

with the Do Not Pay (DNP) Working System, which is administered by Treasury's Bureau of the Fiscal Service. This matching program will enable the DoD program to compare records maintained in its system of records with records maintained in the DNP Working System for the purposes of identifying and preventing improper payments.

DATES: Comments will be accepted on or before December 14, 2026. This proposed action will be effective the day following the end of the comment period unless comments have been received from interested members of the public that require modification and republication of the notice. This new matching program will be effective through September 10, 2029.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

* *Federal Rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

* *Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Attn: Mailbox 24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Laura White, Accounting Officer, Oracle Federal Financials, DHA/SP&FO/J8, 16401 E Centretch Pkwy., Aurora, CO 80011, Phone (303) 676-3877.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 amended the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 United States Code (U.S.C.) 552a) by establishing procedural safeguards for agencies' use of records in computerized matching. The Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (31 U.S.C. 3351 *et seq.*) provides the authority to waive the requirements for matching agreements in certain cases. Pursuant to this authority, the Secretary of the Treasury, after consulting with the OMB Director, authorized the issuance of a four-year waiver of the requirement for entering into a matching agreement for programs that meet the criteria in OMB Memorandum M-25-32. DoD has

determined that the DNP matching program for the Military Health Benefits—TRICARE West Region Program (West) (PIIA Program ID: DOD-0033) is eligible for this waiver.

Participating Agencies: The DoD, through DHA, will match records against the DNP Working System, maintained by the Bureau of the Fiscal Service at the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Authority for Conducting the Matching Program: The Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (31 U.S.C. 3351 *et seq.*) and OMB Memorandum M-25-32. The Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (31 U.S.C. 3351 *et seq.*) establishes the DNP Initiative and requires, for the purposes of identifying and preventing improper payments, each executive agency to have access to, and use of, the relevant databases in DNP to verify payment or award eligibility. Additional applicable authorities for this matching program include Executive Order 13520, Reducing Improper Payments (74 FR 62201); Executive Order 14249, Protecting America's Bank Account Against Fraud, Waste, and Abuse (90 FR 14011); and OMB Memorandum M-25-32, Preventing Improper Payments and Protecting Privacy Through Do Not Pay. Additional information regarding the authorities for the collection and maintenance of information for each of the DoD programs that will conduct matches with the DNP Working System are contained within the systems of records notices listed below.

Purpose(s): The purpose of the matching program is to identify and prevent improper payments by verifying through DNP prepayment or pre-award eligibility.

Categories of Individuals: Applicants for, or recipients of, Federal funds from the Military Health Benefits—TRICARE West Region Program (West) program.

Categories of Records: Data elements to be matched include applicant's name, Social Security Number (SSN) or Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), address, date of birth, and payment/banking information. These data elements include all the records involved in the matching program.

System(s) of Records: The records contained within the DNP Working System are maintained in the Treasury system of records, Bureau of the Fiscal Service .017—Do Not Pay Payment Verification Records (85 FR 11776). The DoD records involved in this matching program are maintained in the following system of records: EDTMA 04, Medical/Dental Claim History Files (80 FR 65720), (90 FR 54312).

Dated: October 8, 2026.

Stephanie J. Bost,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DOD-2026-OS-2245]

Manual for Courts-Martial; Proposed Amendments

AGENCY: Joint Service Committee on Military Justice (JSC), Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed amendments to the Manual for Courts-Martial, United States (2024 ed.), supplementary materials, and notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The DoD (referred to herein as "Department of War" or "DoW") requests comments on proposed changes to the Manual for Courts-Martial (MCM), United States (2024 ed.) and announces a public meeting to receive comments on said changes. The approval authority for the changes to the MCM is the President, while the approval authority for the changes to the supplementary materials is the General Counsel of the Department of War (DoW).

DATES: Comments on the proposed changes must be received no later than December 14, 2026. A public meeting to receive comments concerning the proposed changes will be held on October 20, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. in the Court of Appeals of the Armed Forces building, 450 E. St NW, Washington DC 20442-0001 with an option for remote attendance. Details on remote attendance will be posted at least 7 days in advance of the meeting at <https://jsc.defense.gov/Military-Law/Current-Publications-and-Updates/>.

ADDRESSES: The proposed changes to the MCM (2024 ed.) can be reviewed at: <https://jsc.defense.gov/Military-Law/Current-Publications-and-Updates/>. You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

• *JSC Portal:* <http://jsc.defense.gov/>
Contact. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <https://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Captain Mark K. Webb, U.S. Marine Corps, Executive Secretary, JSC, (703) 693-9299, mark.webb@usmc.mil. The JSC website is located at <http://jsc.defense.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is provided in accordance with DoD Instruction 5500.17, "Role and Responsibilities of the Joint Service Committee on Military Justice (JSC)," February 21, 2018 (available at <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/550017-5C.PDF?ver=2018-02-21-074422-370>). These proposed changes have not been coordinated within the DoW under DoD Directive 5500.01, "Preparing, Processing, and Coordinating Legislation, Executive Orders, Proclamations, Views Letters, and Testimony," June 15, 2007 (available at <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodd/550001p.pdf>), and do not constitute the official position of the DoW, the Military Departments, or any other Government agency. The JSC invites members of the public to comment on the proposed changes; such comments should address specific recommended changes and provide supporting rationale.

This notice also sets forth the date, time, and location for a public meeting of the JSC to discuss the proposed changes.

This notice is intended only to improve the internal management of the Federal Government. It is not intended to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by any party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person.

Dated: October 8, 2026.

Stephanie J. Bost,
Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison
Officer, Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2026-SCC-3070]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; IHE Considerations Around Program Closure: How External Pressures and Internal Policies Shape Decision Making

AGENCY: National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance (NCEE), Institute of Education Sciences (IES), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

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

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 14, 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-3070. 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](http://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 National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance (NCEE); Institute of Education Sciences; U.S. Department of Education; IES—D Street; Room 10.8.0.D; 400 Maryland Ave. SW; Washington, DC 20202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Diana Epstein at diana.epstein@ed.gov.

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 the estimated burden of the data collection accurate; (2) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (3) 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: IHE Considerations Around Program Closure: How External Pressures and Internal Policies Shape Decision Making.

OMB Control Number: 1850-NEW.

Type of Review: A new ICR.

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

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 2,160.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 384.

Abstract: The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) requests public comment in advance of a request for clearance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to conduct new data collection activities for the IHE Considerations Around Program Closure: How External Pressures and Internal Policies Shape Decision Making study. This is the first and only request for the collection of data for this study.

The purpose of the planned information collection is to understand the factors linked to program closure and suspension in U.S. institutions of higher education (IHEs), including how IHE policies and procedures shape these program decisions. The study will combine extant data with new data collection, including a national survey of IHEs that appear to have closed or suspended programs since 2022 and structured interviews with institutional leaders. This mixed-methods approach will reveal patterns of closure, explain decision-making processes, and explore how IHE governance and human