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**[BILLING CODE 4000-01-P]**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**[Docket No.: ED-2020-SCC-0185]**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and approval; Comment Request; College Affordability and Transparency Explanation Form (CATEF) 2021-2023**

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

**ACTION:** Notice

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**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is proposing a revision of a currently approved collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

**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](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this information collection request by selecting “Department of Education” under “Currently Under Review,” then check “Only Show ICR for Public Comment” checkbox. Comments may also be sent to [ICDocketmgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketmgr@ed.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Freddie Cross, 202-453-7224.

**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:* College Affordability and Transparency Explanation Form (CATEF)

2021-2023

*OMB Control Number:* 1840-0822

*Type of Review:* A revision of a currently approved collection

*Respondents / Affected Public:* State, Local, and Tribal Governments

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 544

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 1,251

*Abstract:* The Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE) is seeking a renewed three-year clearance for the College Affordability and Transparency Explanation Form (CATEF) data collection. OPE has collected this information since 2011-12 and the collection of information through CATEF is required by §132 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended (HEA), 20 U.S.C. 1015a with the goal of increasing the transparency of college tuition prices for consumers. This submission is for the 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 collection years. CATEF collects follow-up information from institutions that appear on the tuition and fees and/or net price increase College Affordability and Transparency Center (CATC) Lists for being in the five percent of institutions in their institutional sector that have the highest increases, expressed as a percentage change, over the three-year time period for which the most recent data are available. The information collected through CATEF is used to write a summary report for Congress which is also posted on the CATC website (accessible through the College Navigator).

Minor changes are being requested to the data collection instruments that were approved in November 2012 (OMB# 1840-0822 v.2). We will continue to use two CATEF forms: (1) Net Price and (2) Tuition and Fees. Analysis of past open-ended data questions in both surveys revealed that the open-ended items could be replaced with multi-choice items, resulting in burden reduction of 812 hours.

Dated: March 1, 2021.

**Kate Mullan,**

*PRA Coordinator,*

*Strategic Collections and Clearance*

*Governance and Strategy Division*

*Office of Chief Data Officer*

*Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy*

*Development*

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