



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2019-ICCD-0161]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and approval; Comment Request; EZ-Audit: Electronic Submission of Financial Statements and Compliance Audits

AGENCY: Federal Student Aid (FSA), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is proposing a revision of an existing information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before [INSERT THE 30TH DAY AFTER PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE].

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for proposed information collection requests should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection request by selecting “Department of Education” under “Currently Under Review,” then check “Only Show ICR for Public Comment” checkbox.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Beth Grebeldinger, 202-377-4018.

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: EZ-Audit: Electronic Submission of Financial Statements and Compliance Audits

OMB Control Number: 1845-0072

Type of Review: A revision of an existing information collection

Respondents / Affected Public: State, Local, and Tribal Governments; Individuals or Households; Private Sector

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 6,632

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 6,603

Abstract: eZ-Audit is a web-based process designed to facilitate the submission of compliance and financial statement audits, expedite the review of those audits by the Department, and provide more timely and useful information to public, non-profit and proprietary institutions regarding the Department's review. eZ-Audit establishes a uniform process under which all institutions submit directly to the Department any audit required under the Title IV, HEA program regulations. The revisions to this collection is a result of enhancements made to the current system to collect the compliance

audits/financial statements in the appropriate format (e.g. revised question text and required uploads) from the foreign institutions that are required to submit audits in accordance to the Department's regulations and to allow electronic submission of compliance audits/financial statements from the entities identified above. Revisions to financial statements information are to meet the new borrower defense regulations.

Dated: March 30, 2020.

Kate Mullan,

PRA Coordinator,

Strategic Collections and Clearance

Governance and Strategy Division,

Office of Chief Data Officer.

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