

with supporting evidence, if any, 15 days from the date of this publication. Written objections are to be filed with the Command Judge Advocate (see ADDRESSES).

**Brenda S. Bowen,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 06-7007 Filed 8-17-06; 8:45am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary of Education requests comments on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that the Secretary proposes to use for the 2007–2008 award year. The FAFSA is completed by students and their families and the information submitted on the form is used to determine the students' eligibility and financial need for financial aid under the student financial assistance programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, (Title IV, HEA Programs).

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 18, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Rachel Potter, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10222, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or faxed to (202) 395-6974.

In addition, interested persons can access this document on the Internet:

- (1) Go to IFAP at <http://ifap.ed.gov>;
- (2) Scroll down to "Publications";
- (3) Click on "FAFSAs and Renewal FAFSAs";
- (4) Click on "By 2007–2008 Award Year";
- (5) Click on "Draft FAFSA Form/Instructions".

Please note that the free Adobe Acrobat Reader software, version 4.0 or greater, is necessary to view this file. This software can be downloaded for free from Adobe's Web site: <http://www.adobe.com>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Secretary is publishing this request for comment under the Provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* Under that Act, ED must obtain the review and approval of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) before it may use a form to

collect information. However, under procedure for obtaining approval from OMB, ED must first obtain public comment of the proposed form, and to obtain that comment, ED must publish this notice in the **Federal Register**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** E-mail address [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov).

Section 483 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) requires the Secretary, "in cooperation with agencies and organizations involved in providing student financial assistance," to "produce, distribute and process free of charge a common financial reporting form to be used to determine the need and eligibility of a student for financial assistance \* \* \*" under the Title IV, HEA Programs. This form is the FAFSA. In addition, Section 483 authorizes the Secretary to include non-financial data items that assist States in awarding State student financial assistance. On February 8, 2006, President Bush signed the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (HERA), Pub. L. 109-171. The HERA made changes to the HEA that affect student eligibility and need analysis. The HERA changes impact the FAFSA in the following ways: (1) New questions are added for a student (and spouse) or a student and parents asking whether they received benefits from any of five means-tested Federal benefit programs in 2006. Receipt of means-tested Federal benefits during the preceding calendar year (2006 for the 2007–2008 award year) is an alternative to the current questions about whether the student or parent filed or was required to file an IRS 1040 Form as one of the criteria used to determine who qualifies for an automatic zero EFC or a simplified needs test. (2) A new dependency question is added to ensure that a member of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty for other than training purposes is considered an independent student. (3) The question regarding a student's convictions for drug-related offenses has been modified. A student is ineligible for Title IV, HEA financial assistance only if the conviction for a Federal or State offense involving the possession or sale of a controlled substance is for conduct that occurred during the period of enrollment for which the student was receiving Title IV, HEA financial assistance. The ineligibility period is provided in the HEA. (4) New instructions have been added to clarify that Coverdell savings accounts, 529 college savings plans, and the refund value of 529 or State prepaid tuition plans should be reported as an asset of the account owner (unless the owner is a dependent student). (5) In addition, the FAFSA instructs

applicants to exclude the value of a small business that the family owns and controls and that has 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees.

The following data elements were deleted from the first FAFSA draft published June 6, 2006, because of space constraints on the paper form: Questions 27 and 28 regarding the student's interest in student loans or work-study and questions 94–97 representing a fifth and sixth college choice. Question numbers refer to the 2006–2007 FAFSA.

Many comments received during the 60-day public comment period indicated that financial aid administrators require information about a student's interest in work-study or student loans to properly package and award Federal student aid. Therefore, the draft FAFSA has been revised to restore one question (number 26) allowing students to enter a code from the instructions and indicate their interest in work-study, student loans, both programs, or neither program. Additional revisions to the FAFSA draft are as follows: (1) The new dependency question number 54 that asks if the student is currently serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces has been placed prior to question number 55 that asks if the student is a veteran, for a more logical flow. New instructions for responding to the active duty question have been added in the "Notes" section. (2) Questions about Federal benefits received by an independent student or spouse have been placed on page 4 as questions 92–96. A dependent student would report the receipt of Federal benefits in the parents' section, questions 71–75, as a member of the parents' household. (3) Instructions have been modified for reporting the receipt of benefits from Federal means-tested programs; for reporting investments; and for using tax returns with U.S. territories or freely associated states.

The Secretary requests comments on these proposed changes to wording, as well as suggestions for ways to further simplify the application for students, parents, and schools. In particular, the Secretary is interested in comments regarding the best manner in which to construct a simplified form for applicants who qualify for an automatic zero or simplified needs test EFC calculation, including applicants who now qualify based on receipt of benefits from a Federal means-tested benefit program.

In addition to comments requested above, to accommodate the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Secretary is

interested in receiving comments with regard to the following matters: (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.

Dated: August 14, 2006.

**Angela C. Arrington,**

*Leader, IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.*

#### **Federal Student Aid**

*Type of Review:* Revision.

*Title:* Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* Individuals and families.

*Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

*Responses:* 15,952,890.

*Burden Hours:* 7,666,352.

*Abstract:* The FAFSA collects identifying and financial information about a student applying for Title IV, HEA program funds. This information is used to calculate the student's expected family contribution, which is used to determine a student's financial need. The information is also used for determining a student's eligibility for grants and loans under the Title IV, HEA Programs. It is further used for determining a student's eligibility for State and institutional financial aid programs. Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and clicking on "Download attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20202-4700. Requests may also be electronically mailed to [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov) or faxed to (202) 245-6623. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request. Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to the e-mail address

[ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@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 between 8 a.m. and 8

p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

##### **Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management 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 18, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Rachel Potter, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10222, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or faxed to (202) 395-6974.

**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 IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, 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: August 15, 2006.

**Angela C. Arrington,**

*IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.*

#### **Federal Student Aid**

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* Lender's Request for Payment of Interest and Special Allowance—LaRS.

*Frequency:* Quarterly; Annually.

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

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

*Responses:* 12,800.

*Burden Hours:* 31,200.

*Abstract:* The Lender's Request for Payment of Interest and Special Allowance—LaRS (ED Form 799) is used by approximately 3,200 lenders participating in the Title IV, PART B loan programs. The ED Form 799 is used to pay interest and special allowance to holders of the Part B loans; and to capture quarterly data from lender's loan portfolio for financial and budgetary projections.

Requests for copies of the information collection submission for OMB review may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 3138. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20202-4700. Requests may also be electronically mailed to [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov) or faxed to 202-245-6623. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be electronically mailed to [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@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.

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

##### **Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.