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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 4, 2008.

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 IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, 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. 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: January 28, 2008.

Angela C. Arrington,

IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

Type of Review: New.

Title: Special Education—Individual Reporting on Regulatory Compliance Related To The Personnel Development Programs Service Obligation and the Government Performance Results Act (GPRA).

Frequency: On Occasion; Biennially.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, businesses or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions, Federal Government, State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 1,500.

Burden Hours: 6,688.

Abstract: The data collection under this request is governed by Sections 304.23–304.30 of the June 5, 2006, regulations that implement Section 662(h) of the IDEA Amendments of 2004, which require that individuals who receive a scholarship through the Personnel Development Program funded under the Act subsequently provide special education and related services to children with disabilities for a period of two years for every year for which assistance was received. Scholarship recipients who do not satisfy the requirements of the regulations must repay all or part of the cost of assistance, in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary. These regulations implement requirements governing, among other things, the service obligation for scholars, reporting requirements by grantees, and repayment of scholarships by scholars. In order for the federal government to ensure that the goals of the program are achieved, certain data collection, recordkeeping, and documentation are necessary. In addition, this data collection is governed by the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA). GPRA requires Federal agencies to establish performance measures for all programs, and OSEP has established performance measures for the Personnel Development Program. Data collection, from scholars who have received scholarships under the Personnel Development Program, is necessary to evaluate these measures.

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 3572. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., LBJ, Washington, DC 20202-4537. Requests may also be electronically mailed to *ICDocketMgr@ed.gov* or faxed to 202-401-0920. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be electronically mailed to *ICDocketMgr@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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Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

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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.

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: January 29, 2008.

Angela C. Arrington,

IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.

Office of Postsecondary Education

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Title: Annual Student Activities Report for the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 190.

Burden Hours: 570.

Abstract: This information collection provides the U.S. Department of Education with information needed to determine if fellows have made substantial progress toward meeting the program's objectives and allows program staff to monitor and evaluate time-to-degree completion and the graduation rate. The Congress has mandated (through the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993) that the U.S. Department of Education provide documentation about the progress being made by the program. Program staff have made minor adjustments to the report to improve the clarity of the document, and to ensure more effective data collection and evaluation of program performance. However, the current burden estimate of three hours per response remains the same, pending feedback from respondents after the approved Annual Student Activities Report is extended and implemented.

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 3571. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., LBJ, Washington, DC 20202-4537. Requests may also be electronically mailed to ICDocketMgr@ed.gov or faxed to 202-401-0920. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be electronically mailed to ICDocketMgr@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. E8-1958 Filed 2-1-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education Overview Information; Enhanced Assessment Instruments; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards Using Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Funds

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.368A.

DATES: Applications Available: February 4, 2007.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 4, 2008.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The purpose of this program is to enhance the quality of assessment instruments and systems used by States for measuring the achievement of all students.

Priorities: This competition includes four absolute priorities and three competitive preference priorities. In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(iv), the absolute priorities are from section 6112 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA). The competitive preference priorities are from Appendix E to the notice of final requirements for optional State consolidated applications submitted under section 9302 of the ESEA, published in the **Federal Register** on May 22, 2002 (67 FR 35967).

Absolute Priorities: For FY 2007 funds, these priorities are absolute priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) we consider only applications that meet one or more of these priorities.

These priorities are:

Absolute Priority 1. Collaborate with institutions of higher education, other research institutions, or other organizations to improve the quality, validity, and reliability of State academic assessments beyond the requirements for these assessments described in section 1111(b)(3) of the ESEA.

Absolute Priority 2. Measure student academic achievement using multiple measures of student academic achievement from multiple sources.

Absolute Priority 3. Chart student progress over time.

Absolute Priority 4. Evaluate student academic achievement through the development of comprehensive academic assessment instruments, such as performance and technology-based academic assessments.

Competitive Preference Priorities:

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i) we award up to an additional 35 points to an application, depending on the extent to which an application meets competitive preference priorities.

For FY 2007 funds, these priorities are:

Competitive Preference Priority 1. Accommodations and alternate assessments (up to 20 points). Applications that can be expected to advance practice significantly in the area of increasing accessibility and validity of assessments for students with disabilities or limited English proficiency, or both, including strategies for test design, administration with accommodations, scoring, and reporting.

Competitive Preference Priority 2. Collaborative efforts (up to 10 points). Applications that are sponsored by a consortium of States.

Competitive Preference Priority 3. Dissemination (up to 5 points). Applications that include an effective plan for dissemination of results.

Note: The full text of the competitive preference priorities is included in the notice of final requirements published in the **Federal Register** on May 22, 2002 (67 FR 35967).

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7301a and 7842.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The notice of final requirements published in the **Federal Register** on May 22, 2002 (67 FR 35967).

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: \$7,500,000 in FY 2007 funds.