

Dated: August 18, 2026.

Stephanie J. Bost,

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison
Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2026-17065 Filed 8-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001-FR-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI or Committee), Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Announcement of an open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the agenda, time, and instructions to access or participate in the September 23 & 24, 2026 meeting of NACIQI and provides information to members of the public regarding the meeting, including requesting to make written or oral comments. Committee members will meet in-person. Agency representatives have the option to meet in-person or virtually, and public attendees will participate virtually. The notice of this meeting is required under 5 U.S.C. Chapter 10 (commonly known as the Federal Advisory Committee Act) and Section 114(d)(1)(B) of the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, as amended.

DATES: The NACIQI meeting will be held on September 23 & 24, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Barnard Auditorium, Washington, DC 20202. (Only NACIQI members, accrediting agency representatives, and Department of Education staff will participate in the meeting at this address.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

George Alan Smith, Executive Director/ Designated Federal Official (DFO), NACIQI, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202; telephone: (202) 453-7757; email: George.Alan.Smith@ed.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Statutory Authority and Function: NACIQI is established under Section 114 of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1011c). NACIQI advises the Secretary of Education with respect to:

- the establishment and enforcement of the standards of accrediting agencies or associations under subpart 2, part H, title IV of the HEA, as amended;

- the recognition of specific accrediting agencies or associations;
- the preparation and publication of the list of nationally recognized accrediting agencies and associations;
- the eligibility and certification process for institutions of higher education under title IV of the HEA, together with recommendations for improvement in such process;
- the relationship between (1) accreditation of institutions of higher education and the certification and eligibility of such institutions, and (2) State licensing responsibilities with respect to such institutions; and
- any other advisory function relating to accreditation and institutional eligibility that the Secretary of Education may prescribe by regulation.

Meeting Agenda

The purpose of the meeting is to conduct a review of applications for renewal of recognition submitted by six accrediting agencies, as well as a compliance report submitted by one accrediting agency.

Applications for Renewal of Recognition

1. *American Bar Association, Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar.* Scope of Recognition: The accreditation of programs in legal education that lead to the first professional degree in law, including those offered via distance education, as well as freestanding law schools offering such programs. Geographic Area of Accrediting Activities: The United States.

2. *Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools.* Scope of Recognition: The accreditation of private, postsecondary institutions offering predominantly allied health education programs leading to a certificate, diploma, and degree at the level of the Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Occupational Science, Academic Associate, Baccalaureate, and Master's, including those offered via distance education and the programmatic accreditation of medical assisting, medical laboratory technology, and surgical technology programs, through the Associate degree, including those offered via distance education. The scope extends to the Substantive Change Committee, jointly with the Commission for decisions on substantive change. Geographic Area of Accrediting Activities: The United States.

3. *Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine.* Scope of Recognition: The accreditation and pre-accreditation ("Candidacy") of professional non-degree and graduate

degree programs, including professional doctoral programs, in the field of acupuncture and/or herbal medicine, as well as freestanding institutions and colleges of acupuncture and/or herbal medicine that offer such programs, including programs offered via distance education. Geographic Area of Accrediting Activities: The United States.

4. *American Psychological Association, Commission on Accreditation.* Scope of Recognition: The accreditation of doctoral programs in clinical, counseling, school, and combined professional-scientific psychology; doctoral internship programs in health service psychology; and postdoctoral residency programs in health service psychology; as well as the pre-accreditation of doctoral internship programs in health service psychology and postdoctoral residency programs in health service psychology. Geographic Area of Accrediting Activities: The United States. Requested Scope of Recognition: The pre-accreditation and accreditation of master's programs and doctoral programs in clinical, counseling, school psychology (and combinations of two or more of these practice areas); doctoral internship programs in health service psychology; and postdoctoral residency programs in health service psychology, including programs that use distance education and traditional educational methods. Geographic Area of Accrediting Activities: The United States.

5. *Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).* Scope of Recognition: The accreditation and pre-accreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of degree-granting institutions of higher education including the accreditation of educational programs offered via distance and correspondence education, and direct assessment within these institutions. The accreditation status of these institutions and their recognition extends to the SACSCOC Board of Trustees, Executive Council, and the Appeals Committee of the College Delegate Assembly on cases of initial candidacy or initial accreditation and for continued accreditation or candidacy. Geographic Area of Accrediting Activities: Throughout the United States.

6. *Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools, Accreditation Commission.* Scope of Recognition: The accreditation and pre-accreditation ("Candidate" status) of Christian postsecondary institutions in the United States that offer certificates, diplomas, and associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees, including

institutions that offer distance education. Geographic Area of Accrediting Activities: The United States.

Compliance Report

1. Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. Scope of Recognition: The accreditation and pre-accreditation (“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.

To ensure sufficient time for all agency reviews, including NACIQI questions and discussion, the Department requests that the agencies limit their opening statements to 10 minutes (total for one or more statements) and that the agencies avoid extended discussions about agency representatives and their backgrounds. Following the brief opening statement, the agency’s presentation should focus on the regulatory criteria and, in particular, responses to areas where Department staff has recommended a finding of noncompliance or substantial compliance, or where other concerns have been raised that the agency would like to address. However, the agency should expect that questions from NACIQI members may focus on other areas.

Instructions for Accessing the Meeting

Registration

You may register for the meeting on your computer using the link below. After you register, you will receive a confirmation email containing personalized participation links for the meeting no later than 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time on September 23, 2026.

Registration Link

<https://cvent.me/nNeEgY>.

Public Comment

Submission of requests to make an oral comment regarding a specific accrediting agency under review, or to make an oral comment or written statement regarding other issues within the scope of NACIQI’s authority:

Opportunity to submit a written statement regarding a specific accrediting agency under review was solicited by previous **Federal Register** notices published on April 04, 2025 (90 FR 14815; Document Number 2025–05853) and May 12, 2026 (91 FR 25871;

Document Number 2026–09432). The period for submission of such statements is now closed. *Additional written statements regarding a specific accrediting agency or State approval agency under review will not be accepted at this time.* However, members of the public may submit written statements regarding other issues within the scope of NACIQI’s authority, as outlined under Section 114 of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1011c).

Members of the public may make oral comments regarding a specific accrediting agency under review and/or other issues within the scope of NACIQI’s authority. Oral comments may not exceed three minutes. Oral comments about an agency’s recognition when a compliance report has been required by the senior Department official or the Secretary must relate to the criteria for recognition cited in the senior Department official’s letter that requested the report, or in the Secretary’s appeal decision, if any. Oral comments about an agency seeking expansion of scope must be directed to the agency’s ability to serve as a recognized accrediting agency with respect to the kinds of institutions or programs requested to be added. Oral comments about the renewal of an agency’s recognition must relate to its compliance with the criteria for the Recognition of Accrediting Agencies, which are available at <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-34/subtitle-B/chapter-VI/part-602?toc=1>.

Instructions on Requesting To Make Public Comment

To request to make oral comments of three minutes or less or to submit a written statement to NACIQI concerning its work outside of a specific accrediting agency under review during the September 23 & 24, 2026 meeting, please follow the instructions below.

Submit an email to the ThirdPartyComments@ed.gov mailbox. Please do not send material directly to NACIQI members. To be considered for the current cycle review, written statements and requests to make oral comment must be received by September 16, 2026, and include in the subject line “Oral Comment Request: [agency name],” “Oral Comment Request: [subject]” or “Written Statement: [subject]”; the email must include the name(s), title, organization/affiliation, mailing address, email address, and telephone number, of the person(s) submitting a written statement or requesting to speak. All individuals submitting an advance request in accordance with this notice will be afforded an opportunity to speak.

Access to Records of the Meeting: The Department will post the official report of the meeting on the NACIQI website <https://sites.ed.gov/naciqi/archive-of-meetings/> within 90 days after the meeting. In addition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 1009, the public may request to inspect records of the meeting at 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202, by emailing aslrecordsmanager@ed.gov, or by calling (202) 453–7415 to schedule an appointment. The senior Department official’s (as defined in 34 CFR 602.3 at <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-34/subtitle-B/chapter-VI/part-602/subpart-A/section-602.3>) decisions, pursuant to 34 CFR 602.36 (<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-34/subtitle-B/chapter-VI/part-602/subpart-C/subject-group-ECFR21f0283b12d15ca/section-602.36>), associated with all NACIQI meetings can be found at the following website: <https://surveys.ope.ed.gov/erecognition/#/public-documents>.

Reasonable Accommodations: The dial-in information and weblink access to the meeting are accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting (e.g., interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format), notify the contact person listed in this notice at least two weeks before the scheduled meeting date. Although we will attempt to meet a request received after that date, we may not be able to make available the requested auxiliary aid or service because of insufficient time to arrange it.

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: www.gpo.gov/fdsys. 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 also may 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: Section 114 of the HEA of 1964, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1011c).

David Barker,

Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 2026–17135 Filed 8–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED–2026–SCC–2740]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006

AGENCY: Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, 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 October 20, 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–2740. 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 www.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 the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, 400 Maryland Ave. SW, LBJ, Room 4A196, Washington, DC 20202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Melissa Hartley, 202–987–1153.

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: Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006.

OMB Control Number: 1830–0569.

Type of Review: A revision of a currently approved ICR.

Respondents/Affected Public: State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 54.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 12,190.

Abstract: This information collection is used by the Department to request Consolidated Annual Reports (CARs) under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins V). The Department is making the following revisions to the CAR guide via this action: updating Financial Status Report (FSR) instructions and associated forms to reduce reporting burden on States; updating instructions and Performance Reporting forms to reflect the updated National Career Clusters Framework; and technical and non-substantive updates to improve clarity.

Ross Santy,

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

[FR Doc. 2026–17094 Filed 8–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED–2026–SCC–2047]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award

AGENCY: Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

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

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 21, 2026.

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 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 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 Melissa Hartley, (202) 987–1153.

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.