collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. The purpose of this Notice is to solicit comments related to the IMLS Grants to States Program ''State Reporting System.'' A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the individual listed below in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before May 09, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Sandra Narva, Acting Director of Grants Management, Office of Grants Management, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Suite N–3627, Washington, DC 20210. Ms. Narva can be reached by telephone: 202–653–4634 or by email at *snarva@imls.gov.* Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Teri DeVoe, Associate Deputy Director for Grants to States, Office of Library Services, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Suite N–3627, Washington, DC 20210. Ms. DeVoe can be reached by telephone at 202–653–4778, or by email at *tdevoe@imls.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: IMLS is particularly interested in comments that help the agency to:

• 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 respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology, *e.g.,* permitting electronic submissions of responses.

I. Background

IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the Nation's libraries and museums. The agency advances, supports, and empowers America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grant making, research, and policy development. To learn more, visit *www.imls.gov.*

II. Current Actions

This Notice proposes the clearance of the IMLS Grants to States Program ''State Reporting System.'' The Grants to States program is the largest source of Federal funding support for library services in the U.S. Using a population-based formula, approximately $180 million is distributed among the State Library Administrative Agencies (SLAAs) every year. SLAAs are official agencies charged by the Library Services and Technology Act (20 U.S.C. 9121 and 20 U.S.C. 9141) with the extension and development of library services, and they are located in:

• Each of the 50 States of the United States, and the District of Columbia;

• The territories (Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands); and

• The Freely Associated States (Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands).

Under 20 U.S.C § 9134, each SLAA is required to submit a plan that details library services goals for a five-year period, along with associated certifications. Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 9134(c), each SLAA that receives an IMLS grant under the Grants to States program is required to evaluate and report on all funded project activities to the agency, prior to the end of the execution of its five-year plan. Each SLAA receives IMLS funding to support activities for the five-year period through a series of overlapping two-year grant awards. Each SLAA must file interim and final financial reports, and final performance reports for each of these two-year grants through IMLS's State Program Report (SPR) system.

Agency: Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Title: IMLS Grants to States Program ''State Reporting System.''

OMB Number: 3137–0071.

Agency Number: 3137.

Respondents/Affected Public: State and Territory Library Administrative Agencies.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 59.

Frequency of Response: Annually for the State Program Report, once every five years for the embedded Site Visit Checklist.

Estimated Average Burden per Response: 47.83 hours for the State Program Report (annually), 20 hours for the embedded Site Visit Checklist (once every five years).

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 3,058.

Total Annual Cost Burden $101,708.

Total Annual Federal Costs: $42,471.

Public Comments Invited: Comments submitted in response to this Notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

Dated: March 4, 2026.

Suzanne Mbollo,

Grants Management Specialist, Institute of Museum and Library Services.

[FR Doc. 2026–04658 Filed 3–9–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7036–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 36002; 812–15948]

Japan Smaller Capitalization Fund, Inc. and Nomura Asset Management U.S.A. Inc.

March 6, 2026.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission (''Commission'' or ''SEC'').

ACTION: Notice.

Notice of an application under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the ''Act'') for an exemption from section 19(b) of the Act and rule 19b–1 under the Act to permit registered closed-end investment companies to make periodic distributions of long-term capital gains more frequently than permitted by section 19(b) or rule 19b–1.

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicants request an order to permit certain registered closed-end management investment companies to pay as frequently as twelve times in any one taxable year in respect of its common stock and as often as specified by, or determined in accordance with the terms of, any preferred stock issued by the investment company subject to the terms and conditions stated in the application.

APPLICANTS: Japan Smaller Capitalization Fund, Inc. and Nomura Asset Management U.S.A. Inc.

FILING DATES: The application was filed on December 4, 2025, and amended on December 17, 2025 and February 23, 2026.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the requested relief will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing on any application by emailing the SEC's Secretary at *Secretarys-Office@sec.gov* and serving the Applicants with a copy of the request by email, if an email address is listed for the relevant Applicant below, or personally or by mail, if a physical address is listed for the relevant Applicant below. The email should include the file number referenced above. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. Eastern time on March 31, 2026, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the Applicants, in the form of an affidavit, or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Pursuant to rule 0–5 under the Act, hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, any facts bearing upon the desirability of a hearing on the matter, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by emailing the Commission's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: The Commission: *Secretarys-Office@sec.gov.* Applicants: Nathan J. Greene, Sidley Austin LLP, *ngreene@sidley.com,* with a copy to Neil Daniele, C/O Japan Smaller Capitalization Fund, Inc., Worldwide Plaza, 309 West 49th Street, New York, NY 10019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rachel Loko, Senior Special Counsel, at (202) 551–6825 (Division of Investment Management, Chief Counsel's Office).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For Applicants' representations, legal analysis, and conditions, please refer to Applicants' amended application, dated February 23, 2026, which may be obtained via the Commission's website by searching for the file number at the top of this document, or for an Applicant using the Company name search field on the SEC's EDGAR system. The SEC's EDGAR system may be searched at *https://www.sec.gov/search-filings.* You may also call the SEC's Office of Investor Education and Advocacy at (202) 551–8090.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–04656 Filed 3–9–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–104932; File No. SR–OCC–2026–002]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Options Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by The Options Clearing Corporation Concerning Modifications to Its Clearing Membership Forms

March 5, 2026.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (''Exchange Act'' or ''Act''),[1] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[2] notice is hereby given that on February 23, 2026, The Options Clearing Corporation (''OCC'' or ''Corporation'') filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (''Commission'') the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared primarily by OCC. OCC filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)[3] of the Act and paragraph (f) or Rule 19b–4[4] thereunder, such that the proposed rule change was immediately effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Clearing Agency's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

This proposed rule change would withdraw as rule text: the Clearing Member Application, Letter of Authorization, Clearing Member Agreement, Non-U.S. Clearing Member Agreement (together with the Clearing Member Agreement, the ''Clearing Member Agreements''), Authorized Signatory Certificate, Agreement for OCC Services, and, as identified further in the proposed rule change, various Appointment Forms and Product-Specific and Account-Specific Forms (collectively, the ''Clearing Membership Forms''). As explained in its filing, OCC considers the Clearing Membership Forms to be forms to be used in connection with the implementation and operation of the proposed rule change, rather than rules themselves.

In connection with this proposed change, OCC also proposes to make certain other changes to OCC Rules related to the Clearing Membership Forms, including (i) to amend OCC Rule 204 to add a new paragraph (h) that would require, as a condition to admission, that each applicant for clearing membership and each Clearing Member sign and deliver to the Corporation such instruments in writing as the Corporation may require from time to time depending on the services that the applicant or Clearing Member selects; and (ii) in connection with OCC's proposal to withdraw the Participating Escrow Bank Agreement as one of the Account-Specific Forms, to amend Rule 610C to clarify that OCC's standard for establishing relationships with an escrow deposit bank is the same as those for Clearing Bank relationships under OCC Rule 206. Other than the proposed amendments to OCC Rule 204, the proposed rule change would not alter any of the requirements for initial or continued OCC clearing membership.

OCC filed proposed changes to OCC Rules 204 and 610C as Exhibit 5a, and the text of the Clearing Membership Forms as Exhibits 5b through 5v to File No. SR–OCC–2026–002, respectively. Material proposed to be added is marked by underlining and material proposed to be deleted is marked with strikethrough text.

The proposed rule change does not require any other changes to the text of OCC's By-Laws or Rules. All terms with initial capitalization that are not otherwise defined herein have the same meaning as set forth in the OCC By-Laws and Rules.[5]

II. Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, OCC included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. OCC has prepared summaries, set forth in sections (A), (B), and (C) below, of the most significant aspects of these statements.

(A) Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

Background

OCC is the sole clearing agency for standardized equity options listed on national securities exchanges registered with the Commission. OCC provides clearing services for options on equities,

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

[3] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

[4] 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f).

[5] OCC's By-Laws and Rules can be found on OCC's public website: *https://www.theocc.com/Company-Information/Documents-and-Archives/By-Laws-and-Rules.*