

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests****AGENCY:** Department of Education.**ACTION:** Notice of proposed information collection requests.**SUMMARY:** The Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.**DATES:** An emergency review has been requested in accordance with the Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 3507 (j)), since public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal clearance procedures are followed. Approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has been requested by February 16, 2004.**ADDRESSES:** Written comments regarding the emergency review should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Melanie Kadlic, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) requires that the Director of OMB provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Office of Management and Budget (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, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. 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. ED invites 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 respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: January 15, 2004.

Angela C. Arrington,*Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.***Office of Vocational and Adult Education***Type of Review:* New.*Title:* Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998—State Plan Revisions Guidance.*Abstract:* This collection solicits from States revisions to their State plans under the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act and proposed performance levels for FY 2004.*Additional Information:* Section 122(a)(1) of Perkins III requires that States have an approved State plan on file in order to receive their allotments of Federal vocational education funds. State plans govern vocational educational program operations in each State. To receive their allotments, States must also agree upon annual performance targets for indicators specified in the law. The information collection solicits revisions to the State plans and new proposed performance levels.*Frequency:* One time.*Affected Public:* State, local, or tribal gov't, SEAs or LEAs.*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 54.

Burden Hours: 2,430.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2440. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address vivian.reese@ed.gov. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address OCIO_RIMG@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, contact Sheila Carey at her e-mail address Sheila.Carey@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.

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BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice DE-FG01-04ER04-10; Atmospheric Radiation Measurement Program****AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy.**ACTION:** Notice inviting grant applications.**SUMMARY:** The Office of Biological and Environmental Research (BER) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), hereby announces its interest in receiving applications for research grants in experimental and theoretical studies of the effects of clouds on the atmospheric radiation balance in conjunction with the Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) Program as part of the U.S. Global Climate Change Science Program (USCCSP). This notice requests new applications and renewal applications of grants currently funded by DOE under previous ARM Program notices that are relevant to the terms of reference for this announcement and responsive to the particular needs defined below.**DATES:** Applicants are encouraged (but not required) to submit a brief preapplication for programmatic review. The deadline for submission of preapplications is March 15, 2004. Early submission of preapplications is encouraged to allow time for meaningful responses.

Formal applications submitted in response to this notice must be received by 4:30 p.m., E.D.T., April 9, 2004, to be accepted for merit review and to permit timely consideration for award in Fiscal Year 2005. Awards are expected to begin on or about November 1, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Preapplications referencing Program Notice DE-FG01-04ER04-10, may be sent to the program contact, Dr. Wanda Ferrell, via electronic mail at: wanda.ferrell@science.doe.gov or by U.S. Postal Service Mail at: Dr. Wanda Ferrell, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, Climate Change Research Division, SC-74/ Germantown Building, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585-1290. Electronic mail is recommended to speed up response to preapplications.Formal applications referencing Program Notice DE-FG01-04ER04-10, must be sent electronically by an authorized institutional business official through DOE's Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) at: <http://e-center.doe.gov/>. IIPS provides for the posting of solicitations and receipt of applications in a paperless environment