

Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2021–24504 Filed 11–8–21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Defense Acquisition Regulations System

Negotiation of a Reciprocal Defense Procurement Agreement With the Ministry of National Defence of the Republic of Lithuania

AGENCY: Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice and request for public comments.

SUMMARY: On behalf of the U.S. Government, DoD is contemplating negotiating and concluding a Reciprocal Defense Procurement Agreement with the Ministry of National Defence of the Republic of Lithuania. DoD is requesting industry feedback regarding its experience in public defense procurements conducted by or on behalf of the Lithuanian Ministry of National Defence or Armed Forces.

DATES: Comments must be received by December 6, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments to Contract Policy, Attn: Mr. Jeff Grover, 3060 Defense Pentagon, Room 3B938, Washington, DC 20301–3060; or by email to jeffrey.c.grover.civ@mail.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jeff Grover, telephone 703–697–9352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: DoD has concluded Reciprocal Defense Procurement (RDP) Agreements with 27 qualifying countries, as defined in the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) 225.003, at the level of the Secretary of Defense and his counterpart. The purpose of an RDP Agreement is to promote rationalization, standardization, and interoperability of conventional defense equipment with allies and other friendly governments. These Agreements provide a framework for ongoing communication regarding market access and procurement matters that enhance effective defense cooperation.

RDP Agreements generally include language by which the Parties agree that their defense procurements will be conducted in accordance with certain implementing procedures. These procedures relate to—

- Publication of notices of proposed purchases;
- The content and availability of solicitations for proposed purchases;
- Notification to each unsuccessful offeror;
- Feedback, upon request, to unsuccessful offerors concerning the reasons they were not allowed to participate in a procurement or were not awarded a contract; and
- Provision for the hearing and review of complaints arising in connection with any phase of the procurement process to ensure that, to the extent possible, complaints are equitably and expeditiously resolved.

Based on the Agreement, each country affords the other country certain benefits on a reciprocal basis consistent with national laws and regulations. The benefits that the United States accords to the products of qualifying countries include the following:

- Offers of qualifying country end products are evaluated without applying the price differentials otherwise required by the Buy American statute and the Balance of Payments Program.
- The chemical warfare protection clothing restrictions in 10 U.S.C. 2533a and the specialty metals restriction in 10 U.S.C. 2533b do not apply to products manufactured in a qualifying country.
- Customs, taxes, and duties are waived for qualifying country end

products and components of defense procurements.

If DoD (for the U.S. Government) concludes an RDP Agreement with the Ministry of National Defence of Lithuania, then Lithuania would be listed as one of the qualifying countries in the definition of “qualifying country” at DFARS 225.003, and offers of products of Lithuania or that contain components from Lithuania would be afforded the benefits available to all qualifying countries. This also means that U.S. products would be exempt from any analogous “Buy Lithuania” and “Buy European Union” laws or policies applicable to procurements by the Lithuanian Ministry of National Defence or Armed Forces.

While DoD is evaluating Lithuania’s laws and regulations in this area, DoD would benefit from U.S. industry’s experience in participating in Lithuania’s public defense procurements. DoD is, therefore, asking U.S. firms that have participated or attempted to participate in procurements by or on behalf of Lithuania’s Ministry of National Defence or Armed Forces to let us know if the procurements were conducted with transparency, integrity, fairness, and due process in accordance with published procedures, and if not, the nature of the problems encountered.

DoD is also interested in comments relating to the degree of reciprocity that exists between the United States and Lithuania when it comes to the openness of defense procurements to offers of products from the other country.

Authority: DoD Instruction 5000.35, Defense Acquisition Regulations (DAR) System.

Jennifer Johnson,

Editor/Publisher, Defense Acquisition Regulations System.

[FR Doc. 2021–24558 Filed 11–5–21; 4:15 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED–2021–SCC–0157]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; International Computer and Information Literacy Study (ICILS 2023) Main Study Sampling, Recruitment, and Data Collection

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is

proposing a reinstatement with change of a previously approved collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 10, 2022.

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–0157. 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 [regulations.gov](http://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 6W208B, Washington, DC 20202–8240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Carrie Clarady, (202) 245–6347.

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: International Computer and Information Literacy Study (ICILS 2023) Main Study Sampling, Recruitment, and Data Collection.

OMB Control Number: 1850–0929.

Type of Review: Reinstatement with change of a previously approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 9,860.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 4,817.

Abstract: The International Computer and Information Literacy Study (ICILS) is a computer-based international assessment of eighth-grade students' computer and information literacy (CIL) skills. ICILS was first administered internationally in 2013 in 21 education systems and again in 2018, when the United States participated for the first time. Our participation in this study has provided data on students' skills and experience using technology to investigate, create, and communicate, and provided a comparison of U.S. student performance and technology access and use with those of the international peers. The next administration of ICILS will be in 2023. The 2023 study will allow the U.S. to begin monitoring the progress of its students compared to that of other nations and to provide data on factors that may influence student computer and information literacy skills. The data collected through ICILS will provide valuable information with which to understand the nature and extent of the "digital divide" and has the potential to inform understanding of the relationship between technology skills and experience and student performance in other core subject areas.

ICILS is conducted by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), an international collective of research organizations and government agencies that create the assessment framework, assessment, and background questionnaires. The IEA decides and agrees upon a common set of standards and procedures for collecting and reporting ICILS data, and defines the study timeline, all of which must be followed by all participating countries. As a result, ICILS is able to provide a

reliable and comparable measure of student skills in participating countries. In the U.S., the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) conducts this study and works with the IEA and RTI International to ensure proper implementation of the study and adoption of practices in adherence to the IEA's standards. Participation in ICILS will allow NCES to meet its mandate of acquiring and disseminating data on educational activities and student achievement in the United States compared with foreign nations [The Educational Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (ESRA 2002) 20 U.S.C. 9543].

In preparation for the ICILS 2023 main study, all countries are asked to implement a field test between March 1 and April 15, 2022. The purpose of the ICILS field test is to evaluate new assessment items and background questions, to ensure practices that promote low exclusion rates, and to ensure that classroom and student sampling procedures proposed for the main study are successful. In October 2021 NCES submitted and OMB approved a separate package for the ICILS 2023 Pilot Field Test (OMB# 1850–0803 v.304). The U.S. ICILS main study will be conducted from March through May 2023 and will involve a nationally-representative sample of at least 3,000 eighth-grade students from a minimum of 150 schools. This request is to conduct the ICILS 2023 main study data recruitment and collection. The materials to be used in the main study are based upon those that were proposed most recently in October 2021. This submission describes the overarching plan for all phases of the data collection for the 2023 main study.

Dated: November 3, 2021.

Stephanie Valentine,

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

[FR Doc. 2021–24430 Filed 11–8–21; 8:45 am]

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ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Notice and Request for Public Comment on VVSG Lifecycle Policy

AGENCY: Election Assistance Commission.

ACTION: Notice for public comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) is publishing the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG) Lifecycle Policy 1.0 for public comment. The intent of the VVSG