

Examination of Patent Applications Under the 35 U.S.C. 112, ¶1 "Written Description" Requirement; Extension of Comment Period and Notice of Hearing. 63 Fed. Reg. 50887 (September 23, 1998). These Revised Interim Utility Guidelines will be used by PTO personnel in their review of patent applications for compliance with the "utility" requirement of 35 U.S.C. 101. This revision supersedes the Utility Examination Guidelines that were published at 60 Fed. Reg. 36263 (1995) and at 1177 O.G. 146 (1995).

On page 71440, in the third column, correct the "Dates" caption to read:

**DATES:** Written comments on the Revised Interim Utility Examination Guidelines will be accepted by the PTO until March 22, 2000.

On page 71440, in the third column, correct the first sentence of the "Supplementary Information" caption to read:

The PTO requests comments from any interested member of the public on the following Revised Interim Utility Examination Guidelines.

Dated: January 18, 2000.

**Albin F. Drost,**  
Acting Solicitor.

[FR Doc. 00-1461 Filed 1-20-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-U

## 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 February 22, 2000.

**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: January 14, 2000.

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

Office of Postsecondary Education

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Title:* Reference and Reporting Guide for Preparing State and Institutional Report on Teacher Quality and Preparation (JS).

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 1.

Burden Hours: 123305.

*Abstract:* The Higher Education Act of 1998 calls for annual reports from states and institutions of higher education on the quality of teacher education and related matters (P.L. 105-244, Section 207; 20 USC 1027). The purpose of the reports is to provide greater accountability in the preparation of America's teaching force and to provide information and incentives for its improvement. Most institutions of higher education that have teacher preparation programs must report annually to their states on the performance of their program completers on teacher certification tests. States, in turn, must report test performance information, institution by institution, to the Secretary of Education, along with institutional rankings. They must also report on their

requirements for licensing teachers, state standards, alternative routes to certification, waivers, and related items. A planning report from the states to the Secretary of Education is due by October 7, 2000. Annual reports from institutions are due to the states, beginning April 7, 2000; reports from the states are due annually to the Secretary, beginning October 7, 2001; the Secretary's report is due annually to Congress, beginning April 7, 2002.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO\_IMG\_Issues@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346.

Questions regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Schubart at (202) 708-9266. 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. 00-1327 Filed 1-20-00; 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 February 20, 2000.

**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, DC 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: January 14, 2000.

**William E. Burrow,**

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

#### **Office of Student Financial Assistance Programs**

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Title:* Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate (FISAP) in the Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, and Federal Work-Study Programs (JS).

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:*

Not-for-profit institutions (primary).  
Individuals or household.

State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 1.

Burden Hours: 25748.

*Abstract:* This application data will be used to compute the amount of funds needed by each institution during the 2001–2002 Award Year. The Fiscal Operations Report data will be used to assess program effectiveness, account for funds expended during the 1999–2000 academic year.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202–4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet

address OCIO\_IMG\_Issues@ed.gov or faxed to 202–708–9346.

Questions regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Joe Schubart at (202) 708–9266. 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. 00–1441 Filed 1–20–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

## **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

### **National Awards Program for Effective Teacher Preparation**

**AGENCY:** Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI), Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed eligibility and selection criteria.

**SUMMARY:** The Assistant Secretary for OERI proposes eligibility and selection criteria to govern competitions under the National Awards Program for Effective Teacher Preparation for fiscal year (FY) 2000 and future fiscal years. Under these criteria, the awards program would recognize model programs that prepare elementary school teachers or secondary school mathematics teachers, and that lead to improved student learning.

**DATES:** We must receive your comments on or before March 6, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Address all comments about these proposed definitions and selection criteria to Sharon Horn, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, U.S. Department of Education, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW., room 506E, Washington, DC 20208–5644. If you prefer to send your comments through the Internet, use the following address:  
[sharon\\_horn@ed.gov](mailto:sharon_horn@ed.gov)

You may also fax your comments to Sharon Horn at (202) 219–2198.

If you want to comment on the information collection requirements you must send your comments to the Office of Management and Budget at the address listed in the Paperwork Reduction Act section of this preamble. You may also send a copy of these comments to the Department representative named in this section.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sharon Horn. Telephone: (202) 219–2203. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate

format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Invitation to Comment**

We invite you to submit comments regarding these proposed eligibility and selection criteria.

We invite you to assist us in complying with the specific requirements of Executive Order 12866 and its overall requirement of reducing regulatory burden that might result from these proposed eligibility and selection criteria. Please let us know of any further opportunities we should take to reduce potential costs or increase potential benefits while preserving the effective and efficient administration of the program.

During and after the comment period, you may inspect all public comments about these proposed eligibility and selection criteria in room 506E, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday of each week except Federal holidays.

##### **Assistance to Individuals With Disabilities in Reviewing the Rulemaking Record**

On request, we will supply an appropriate aid, such as a reader or print magnifier, to an individual with a disability who needs assistance to review the comments or other documents in the public rulemaking record for these proposed eligibility and selection criteria. If you want to schedule an appointment for this type of aid, you may call (202) 205–8113 or (202) 260–9895. If you use a TDD, you may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339.

##### **General Information**

Through this notice the Secretary proposes eligibility and selection criteria to govern applications for recognition that are submitted under the National Awards Program for Effective Teacher Preparation. The criteria established in this notice would be used to select award recipients in the program's initial year, FY 2000, and in subsequent fiscal years. The Secretary plans to publicly honor and recognize successful applicants.

This new program, which is being proposed as part of a continuing effort to honor excellence in education, is the result of an increased emphasis across the country on teacher quality and the well-established principle that high-quality K–12 teachers are critical to the