

Dated: July 28, 1999.

William E. Burrow,

*Leader, Information Management Group,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Title: State- or Court-Ordered Desegregated Local Educational Agencies' (LEAs) Application for Services.

Frequency: One time.

Affected Public: State, local or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 275

Burden Hours: 1,100

Abstract: LEAs under such desegregation orders may request a waiver in order to provide Title I services to schools where the concentrations of poverty have been altered by the order, as long as at least 25 percent of a school's total enrollment is from low-income families. The Department uses the information to grant waivers under section 1113(a)(7) of Title I, Part A of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994.

Written comments and requests for copies of this information collection request should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Vivian_Reese@ed.gov, or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

For questions regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements, contact Kathy Axt at 703-426-9692. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 99-19832 Filed 8-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 2, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of

Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Danny Werfel, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, N.W., room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address DWERFEL@OMB.EOP.GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: July 28, 1999.

William E. Burrow,

*Leader, Information Management Group,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

Office of Student Financial Assistance Programs

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Lender's Participation

Questionnaire (LPQ) for New Lenders.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; State, local or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden:

Responses: 121

Burden Hours: 20

Abstract: The Lender's Participation Questionnaire is submitted by lenders who are eligible for reimbursement of interest and special allowance, as well as Federal Insured Student Loan (FISL) claims payment, under the Federal Family Education Loan Program. The information will be used by ED to update Lender Identification Numbers

(LIDS), lender names, addresses with 9 digit zip codes and other pertinent information.

Written comments and requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address vivian_reese@ed.gov or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

For questions regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements, contact Joseph Schubart at 202-708-9266 or electronically mail him at internet address joe_schubart@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 99-19833 Filed 8-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Assessment Governing Board; Information Collection Request

AGENCY: National Assessment Governing Board; Education.

ACTION: Notice of Information Collection Activity.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB) will submit an Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget for approval. The ICR is: An Investigation of Alternative Methods for Scale Anchoring and Item Mapping in the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

DATES: Public comments must be submitted on or before August 29, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted by August 29, 1999. Mail to Patricia Hanick, NAEP ALS Project Manager, ACT, Inc., 2255 North Dubuque Road, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, IA 52243-0168. Copies of the complete ICR and accompanying appendices may be obtained from the NAEP ALS Project Manager at the address above.

Comments may also be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to Hanick@ACT.org. Electronic comments must be identified by the title of the ICR. No confidential business information should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part of all of that information as

confidential business information (CBI). Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by NAGB without prior notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia Hanick, NAEP ALS Project Manager, ACT, Inc., 2255 North Dubuque Road, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, IA 52243-0168, Telephone: (319) 337-1452 or (800) 525-6930, e-mail: Hanick@ACT.org.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Electronic copies of this ICR can be obtained from the contact person listed above.

I. Information Collection Request

NAGB is seeking comments on the following Information Collection Request (ICR).

Title: An Investigation of Alternative Methods for Scale Anchoring and Item Mapping in the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

Affected Entities: Parties affected by this information collection are persons included in a broadly representative sample including persons identified as panelists for field trials, pilot studies, achievement levels-setting (ALS) meetings, and validation research for the 1996 Science NAEP.

Abstract: The purpose of this information collection activity is to gather information for NAGB regarding the selection of exemplar items from the 1996 Science NAEP. Exemplar items are used as one of the primary means of communicating student performance relative to the NAEP achievement levels. The criteria for selecting exemplar items is critical to the "message" portrayed by the items. Congress has deemed that the achievement levels must be shown to be reasonable, valid, and informative to the public.

Part One of the study has been completed and examined the statistical criteria by comparing various scale anchoring and item mapping methodologies. The results of these systematic comparisons will be judged not only statistically, but also according to the degree to which they agree with expert judgments about item difficulty. This mail survey is designed to collect responses from the expert judges. Because these individuals have participated in the process of setting achievement levels from the 1996 Science NAEP, they are likely to be keenly interested in the ALS process.

Each prospective respondent will be sent a copy of the achievement levels descriptions for one of the three grades assessed (4th, 8th or 12th) along with a selection of approximately one-half of the items that have been released for public review for that grade. Items in the released blocks will be divided so that the distribution of items across the ACT NAEP-Like scale is approximately the same. The mailing will include an addressed, postage-paid envelope.

Respondents will be asked to read the achievement levels descriptions carefully. They will be asked to provide their own judgments of the difficulty of the set of released items. Then they will be asked to indicate whether the item would be a good exemplar for Basic, Proficient, or Advanced levels. Finally respondents will be asked for their interpretation of reports of NAEP achievement data.

The respondents' judgmental classifications will be compared to the "empirical" classifications using the various statistical criteria. Respondents will have determined which, if any, achievement descriptions match the items best, with respect to the knowledge and skill required for a correct response. The mapping criterion that matches the content-based classification best would seem to represent the best statistical criterion to use in selecting exemplar items. Thus, the response criterion that categorized items by levels most frequently chosen by respondents will be considered the "best" criterion to use for selecting exemplar items.

No third party notification or public disclosure burden is associated with this collection.

Burden Statement: The estimated total respondent burden is 141 hours, and the average burden per respondent is 1.0 hour. This is a one-time survey.

Neither small business nor other small entities are included in the survey.

II. Request for Comments

NAGB solicits comments to:

(i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is an appropriate method to determine the "message" portrayed by the items regarding the achievement levels to the public.

(ii) Enhance the accuracy, quality, and utility of the information to be collected.

(iii) Evaluate whether the design of this survey maximizes the response rate, i.e. the number of selected persons who will respond, given the desire to have the sample be broadly representative of persons with some interest in the educational progress of K-12 students

in the general content of the discipline of science.

Records are kept of all public comments and are available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment Governing Board, Suite 825, 800 North Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Roy Truby,

Executive Director, National Assessment Governing Board.

[FR Doc. 99-19916 Filed 8-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation: Meeting

AGENCY: National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation, Department of Education.

What Is the Purpose of This Notice?

The purpose of this notice is to announce the upcoming meeting of the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation. Parts of this meeting will be open to the public, and the public is invited to attend those portions.

When and Where Will the Meeting Take Place?

We will hold the meeting on September 15, 1999 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at The Latham Hotel, 3000 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007. You may call the Hotel on (202) 726-5000 to inquire about room accommodations.

What Access Does the Hotel Provide for Individuals With Disabilities?

The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting (e.g., interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format) notify the contact person listed in this notice at least two weeks before the scheduled meeting date. Although we will attempt to meet a request received after that date, we may not be able to make available the requested auxiliary aid or service because of insufficient time to arrange it.

What Are the Functions of the Committee?

The National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation was established by the Secretary of Education under section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended by Public Law 105-244. The