

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests**

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before August 14, 2006.

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. 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.

Dated: June 9, 2006.

Angela C. Arrington,

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

Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development

Type of Review: New.

Title: Study of Education Data Systems and Decisionmaking.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, local, or tribal gov't, SEAs or LEAs; Federal Government.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 235.

Burden Hours: 223.

Abstract: The purpose of the study is to examine the prevalence, use, and outcomes of education data systems for accountability, assessment, and instructional purposes.

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 by clicking on link number 3139. 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 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. 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

[CFDA No. 84.357]

Reading First

AGENCY: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice announcing application deadline.

SUMMARY: Under the Reading First program, we award Targeted Assistance Grants to State educational agencies (SEAs) that demonstrate an increase in student achievement in schools and

districts participating in the Reading First program.

As discussed elsewhere in this notice, the data that States must submit to demonstrate an increase in student achievement are the same data that States must submit in their annual performance reports for their Reading First State grants. We are therefore permitting States to apply for Targeted Assistance Grants by submitting their annual Reading First performance reports. No separate application is required. This notice establishes July 31, 2006 as the deadline date for submitting the annual performance report to apply for a Targeted Assistance Grant.

Application Deadline: July 31, 2006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Which SEAs Are Eligible for a Targeted Assistance Grant?**

An SEA is eligible for a Targeted Assistance Grant if it can show an increase in student achievement over two consecutive years. Therefore, an SEA's eligibility for this grant begins when the State has three years of student achievement data. This may include either—

(a) Student data representing three years of school-level implementation of the Reading First program; or

(b) Student data representing two years of school-level implementation of the Reading First program, along with baseline data from the year preceding implementation.

Specifically, the SEA's application must demonstrate that an increasing percentage of third-grade students in the schools served by the local educational agencies that receive Reading First funds are reaching the proficient level in reading for each of two consecutive years in each of the following categories—

(a) Economically disadvantaged students;

(b) Students from each major racial and ethnic group;

(c) Students with disabilities; and

(d) Students with limited English proficiency.

The SEA must also demonstrate in its application that for each of those two consecutive years, the schools receiving Reading First funds are improving the reading skills of students in grades 1, 2, and 3 based on instructional reading assessments, and that increasing percentages of students in the State are reading at grade level or above.

Who Will Review State Applications for Targeted Assistance Grants?

The expert review panel convened to evaluate State applications for Reading First State Grants will also review

applications for Targeted Assistance Grants to determine whether the data the SEA submits demonstrate an increase in student achievement in schools and districts participating in the Reading First program.

How Is the Targeted Assistance Grant Application Submitted?

The data that States must submit to demonstrate an increase in student achievement are the same data States must submit in their annual performance reports. Accordingly, the annual performance report will serve as the Targeted Assistance Grant application, and States may apply for a Targeted Assistance Grant by submitting their annual performance reports. The annual performance report is available and submitted electronically at: <https://www.readingfirstapr.org>. States should indicate that they want their data reviewed in consideration for a Targeted Assistance Grant by checking the appropriate box on the annual performance report and by providing the assurances and information requested. In order to be considered for a Targeted Assistance Grant, the annual performance report must be submitted by July 31, 2006. Only those States that want to be considered for a Targeted Assistance Grant this year must submit their annual performance reports by this date. All other States must submit their reports no later than November 30, 2006.

How Will Targeted Assistance Grants be Awarded to Eligible States?

The Department will award the grants to eligible SEAs based on the information provided in the annual performance report and a statutory formula for determining award amounts. The statutory formula is calculated based on the proportion of children aged 5 to 17 who reside within the State and are from families with incomes below the poverty line, compared to the number of children aged 5 to 17 from families with incomes below the poverty line who reside in all States with approved Targeted Assistance Grant applications for that year. Poverty data are drawn from the most recent fiscal year for which satisfactory data are available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandi Jacobs, telephone: (202) 401-4877 or by e-mail: sandi.jacobs@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this notice in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print,

audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Electronic Access To This Document: You may view this document, as well as other U.S. Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>.

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) toll-free at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official version of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6364.

Dated: June 8, 2006.

Henry Johnson,

Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Mathematics Advisory Panel

AGENCY: National Mathematics Advisory Panel, U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting and public hearing.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of an upcoming meeting, including a public hearing, with members of the National Mathematics Advisory Panel. The notice also describes the functions of the Panel. Notice of this meeting is required by section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and is intended to notify the public of their opportunity to attend.

DATES: Wednesday, June 28, 2006 and Thursday, June 29, 2006. **Time:** Meetings on June 28, 2006: 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.; open session for *public comment* on June 29, 2006: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: All meetings and the open session for public comment will be held at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. However, please note the locations for meetings on each day.

- June 28th Meetings—The Kenan Center, Kenan Drive, Building 498.

- June 29th Open session with public comment—The Carolina Inn, Pittsboro Street.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tyrrell Flawn, Executive Director, National Mathematics Advisory Panel, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202; telephone: (202) 260-8354.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Panel was established by Executive Order 13398. The purpose of this Panel is to foster greater knowledge of and improved performance in mathematics among American students, in order to keep America competitive, support American talent and creativity, encourage innovation throughout the American economy, and help State, local, territorial, and tribal governments give the nation's children and youth the education they need to succeed.

The June 28th meeting will begin with a discussion of methodology from 9-10 a.m. followed later in the day from 3-4:30 p.m. with a report on subgroup progress in the areas of Conceptual Knowledge and Skills, Learning Processes, Instructional Practices, and Teachers, as set forth in the Executive Order. Individuals interested in attending the meeting must register in advance because of limited space issues. Please contact Jennifer Graban at (202) 260-1491 or by e-mail at Jennifer.Graban@ed.gov.

On June 29th, from 1-4 p.m. the public is invited to comment on elements of the Executive Order and the Panel's work. If you are interested in participating in the open session on June 29th, please contact Jennifer Graban at 202-260-1491 or Jennifer.Graban@ed.gov to reserve time on the agenda. Please include your name, the organization you represent if appropriate, and a brief description of the issue you would like to present. Participants will be allowed five minutes to make their comments. At the meeting, participants are also encouraged to submit three written copies of their comments.

Given the expected number of individuals interested in providing comments at the meeting, reservations for presenting comments should be made as soon as possible. Reservations will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Persons who are unable to obtain reservations to speak during the meeting are encouraged to submit written comments. Written comments will be accepted at the meeting site, via e-mail at tyrrell.flawn@ed.gov, or mailed to Tyrrell Flawn, Executive Director, National Math Panel, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202.