

public comment. 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.

Dated: June 1, 2001.

**John Tressler,**

*Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

#### **Office of Student Financial Assistance**

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* Federal Register Notice Inviting Applications for the Participation in the Quality Assurance (QA) Program.

*Frequency:* One time.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:* Responses: 400. Burden Hours: 125.

*Abstract:* With this Notice, the Secretary invites institutions of higher education to send a letter of application to participate in the Department of Education's Quality Assurance Program. This Program is intended to allow and encourage participating institutions to develop and implement their own comprehensive programs to verify student financial aid application data. It also encourages alternative management approaches in areas of institutional processing and disbursement of Title IV funds, and entrance and exit counseling.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address [OCIO\\_IMG\\_Issues@ed.gov](mailto:OCIO_IMG_Issues@ed.gov) or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Joseph Schubart at (202) 708-9266 or via his [Joe.Schubart@ed.gov](mailto:Joe.Schubart@ed.gov). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal

Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 01-14318 Filed 6-6-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

##### **Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before July 9, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Lauren Wittenberg, Acting Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address [Lauren\\_Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Lauren_Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) title; (3) summary of the collection; (4) description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: June 1, 2001.

**John Tressler,**

*Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

#### **Office of the Undersecretary**

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* Evaluation of Title I Accountability Systems and School Improvement Efforts (TASSIE).

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs; Federal Government.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:* Responses: 5,140. Burden Hours: 2,570.

*Abstract:* The purpose of the Evaluation of Title I Accountability Systems and School Improvement Efforts is to examine and evaluate Title I accountability systems and school improvement efforts in a nationally representative sample of districts and schools. This project addresses both the implementation and effectiveness of accountability practices in 2,200 districts and 740 schools. The TASSIE will provide data on the extent of alignment between Title I accountability systems and states' and districts' own accountability systems, the assistance and incentives provided to school identified as in need of improvement, and will assess the impact of these policies and practices on schools, teachers, and students.

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Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Jacqueline Montague at (202) 708-5359 or via her internet address [Jackie.Montague@ed.gov](mailto:Jackie.Montague@ed.gov). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 01-14317 Filed 6-6-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**