

collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: December 20, 2002.

John D. Tressler,

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

Office of Educational Research and Improvement

Type of Review: Revision.

Title: Program for International Student Assessment (PISA).

Frequency: One time.

Affected Public: Individuals or household; State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden: Responses: 10,800.

Burden Hours: 28,125.

Abstract: The Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) is a new system of international assessments that focus on 15-olds' capabilities in reading literacy, mathematics literacy, and science literacy. PISA 2000 was the first cycle of PISA, which will be conducted every three years, with a primary focus on one area for each cycle. PISA 2000 focused on reading literacy; mathematics literacy will be the focus in 2003, and science literacy in 2006. In addition to assessment data, PISA provides background information on school context and student demographics to benchmark performance and inform policy.

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 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 Kathy Axt at her e-mail address Kathy.Axt@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. 02-32526 Filed 12-24-02; 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 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 January 27, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Karen Lee, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Karen_F._Lee@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 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: December 19, 2002.

John D. Tressler,

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

Office of Educational Research and Improvement

Type of Review: Revision.

Title: National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP): 2003 Charter Schools Questions.

Frequency: One time.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 658,800.

Burden Hours: 169,101.

Abstract: The charter schools in the NAEP sample will complete the NAEP School Questionnaire, through which they will provide information on instructional organization and time, parental involvement, stability of the teaching staff, and characteristics of the student body. The purpose of the NAEP Charter School Questions is to be able to describe the schools in terms of some key features unique to charter schools. There is no one kind of charter school—who they serve, how they are funded, how they operate, and to whom they must report varies depending on state legislation and the terms of the charter. Nevertheless, it is important for NAEP to be able to describe the charter schools in the sample so that the results can be interpreted in a meaningful way.

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 directed to her e-mail address Vivian.Reese@ed.gov. Requests may also be 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 Kathy Axt at her e-mail address Kathy.Axt@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. 02-32459 Filed 12-24-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

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DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 27, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Karen Lee, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Karen_F_Lee@omb.eop.gov.

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Dated: December 19, 2002.

John D. Tressler,

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

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Type of Review: Revision.

Title: Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program—Phase I—Grant Application Package.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 250.

Burden Hours: 10,000.

Abstract: This application package invites small business concerns to submit a Phase I research application for the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program. This is in response to Pub. L. 106-554, the "Small Business Reauthorization Act of 2000, H.R. 5667"

(the "Act") enacted on December 21, 2000. The Act requires certain agencies, including the Department of Education (ED), to establish a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program by reserving a statutory percentage of their extramural research and development budgets to be awarded to small business concerns for research or R&D through a uniform, highly competitive, three-phase process each fiscal year.

This collection is being submitted under the Streamlined Clearance Process for Discretionary Grant Information Collections (1890-0001). Therefore, the 30-day public comment period notice will be the only public comment notice published for this information collection.

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 directed to her e-mail address Vivian.Reese@ed.gov. Requests may also be 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 Kathy Axt at her e-mail address Kathy.Axt@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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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

RIN 1820-ZA13

Access to Telework Fund

AGENCY: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of proposed priority and proposed application and project requirements.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services proposes a priority and application and project requirements for an Access to Telework Fund (ATF). The Assistant Secretary may use this priority and the requirements for competitions in fiscal year (FY) 2002 and later years. We take this action to expand employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities by providing greater access to computers and other equipment that will allow them to work from home if they choose.

Grants would be made to States, including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Indian tribal governments to enable them to provide loans to individuals with disabilities to purchase computers and other equipment for this purpose.

DATES: We must receive your comments on or before January 27, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Address all comments about this proposed priority and proposed application and project requirements to Pamela Martin, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 3314, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2645. If you prefer to send your comments through the Internet, use one of the following addresses: Pamela.Martin@ed.gov or Gayle.Palumbo@ed.gov.

You must include the term "Access to Telework Fund" in the subject line of your electronic message.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pamela Martin. Telephone (202) 205-8494 or via Internet: Pamela.Martin@ed.gov.

Or Gayle Palumbo, U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration, 50 United Nations Plaza, room 215, San Francisco, CA 94102. Telephone (415) 556-4071 or via Internet: Gayle.Palumbo@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the TDD number at (202) 205-4475.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, or computer diskette) on request to one of the contact persons listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Invitation to Comment

We invite you to submit comments regarding this proposed priority and the proposed application and project requirements. To ensure that your comments have maximum effect in developing the notice of final priority and final application and project requirements, we urge you to be specific about any recommended changes. We are particularly interested in receiving comments on the following topics:

1. Eligible applicants for the Access to Telework Fund, including who may apply for an ATF grant and the implications of allowing more than one agency within a State to receive a grant.

2. The authorized activities under this program and appropriate uses of grant funds.