

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

On June 4, 2014, the Department of Education published two notices in the **Federal Register** (79 FR 32241 (State Grants) and 79 FR 32249 (Partnership Grants)) inviting applications for FY 2014 State and partnership new awards under the GEAR UP Program.

In response to the notices, we received a number of high-quality applications. Many applications that received high scores by peer reviewers were not selected for funding.

To conserve funding that would have been required for a peer review of new grant applications submitted under this program and instead use those limited funds to support grant activities, the FY 2015 GEAR UP grantees were selected from the State and partnership slates developed during the FY 2014 competition using the priority, selection criteria, and application requirements referenced in the June 2014 notice. A number of high-quality applications from the 2014 competition were not funded in 2014 or 2015. We will select new grantees in FY 2016 from the existing State and partnership slates developed in FY 2014 for the same reasons and in the same manner as we did in FY 2015.

*Program Authority:* 20 U.S.C. 1070a-21-1070a-28.

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**Register** by using the article search feature at: [www.federalregister.gov](http://www.federalregister.gov). Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Dated: August 26, 2016.

**Lynn B. Mahaffie,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Planning and Innovation, Delegated the Duties of the Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.*

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**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

[Docket No.: ED-2016-ICCD-0095]

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Foreign Schools Eligibility Criteria Apply To Participate in Title IV HEA Programs**

**AGENCY:** Federal Student Aid (FSA), Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 3501 *et seq.*), ED is proposing a revision of an existing information collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before October 31, 2016.

**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-2016-ICCD-0095. 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. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or email 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 Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ, Room 2E-347, Washington, DC 20202-4537.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Beth Grebeldinger, 202-377-4018.

**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:* Foreign Schools Eligibility Criteria Apply to Participate in Title IV HEA Programs.

*OMB Control Number:* 1845-0105.

*Type of Review:* A revision of an existing information collection.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* State, Local, and Tribal Governments; Individuals or Households; Private Sector.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 4,135.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 398.

*Abstract:* The information in 34 CFR 600.54, 600.55, 600.56 and 600.57 is used by the Department during the initial review for eligibility certification, recertification and annual evaluations. These regulations help ensure that all foreign institutions participating in the Title IV, Higher Education Act (HEA) Programs are meeting the minimum participation standards.

Dated: August 26, 2016.

**Kate Mullan,**

*Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Office of the Chief Privacy Officer, Office of Management.*

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