

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED–2026–SCC–1651]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Borrower Defense to Loan Repayment Universal Forms**AGENCY:** Federal Student Aid (FSA), Department of Education (ED).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Department is proposing an extension without change of a currently approved information collection request (ICR).

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before July 13, 2026.

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–2026–SCC–1651. 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. If the regulations.gov site is not available to the public for any reason, the Department will temporarily accept comments at ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. Please include the docket ID number and the title of the information collection request when requesting documents or submitting comments. Please note that comments 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 Carolyn Rose, U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202–1200.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Carolyn Rose, (202) 453–5967.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department, 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. The Department is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. 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: Borrower Defense to Loan Repayment Universal Forms.

OMB Control Number: 1845–0163.

Type of Review: Extension without change of a currently approved ICR.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 83,750.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 217,750.

Abstract: This is a request for a renewal without change of 1845–0163 Borrower Defense to Loan Repayment Universal Forms. The Department uses the information provided on the Universal Borrower Defense Application and Request for Reconsideration forms to determine eligibility for a borrower defense discharge.

Ross Santy,

Chief Data Officer, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development.

[FR Doc. 2026–09442 Filed 5–11–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Notice Announcing Career Pathways Exploration Program Competition****AGENCY:** Department of Education, Department of Labor.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The Employment and Training Administration at the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) is soliciting applications in support of the administration of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Career Pathways Exploration (CPE) program, Assistance Listing Number 84.424], on behalf of the U.S. Department of Education (ED).

DATES: Complete proposals must be submitted electronically through the *Grants.gov* “APPLY” function by

11:59:59 p.m. Eastern Time June 9, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ivonne Jaime. Telephone: (202) 987–1702. Email: CareerPathways@ed.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Career Pathways Exploration (CPE) program provides competitive grants to States to build their capacity to integrate career exploration into statewide career pathways and workforce readiness programs. The CPE program will help ensure access to opportunities that expose students to real-life workforce realities through a variety of career pathways programs that are aligned with State priorities.

The FY 2026 competition includes two absolute priorities, one competitive preference priority, selection criteria, and requirements. The absolute priorities are: (1) Career Pathways and Workforce Readiness—Career Pathways Exploration and (2) Career Pathways and Workforce Readiness—Workforce Readiness. The competitive preference priority is: (1) Talent Marketplaces. *Maximum Award:* \$3,000,000 per year.

Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants for this program are States (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 7801(48)). The governor must either apply, or identify, designate, or endorse one of the following entities to apply for this program:

- (a) State educational agencies (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 7801(49)),
- (b) State workforce development agencies,
- (c) State vocational rehabilitation agencies, or
- (d) Consortia of these entities, including the governor, as a group application under 34 CFR 75.127–129.

Note: Only one application per State may be submitted to this grant competition. If an entity other than the governor is the applicant, the application must contain a signed letter from the governor identifying, designating, or endorsing the application on behalf of the State. *Program Authority:* 20 U.S.C. 7113(a)(3).

To Apply: The complete funding opportunity announcement and all information needed to apply, including the priorities, selection criteria, and requirements, are available on ED's website at <https://www.ed.gov/grants-and-programs/grants-birth-grade-12/school-and-community-improvement-grants/career-pathways-exploration-grant-program-84424j>, on DOL's website at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/grants/apply/find-opportunities>, and on *Grants.gov* at <https://www.grants.gov/>

search-results-detail/362311. The application notice and instructions on *Grants.gov* is the official document governing the grant competition.

Accessible Format: On request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format.

Note: Henry Maklakiewicz signs this notice in furtherance of DOL's role in providing support to ED.

Kirsten Baesler,

Assistant Secretary, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education.

In concurrence,

Henry Maklakiewicz,

Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, Department of Labor.

[FR Doc. 2026-09440 Filed 5-11-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Accrediting Agency Currently Undergoing Review for the Purpose of Recognition by the U.S. Secretary of Education

AGENCY: Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Call for written third-party comments.

SUMMARY: This notice provides information to members of the public on submitting written comments for an accrediting agency currently undergoing review for the purpose of recognition by the Secretary of Education.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before 14 days from publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Daggett, Director, Accreditation Group, Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202, telephone: (202) 453-7615, or email: elizabeth.daggett@ed.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This request for written third-party comments concerning the performance of an accrediting agency under review by the Secretary of Education is required by Section 496(n)(1)(A) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, 20 U.S.C. 1001, *et seq.* (HEA), and pertains to the third meeting in 2026 of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI). The meeting date will be announced in a later **Federal Register** notice and will describe how to register to provide oral comments at the

meeting. Written comments submitted in response to this **Federal Register** notice must be submitted to the electronic mail address identified below on or before the comment due date.

Agency Under Review and Evaluation: The Department requests written comments from the public on the following accrediting agency, which is currently undergoing review and evaluation by the Accreditation Group, and which will be reviewed at the third 2026 NACIQI meeting. The agency is listed by the type of application it has submitted. Please note, the agency's current scope of recognition is indicated below.

Compliance Report:

1. Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. Scope of Recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of physical therapist education programs leading to the first professional degree at the master's or doctoral level and physical therapist assistant education programs at the associate degree level and for its accreditation of such programs offered via distance education. Geographic Area of Accrediting Activities: Throughout the United States.

Submission of Written Comments Regarding a Specific Accrediting Agency Under Review: Written comments in response to this **Federal Register** notice about the recognition of the accrediting agency listed above must be received on or before the comment due date, in the *ThirdPartyComments@ed.gov* mailbox. Please include in the subject line "Written Comments: (agency name)." The electronic mail (email) must include the name(s), title, organization/affiliation, mailing address, email address, and telephone number of the person(s) making the comment. Comments should be submitted as a PDF, Microsoft Word document, or in a medium compatible with Microsoft Word that is attached to an email or provided in the body of an email message. Comments about an agency that has submitted a compliance report scheduled for review by the Department must relate to the criteria for recognition cited in the senior Department official's letter that requested the report, which is available at: <https://surveys.ope.ed.gov/erecognition/#/public-documents>. The Criteria are available at <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-34/subtitle-B/chapter-VI/part-602?toc=1>.

Only written materials submitted by the deadline to the email address listed in this notice, and in accordance with these instructions, become part of the official record concerning the agency

scheduled for review and are considered by the Department and NACIQI in their deliberations. Comments about the agency listed in this **Federal Register** notice may also be provided orally at the third 2026 NACIQI meeting, which has not yet been scheduled, but which will be announced in a future **Federal Register** notice.

Electronic Access to This Document:

The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available via the Federal Digital System at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/>. At this site, you can view this document, as well as all other documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site. You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1099b; 20 U.S.C. 1011c.

David Barker,

Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 2026-09432 Filed 5-11-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

AGENCY: Election Assistance Commission.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Election Assistance Commission is hosting a virtual public meeting to obtain further information on election official training programs.

DATES: Thursday, May 21, 2026, 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. ET.

ADDRESSES: The virtual meeting is open to the public and will be livestreamed on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@u.s.electionassistancecomm2110>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristen Muthig, EAC Director of Communications. Telephone: (202) 897-9285, Email: kmuthig@eac.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Purpose:* In accordance with the Government in the Sunshine Act (Sunshine Act), Public