF?

The Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Student Loan Borrowers Working in Public Service

15. How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected borrowers' ability to access PSLF?

16. Are there any considerations about PSLF that the Department should bear in mind as it prepares for the end of the COVID-19 administrative forbearance on Direct Loans?

Accessible Format: On request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format. The Department will provide the requestor with an accessible format that may include Rich Text Format (RTF) or text format (txt), a thumb drive, an MP3 file, braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc, or other accessible format.

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You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1087e(m).

Julie Margetta Morgan,

Delegated the authority to perform the functions and duties of the Under Secretary, Senior Advisor, Office of the Under Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2021-SCC-0111]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Implementation of Title I/II-A Program Initiatives—Preliminary Activities

AGENCY: Institute of Educational Science (IES), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is proposing a new information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 24, 2021.

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-2021-SCC-0111. 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. If the www.regulations.gov site is not available to the public for any reason, ED will temporarily accept comments at ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. Please include the docket ID number and the title of the information collection request when requesting documents or submitting comments. *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 PRA Coordinator of the Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance and Strategy Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave. SW, LBJ, Room 6W208C, Washington, DC 20202-8240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Erica Johnson, 202-245-7676.

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: Implementation of Title I/II-A Program Initiatives—Preliminary Activities.

OMB Control Number: 1850-NEW.

Type of Review: A new information collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 92.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 15.

Abstract: When the primary federal law governing K-12 schooling was updated in 2015 as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), it shifted many decisions to states and districts. However, through two of its core programs (Title I and Title II-A), ESSA retained federal requirements for states to set challenging content standards, assess student performance, identify and support low-performing schools, and promote the development of the educator workforce. How states and districts respond to the combination of flexibility and requirements and how policies are enacted in schools and classrooms will determine whether ESSA stimulates educational improvement as intended, which is particularly important in the wake of

educational disruptions wrought by the coronavirus pandemic.

This is the first of two clearance requests. This first package requests clearance to inform school districts of the study and collect teacher lists for the purpose of preparing to conduct a nationally representative survey in spring 2022. The second package, to be submitted at a later date, will request clearance for state, district, principal, and teacher survey instruments and the collection of these data.

Dated: July 21, 2021.

Juliana Pearson,

PRA Coordinator, Strategic Collections and Clearance, Governance and Strategy Division, Office of Chief Data Officer, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development.

[FR Doc. 2021-15879 Filed 7-23-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Inquiry on Preparation of Report to Congress on the Price-Anderson Act

AGENCY: Office of General Counsel, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of inquiry on preparation of report to Congress on the Price-Anderson Act.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (the “Department” or “DOE”) is requesting public comment concerning the need for continuation or modification of the provisions of the Price-Anderson Act (PAA) as administered by DOE. The PAA establishes a system of financial protection that encourages the safe and secure operation of nuclear power and other nuclear activities and assures equitable compensation of victims in the event of a nuclear incident. Comments from the public will assist the Department in the preparation of its report on the PAA to be submitted to Congress by December 31, 2021, as required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (AEA), as amended.

DATES: Written comments must be received by August 25, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments to: paareportnoi@hq.doe.gov. Although DOE has routinely accepted public comment submissions through a variety of mechanisms, including postal mail and hand delivery/courier, the Department has found it necessary to make temporary modifications to the comment submission process in light of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. DOE is currently suspending receipt of public

comments via postal mail and hand delivery/courier. If a commenter finds that this change poses undue hardship, please contact the Office of the General Counsel staff at (202) 586-2177 to discuss the need for alternative arrangements. Once the Covid-19 pandemic health emergency is resolved, DOE anticipates resuming all of its regular options for public comment submission, including postal mail and hand delivery/courier.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stewart Forbes, Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Civilian Nuclear Programs, U.S. Department of Energy, Room 6A-167, 1000 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20585; Email: stewart.forbes@hq.doe.gov; and Phone: (202) 586-2177.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

The PAA was enacted in 1957 as an amendment to the AEA to encourage the development of nuclear power and nuclear activities by establishing a system of financial protection for persons who may be liable for and persons who may be injured by a nuclear incident.¹ DOE and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) are authorized to administer the PAA system of financial protection with respect to DOE contractual activities and NRC licensees, respectively. While both the DOE and NRC systems of financial protection are underpinned by many of the same PAA principles and provisions, they are administered and applicable in different ways. In the DOE system, the PAA financial protection is in the form of a DOE indemnification and applies to all DOE contractors undertaking activities that involve the risk of a nuclear incident. In the NRC system, the PAA financial protection requirements for NRC licensees is in the form of insurance and/or indemnification, or neither depending on the type of nuclear installation and nuclear operator.² This Notice is

¹ Price-Anderson Act, Public Law 85-256, 71 Stat. 576 (amending Atomic Energy Act of 1954, Public Law 83-703, codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. 2011 *et seq.*). (For brevity, the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 will be cited throughout simply as “Atomic Energy Act” or AEA.) The pertinent sections of the PAA amended AEA § 11 and created AEA § 170, which are codified respectively at 42 U.S.C. 2014 and 2210.

² See U.S. Nuclear Reg. Comm’n, *The Price Anderson Act—Crossing the Bridge to the Next Century: A Report to Congress 1-8* (1998), <https://www.nrc.gov/docs/ML1217/ML12170A857.pdf> (describing the NRC PAA financial protection scheme); 10 CFR part 140, Financial Protection Requirements and Indemnity Agreements (NRC regulations implementing the PAA financial protection requirements for licensees and the indemnification and liability limitations); and

focused on the PAA as applicable to and administered by DOE.

As explained previously, the DOE PAA system of financial protection is in the form of an indemnification by DOE (“DOE Price-Anderson indemnification”) for legal liability for a nuclear incident or a precautionary evacuation arising from activity under a DOE contract. The DOE Price-Anderson indemnification: (1) Provides omnibus coverage of all persons who might be legally liable; (2) indemnifies fully all legal liability up to the statutory limit on such liability (as of 2018 approximately \$13.7 billion, inflation-adjusted, for a nuclear incident in the United States³); (3) covers all DOE contractual activity that might result in a nuclear incident in the United States; (4) is not subject to the availability of funds;⁴ and (5) is mandatory and exclusive.

The PAA has been amended several times since enactment. The most recent amendment was the Price-Anderson Amendments Act of 2005 (“2005 Amendments”), passed as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Title VI, Subtitle A).⁵ The 2005 Amendments extended the authority of DOE to grant the DOE Price-Anderson indemnification until December 31, 2025.⁶ Along with the extension, Congress amended section 170p. of the AEA to mandate, as it had done with a prior extension, that DOE submit a report to Congress by December 31, 2021 (“2021 Report”) on whether provisions of the PAA should be continued, modified, or eliminated.⁷

Inflation Adjustments to the Price-Anderson Act Financial Protection Regulations, 83 FR 48202 (Sept. 24, 2018) (adjusting the total and maximum deferred premiums under the PAA for certain reactors).

³ Adjustment of Indemnification Amount for Inflation, 83 FR 49374 (Oct. 1, 2018) (adjusting the statutory public liability limit to the present \$13.7 billion).

⁴ Price-Anderson Act, *supra* note 1, at § 4 (amending Atomic Energy Act § 170), codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. 2210(j)).

⁵ Price-Anderson Amendments Act of 2005, Public Law 109-58, tit. VI, 119 Stat. 779 (amending Atomic Energy Act § 170, codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. 2210).

⁶ *Id.* at tit. VI, § 602(b) (amending Atomic Energy Act § 170d.(1)(A)), codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. 2210(d)(1)(A)). The NRC’s authority for the PAA system of financial protection was similarly extended.

⁷ *Id.* at tit. VI, § 606 (amending Atomic Energy Act § 170p., codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. 2210(p)). As amended, section 170p. of the AEA requires the Secretary of Energy and the NRC to “submit to the Congress by December 31, 2021, detailed reports concerning the need for continuation or modification of the provisions of [the PAA], taking into account the condition of the nuclear industry, availability of private insurance, and the state of knowledge concerning nuclear safety at that time, among other relevant factors and shall include