

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers**

**Request for Project Proposals Pursuant to the Water Resources Development Act of 2020, Pilot Program for Continuing Authority Projects in Small or Disadvantaged Communities—Extension of Time To Submit Proposals**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for pilot project proposals; extension of time.

**SUMMARY:** Section 165 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 directs the Secretary of the Army to implement a pilot program for carrying out projects under a continuing authority program for economically disadvantaged communities at 100% Federal cost. The Department of the Army is requesting pilot project proposals. The Secretary is authorized to select up to 20 pilot projects. Proposals previously submitted do not need to be resubmitted.

**DATES:** The period to submit proposals was originally scheduled to end on August 21, 2023 (88 FR 40229, June 21, 2023). In response to request for time extension for submittals, the period to submit proposals is extended by 60 days to October 20, 2023. Written proposals must be submitted on or before November 19, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit proposals in writing to using any of these methods:

- *Mail:* HQ, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: Ms. Amy Babey, at 441 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20314.

*Email:* wrda20cap165a@usace.army.mil. Please include Section 165 Project Proposal in the subject line of the message.

Due to security requirements, we cannot receive comments by hand delivery or courier.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Amy Babey at wrda20cap165a@usace.army.mil or by phone at 502-645-7199.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 165 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 requires the Secretary to implement a pilot program for carrying out up to 20 projects under a continuing authority program for economically disadvantaged communities at 100 percent Federal cost. Additional information on the section 165 pilot program can be found in the Assistant Secretary of the Army

for Civil Works (ASA(CW)) policy guidance issued on June 12, 2023. A copy of the guidance can be obtained at [https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Planning/Legislative-Links/wrda\\_2020/](https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Planning/Legislative-Links/wrda_2020/).

The term “economically disadvantaged community” means as defined in the ASA(CW) memorandum, Implementation Guidance for Section 160 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020, Definition of Economically Disadvantaged Community, dated 14 March 2023. A copy of the guidance can be obtained at <https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/getfile/collection/p16021coll5/id/36002>.

The term “continuing authority program” (CAP) means any of the following:

1. Section 14 of the Flood Control Act of 1946 (33 U.S.C. 701r).
2. Section 3 of the Act of August 13, 1946 (33 U.S.C. 426g). This authority is commonly identified as “Section 103” by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).
3. Section 107 of the River and Harbor Act of 1960 (33 U.S.C. 577).
4. Section 111 of the River and Harbor Act of 1968 (33 U.S.C. 426i).
5. Section 204 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (33 U.S.C. 2326).
6. Section 205 of the Flood Control Act of 1948 (33 U.S.C. 701s).
7. Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 (33 U.S.C. 2330).
8. Section 2 of the Act of August 28, 1937 (33 U.S.C. 701g). This authority is commonly identified as “Section 208” by USACE.
9. Section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. 2309a).

Notwithstanding the cost share authorized for the applicable CAP section, pursuant to section 165(a), the Federal share of the cost of a project selected under this authority shall be 100 percent. Therefore, the maximum total Federal cost of a project implemented under section 165(a) will be the sum of the applicable statutory per project Federal participation limit (see table below) plus the amount that the non-Federal interest would pay as its cost share.

Authority	Statutory per project Federal participation limit
Section 14 .....	\$10,000,000
Section 103 .....	10,000,000
Section 107 .....	10,000,000
Section 111 .....	12,500,000
Section 204 .....	10,000,000

Authority	Statutory per project Federal participation limit
Section 205 .....	10,000,000
Section 206 .....	10,000,000
Section 208 .....	500,000
Section 1135 .....	10,000,000

Non-Federal interest requirements:

1. Provide all required lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations, and disposal areas (LERRDs) required for the project.
  2. Perform and pay for all costs associated with any required hazardous, toxic, and radioactive wastes (HTRW) cleanup and response in, on, or under any real property interest required for the project.
  3. Operate and maintain the project at full non-Federal expense (except for a project for commercial navigation).
  4. Hold and save the United States free from all damages arising from the project that are not due to the fault or negligence of the United States or its contractors.
  5. For a project for navigation, provide all required local service facilities.
  6. Pay all costs of planning, design, and construction that exceed the sum of the statutory per project Federal participation limit for the applicable CAP section plus the amount that the non-Federal interest would normally provide as its cost share.
- Project Proposals:* All information provided in a proposal is public information. Therefore, information that is confidential business information, information that should not be disclosed because of statutory restrictions, or other information that a non-Federal interest would not want to appear publicly should not be included in the submittal. Proposals to convert an active CAP or specifically authorized study or project to a section 165 pilot program study or project will not be considered. The authority to initiate a project under the pilot program terminates on December 27, 2030.

Entities submitting proposals for a project must include the following information:

1. Name, location, and description of the proposed project.
2. Description of the Economically Disadvantaged Community. The proposal must include a map and a narrative description of the economically disadvantaged community that will be benefited by the proposed project. The narrative description must include sufficient information to validate the community’s classification as economically disadvantaged. The narrative must also describe the type

and complexity of the urbanization in the community and identify any existing infrastructure in the community that is related to the purpose of the proposed project.

3. Description of the non-Federal interest for the proposed project. The description must include sufficient information to validate the non-Federal interest's eligibility as an applicant for the pilot program.

4. A letter of intent to partner with USACE in conducting a study, completing a design, constructing the project, and the long-term operation and maintenance of the constructed project. The letter of intent must include information demonstrating the non-Federal interest ability to be a partner in the study and project.

5. Description of the need for the proposed project and what the project would provide to the disadvantaged community.

6. For a project for flood risk management or coastal storm risk management (CSRM) purposes, the proposal must include a description of the history of flooding and the population at risk in the economically disadvantaged community. The narrative should include the dates of flood events and describe the property damages and life loss attributable to each event. It should also include a qualitative description or range of how deep the water was and how fast it was flowing. The description should identify any characteristics of the population that have a bearing on risk, such as the total number of people subject to flooding or a coastal storm, low per capita income, or unemployment rate above the national average.

7. A proposal for a project for CSRM purposes must include assurance of local willingness and capability to establish conditions of public use and access to beaches and shores. The proposal must identify whether the proposed project may result in a CSRM project that benefits beaches or shores the majority of which are private. In such cases, the applicant must provide assurance in the proposal that it is capable and willing to establish sufficient conditions of public use and access as a condition of Federal financial participation in a project.

8. For a project for ecosystem restoration, the proposal must describe the degraded habitat targeted for restoration and the causes of the degradation. Regionally and nationally significant habitat or natural resources should be identified.

9. For a project under section 14, the proposal must describe the ownership and function of the facility to be

protected and the nature of the damage caused by flooding adjacent to the facility.

10. For a project under section 111, the proposal must describe the shoreline damage and identify the Federal navigation project responsible for the damage.

11. For a project for commercial navigation under Section 107, the proposal must describe existing facilities, vessel traffic, and the navigation problem the proposed project will address.

**Michael L. Connor,**

*Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works).*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2023-SCC-0055]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Higher Education Act (HEA) Title II Report Cards on State Teacher Credentialing and Preparation

**AGENCY:** Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE), Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Department is proposing a revision of a currently approved information collection request (ICR).

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 11, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for proposed information collection requests should be submitted within 30 days of publication of this notice. Click on this link [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain) to access the site. Find this information collection request (ICR) by selecting "Department of Education" under "Currently Under Review," then check the "Only Show ICR for Public Comment" checkbox. [Reginfo.gov](http://Reginfo.gov) provides two links to view documents related to this information collection request. Information collection forms and instructions may be found by clicking on the "View Information Collection (IC) List" link. Supporting statements and other supporting documentation may be found by clicking on the "View Supporting Statement and Other Documents" link.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection

activities, please contact Freddie Cross, (202) 987-0430.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department 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:* Higher Education Act (HEA) Title II Report Cards on State Teacher Credentialing and Preparation.

*OMB Control Number:* 1840-0744.

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

*Respondents/Affected Public:* State, local, and Tribal governments; private sector.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 2,283.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 185,000.

*Abstract:* This request is for a revision of the State Report Card and Institution and Program Report Card required by the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended in 2008 by the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA). States must report annually on criteria and assessments required for initial teacher credentials using a State Report Card (SRC), and institutions of higher education (IHEs) with teacher preparation programs (TPP), and TPPs outside of IHEs, must report on key program elements on an Institution and Program Report Card (IPRC). IHEs and TPPs outside of IHEs report annually to their states on program elements, including program numbers, type, enrollment figures, demographics, completion rates, goals and assurances to the state. States, in turn, must report on TPP elements to the Secretary of Education in addition to information on assessment pass rates, state standards, initial credential types and requirements, numbers of credentials issued, TPP classification as at-risk or low-performing. The information from states, institutions, and programs is published annually in The Secretary's Report to Congress on Teacher Quality.

The revisions to the IPRC consist of the following:

- A new sub-section about the impact of COVID-19 in Section I: Program