DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2021-SCC-0100]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Endowment Excise Tax: Allocation Reduction Waiver

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: The Department is requesting emergency processing and OMB approval for this information collection by July 26, 2021; and therefore, the Department is requesting public comments by July 23, 2021. A regular clearance process is also hereby being initiated to provide the public with the opportunity to comment under the full comment period. Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

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-0100. 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 PRA Coordinator of the Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance and Strategy Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave, SW, LBJ, Room 6W208C, Washington, D.C. 20202-8240.

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: Endowment Excise Tax: Allocation Reduction Waiver

OMB Control Number: 1840-NEW

Type of Review: A new information collection

Respondents / Affected Public: Private Sector

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 200

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 200

Abstract: In accordance with the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Pub. L. 116-260, section 314(d)(6)(B), the Secretary may waive the requirements to reduce a grantee’s CRRSAA allocation by 50 percent, if upon application, an institution of higher education demonstrates need (including need for additional funding for financial aid grants to students, payroll expenses, or other expenditures) for the total amount of funds such institution is allocated under section 314(a)(1) of CRRSAA. The proposed form provides institutions with the opportunity to request this waiver and collects data needed to evaluate their waiver request.

Additional Information: If this emergency collection is not approved, the Department will be unable to receive and review waiver requests in a timely manner, delaying the release of funds to institutions of higher education and students that are still recovering from the effects of the pandemic.

Dated: July 7, 2021.

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Strategic Collections and Clearance,
Governance and Strategy Division,
Office of Chief Data Office,

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