

information include a non-confidential version (either redacted or summarized) that will be available for public viewing and posted on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). In the event that the submitter cannot provide a non-confidential version of its submission, the USPTO requests that the submitter post a notice in the docket stating that it has provided the USPTO with business confidential information. Should a submitter either fail to docket a non-confidential version of its submission or to post a notice that business confidential information has been provided, the USPTO will note the receipt of the submission on the docket with the submitter's organization or name (to the degree permitted by law) and the date of submission.

*Anonymous submissions:* The USPTO will accept anonymous submissions. Enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Laura Hammel, by telephone at 571-272-9300.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** At the request of Senators Thom Tillis and Patrick Leahy, the USPTO is undertaking a study of the extent to which patent or trademark rights holders are experiencing infringement by state entities without adequate remedies under state law, and the extent to which such infringements appear to be based on intentional or reckless conduct.

On November 5, 2020, the USPTO published a notice in the **Federal Register** seeking public input on these matters. See 85 FR 70589 (Nov. 5, 2020). That notice set forth various questions relevant to the study. The USPTO appreciates the submissions received to date in response to that notice and will consider them in preparing the study. In addition, the USPTO now invites interested members of the public to respond to questions posed in that notice, and/or to the below questions. The public can also provide any other information it believes to be relevant.

1. If you are a patent or trademark right holder, has a state government or state entity ever used your patent or trademark without permission? If yes: (a) Did you pursue legal action for that use? Why or why not? (b) Were you able to seek relief under state law? (c) Did the availability of the defense of sovereign immunity deter you from litigating the matter in federal court?

2. As a state or state entity, do you believe that (a) your state or state entity has policies or practices that provide safeguards against the intentional or reckless infringement of patents and trademarks, and (b) relevant state laws

provide adequate remedies if infringement occurs?

**Andrei Iancu,**

*Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.*

[FR Doc. 2021-01305 Filed 1-21-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2021-SCC-0013]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services Peer Reviewer Data Form

**AGENCY:** Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is proposing an extension without change of a currently approved collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before March 23, 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-0013. 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](mailto: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 6W208D, Washington, DC 20202-8240.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Justin Hampton, (202) 245-6111.

**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:* Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services Peer Reviewer Data Form.

*OMB Control Number:* 1820-0583.

*Type of Review:* Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* Individuals or Households.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 350.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 88.

*Abstract:* The OSERS Peer Reviewer Data Form (OPRDF) is used by Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) staff to identify potential reviewers who would be qualified to review specific types of grant applications for funding. OSERS uses this form to collect background contact information for each potential reviewer; and to provide information on any reasonable accommodations that might be required by the individual. OSERS is requesting an extension of the expiration date with no changes to the form. The previous version of the OPRDF, 1820-0583, will expire on May 31, 2021.

Dated: January 14, 2021.

**Kate Mullan,**

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

[FR Doc. 2021-01294 Filed 1-21-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Accrediting Agencies Currently Undergoing Review for the Purposes of Recognition by the U.S. Secretary of Education

**AGENCY:** Office of Postsecondary Education, Accreditation Group, U.S. Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Call for written third-party comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice provides information to members of the public on submitting written comments for accrediting agencies currently undergoing review for purposes of recognition by the U.S. Secretary of Education.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Herman Bounds, Director, Accreditation Group, Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 270-01, Washington, DC 20202, telephone: (202) 453-6128, or email: [herman.bounds@ed.gov](mailto:herman.bounds@ed.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This request for written third-party comments concerning the performance of accrediting agencies under review by the Secretary of Education is required by § 496(n)(1)(A) of the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, as amended, and pertains to the winter 2022 meeting of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI). The meeting date and location have not been determined, but will be announced in a later **Federal Register** notice. In addition, a later **Federal Register** notice will describe how to register to provide oral comments at the meeting.

*Agencies Under Review and Evaluation:* The Department requests written comments from the public on the following accrediting agencies, which are currently undergoing review and evaluation by the Accreditation Group, and which will be reviewed at the winter 2022 NACIQI meeting.

The agencies are listed by the type of application each has submitted. We have also indicated each agency's current scope of recognition. If any agency requests a change to its scope of

recognition, we have identified both the current scope of recognition and the requested scope of recognition.

#### Applications for Renewal of Recognition

1. American Podiatric Medical Association, Council on Podiatric Medical Education. Scope of recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Provisional Accreditation") throughout the United States of freestanding colleges of podiatric medicine and programs of podiatric medicine, including first professional programs leading to the degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine.

2. The Council on Chiropractic Education. Scope of recognition: The accreditation of programs leading to the Doctor of Chiropractic degree and single-purpose institutions offering the Doctor of Chiropractic program.

3. Commission on English Language Program Accreditation. Scope of recognition: The accreditation of postsecondary, non-degree-granting English language programs and institutions in the United States including those programs offered via distance education.

4. Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. Scope of recognition: The accreditation of educational programs in radiography, magnetic resonance, radiation therapy, and medical dosimetry, including those offered via distance education, at the certificate, associate, and baccalaureate levels.

5. North Dakota Board of Nursing. Scope of Recognition: Recognized for the Approval of Nurse Education in the State of North Dakota.

#### Submission of Written Comments Regarding a Specific Accrediting Agency Under Review

Written comments about the recognition of any of the accrediting agencies listed above must be received by February 19, 2021 in the [ThirdPartyComments@ed.gov](mailto:ThirdPartyComments@ed.gov) mailbox and include the subject line "Written Comments: (agency name)." The email must include the name(s), title, organization/affiliation, mailing address, email address, and telephone number of the person(s) making the comment. Comments should be submitted as a Microsoft Word document or in a medium compatible with Microsoft Word (not a PDF file) that is attached to an electronic mail message (email) or provided in the body of an email message. Comments about an agency that has submitted a petition for initial recognition, renewal of recognition, or an expansion of scope

must relate to the agency's compliance with the Criteria for the Recognition of Accrediting Agencies, which are available at <https://www.ed.gov/accreditation?src=rn>.

Only written materials submitted by the deadline to the email address listed in this notice, and in accordance with these instructions, become part of the official record concerning agencies scheduled for review and are considered by the Department and NACIQI in their deliberations.

*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](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys). At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site. You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: [www.federalregister.gov](http://www.federalregister.gov). Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

**Authority:** 20 U.S.C. 1011c

**Christopher McCaghren,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.*

[FR Doc. 2021-01357 Filed 1-21-21; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Notice Inviting Applications for Proprietary Institutions Under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), Section 314(a)(4); Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA); Correction

**AGENCY:** Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice; correction.

**SUMMARY:** On January 15, 2021, the Department published a notice in the **Federal Register** inviting applications (NIA) from eligible proprietary institutions listed on the Department's section 314(a)(4) allocation table to apply for funding under the Proprietary Institution Grant Funds for Students program, Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 84.425Q. This notice corrects the *Grants.gov*