



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2020-SCC-0073]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and approval; Comment Request; CARES Act, Recipient's Funding Certification and Agreement (Institutional Aid)

AGENCY: Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is proposing an extension without change of a currently approved 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 Gaby Watts, 202-453-7195.

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: CARES Act, Recipient's Funding Certification and Agreement (Institutional Aid)

OMB Control Number: 1840-0842

Type of Review: An extension without change of a currently approved collection

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

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 5,705

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 2,853

Abstract: Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136 (March 27, 2020), authorizes the Secretary of Education to allocate formula grant funds to participating institutions of higher educations (IHEs). Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act allows the IHEs to use up to one-half of the total funds received to cover any costs associated with the significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus (with specific exceptions). This information collection request includes the certification and agreement that must be submitted by an IHE in order to request institutional aid funds allocated under the CARES Act.

This information collection request was previously approved as an emergency clearance in order to comply with the requirements of the CARES Act and expedite the release of funds to IHEs and students with pressing financial needs due to the pandemic. The Department of Education is now requesting an extension of that emergency clearance under normal clearance procedures.

Dated: September 22, 2020.

Kate Mullan,
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Strategic Collections and Clearance
Governance and Strategy Division,
Office of Chief Data Officer,
Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy
Development.*

