DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Docket No.: ED-2021-SCC-0079

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Required Proprietary Institution Certification Form

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is requesting the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to conduct an emergency review of a new information collection.

DATES: OMB approved this information collection under emergency processing on May 10, 2021. A regular clearance process is also hereby being initiated. Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before [insert the 60th day after publication of this notice].

ADDRESSES: To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use http://www.regulations.gov by searching the Docket ID number ED-2021-SCC-0079. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov by selecting the Docket ID number or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. If the regulations.gov site is not available to the public for any reason, ED will temporarily accept comments at ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. Please include the docket ID number and the title of the information collection request when requesting documents or submitting comments. Please note that comments submitted by fax or e-mail and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted. Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance and Strategy Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave, SW, LBJ, Room 6W208D, Washington, D.C. 20202-4537.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Karen Epps, 202-453-6337.

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: Required Proprietary Institution Certification Form*

*OMB Control Number: 1840-0855*

*Type of Review: Extension*

*Respondents / Affected Public: Private Sector*

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 1,757*

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 879*

*Abstract: The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 provides funding for proprietary institutions of higher
education, to be used solely to make financial aid grants directly to students, which may be used for any
component of the student’s cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to the coronavirus, such
as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care. This collection includes
required certifications that must be completed by proprietary institutions seeking funding under this statute.*

*Additional Information: The Department received emergency clearance for this information collection in
order to issue awards in a timely manner. Due to the heightened risk associated with proprietary
institutions, the Department determined it necessary to obtain additional certifications prior to making
further awards under the (a)(4) funding stream. Without approval of the Required Proprietary Institution
Certifications form, the Department would have been forced to delay making ARP (a)(4) awards to these
institutions. Delay of ARP (a)(4) awards would be particularly problematic, as Congress has designated
these funds as being solely directed to emergency financial aid grants to students at these institutions.*


*Kate Mullan, PRA Coordinator,
Strategic Collections and Clearance,
Governance and Strategy Division,
Office of Chief Data Office.*