

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army****[Docket ID: USA–2025–HQ–0102]****Proposed Collection; Comment Request****AGENCY:** Department of the Army, Department of Defense (DoD).**ACTION:** 60-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Department of the Army announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by October 28, 2025.**ADDRESSES:** 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 Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350–1700.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title 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: To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to Army & Air Force Exchange Service, Office of the General Counsel, Compliance Division, ATTN:

Teresa Schreurs, 3911 South Walton Walker Blvd., Dallas, TX 75236–1598, through email to PrivacyManager@aafes.com, or call the Exchange Compliance Division at 800–967–6067, Option 5.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title, Associated Form and OMB Number: Exchange Credit Program; OMB Control Number 0702–0137.

Needs and Uses: The information collection is the basis for determining Exchange patron credit eligibility, enhancing the patron's shopping experience, determining the patron's suitability to cash checks at Exchange facilities, and collecting government debts. Allowing patrons to use credit in their shopping experience supports the efficiency and effectiveness of the Exchange's marketing programs and the mission to support the Army's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Programs. Authorized patrons include individuals who are members of the uniformed services, retired members, authorized veterans, and dependents of members of the Armed Forces, commissioned officers of the Public Health Service, and commissioned officers of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Other individuals may meet the requirements of being patrons as mandated by regulation. The Exchange offers "personal credit" accounts to service members for purchases of military clothing and to all authorized patrons a private label Military Star credit card for retail purchases. Patrons deciding to apply for credit may voluntarily complete the application form online, through a local Exchange facility by completing the Exchange paper form CRC 7429395 "Military Star Credit Paper Application", or by supplying information to an authorized Exchange cashier at the Point of Sale. Account holders requesting to update information on their account may do so electronically by visiting <https://www.myecp.com/>, or by contacting the Exchange MILITARY STAR department at 1–877–891–7827. Information collected from the patron allows the Exchange to address their credit worthiness, and supply monthly statements and debt communication, to include wage garnishments.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Annual Burden Hours: 28,975.

Number of Respondents: 869,231.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 869,231.

Average Burden per Response: 2 minutes.

Frequency: On occasion.

Dated: August 27, 2025.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2025–16674 Filed 8–28–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–08–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Common Instructions and Information for Applicants to Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs****AGENCY:** Office for Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development, Department of Education.**ACTION:** Notice; revised common instructions.

SUMMARY: On December 23, 2024, the Department of Education (Department) published a set of common instructions for applicants seeking funds under a Department discretionary grant competition. In this notice, the Department is publishing a revised version of the common instructions that supersedes the version published on December 23, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kelly Terpak, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 4C212, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 280–8472. Email: Kelly.Terpak@ed.gov.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability and wish to access telecommunications relay services, please dial 7–1–1.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: This document is a centralized and up-to-date set of instructions for applying to the Department's discretionary grant programs. Notices inviting applications (NIAs) will reference this document instead of providing this series of instructions within each NIA. If in the rare circumstance exceptions to these instructions are necessary, they will be noted in an individual competition NIA.

Revised Common Instructions: The Department is making changes to the revised common instructions for applicants that were published in the **Federal Register** on December 23, 2024 (89 FR 104528), to update common instructions and include information previously found in Department NIAs, including Application and Submission Information, Application Review Information, and Award Administration Information. This effort is intended to help simplify and reduce the traditional length of Department NIAs by moving further common application elements into these instructions. In addition, the

Department has added guidance on the usage of Artificial Intelligence (AI) when applying to grant competitions. The revised common instructions and information are below.

Common Set of Instructions and Information for Applicants: Application and Submission Information.

1. *Where to Find the Application Package:* You can obtain an application package from the Department's website or *Grants.gov*.

2. *Content and Formatting Requirements:* Requirements concerning the content and formatting of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for the program located on *Grants.gov*.

We recommend that you use the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.

- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions.

- Meet or exceed standards for accessibility d (including alternative text for charts, figures, and graphs) in compliance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. For assistance with 508 compliance, please visit [section508.gov/create](https://www.section508.gov/create).

- Use a font that is 12 point.
- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial.

3. *Unique Entity Identifier, Taxpayer Identification Number, and System for Award Management:* To do business with the Department, and to submit your application electronically using *Grants.gov*, you must—

a. Have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN);

b. Be registered in the System for Award Management (*SAM.gov*), the Government's primary registrant database. Information about *SAM* is available at www.SAM.gov. To further assist you with registering in *SAM.gov* and getting a UEI or updating your existing *SAM* registration, see the Quick Start Guide for Grant Registrations at https://www.fsd.gov/sys_attachment.do?sys_id=f51d017e1bab7c105465eaccac4bcb9f%20 and the Entity Registration Video at <https://sam.gov/content/entity-registration>;

c. Provide your UEI number and TIN on your application; and

d. Maintain an active *SAM* registration with current information while your application is under review by the Department and, if you are

awarded a grant, during the project period.

If you are a corporate entity, agency, institution, or organization, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). If you are an individual, you can obtain a TIN from the IRS or the Social Security Administration. If you need a new TIN, please allow two to five weeks for your TIN to become active.

The *SAM* registration process usually takes approximately 7 to 10 business days, but may take longer, depending on the completeness and accuracy of the data you enter into the *SAM.gov* database. The Department recommends that you register early, at least 10 to 14 business days before the application deadline. If you are unable to submit an application on *Grants.gov* by the application deadline because you do not have an active *SAM* registration, you will not be considered for funding.

Note: Once your *SAM.gov* registration is active, it may be 24 to 48 hours before you can access the information in, and submit an application through, *Grants.gov*.

If you are currently registered with *SAM.gov*, you may not need to make any changes. However, please make certain that the TIN associated with your UEI is correct.

Note: You must update your *SAM* registration annually. This may take three or more business days.

e. Register as an applicant using your UEI number and be designated by your organization's E-Biz Point of Contact as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR). Details on these steps are outlined at the following *Grants.gov* web page: <https://grants.gov/register>.

4. *Submission Instructions:*

a. *Electronic Submission of Applications.*

The Department is participating as a partner in the Government-wide *Grants.gov* site. Submit applications electronically using *Grants.gov*. Do not mail or email them unless explicitly allowed in a competition NIA.

You may access the electronic grant applications at www.grants.gov. You may search for the downloadable application package for the competition that you are interested in applying to by the Assistance Listing Number (ALN). Do not include the ALN's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.184, not 84.184D).

A *Grants.gov* applicant must apply online using Workspace, a shared environment in *Grants.gov* where members of a grant team may simultaneously access and edit different web forms within an application. You

begin by creating an individual Workspace for each application and establish, for that application, a collaborative application package that allows more than one person in your organization to work concurrently on an application. You will then complete the application forms in Workspace and submit the application when completed. For further instructions on how to apply using *Grants.gov*, refer to: <https://grants.gov/applicants/grant-applications/how-to-apply-for-grants>.

Please note the following:

- *Assistance:* Applicants needing assistance with *Grants.gov* may contact the *Grants.gov* Support Center either by calling 1-800-518-4726 or by sending an email to support@grants.gov. The *Grants.gov* Support Center is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, except for Federal holidays. Applicants needing assistance from Department staff with their applications should contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section in the competition NIA prior to the application deadline date during normal business hours, and no later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the application deadline date.

Further information about applying for discretionary grants can also be found on the ED.gov website: <https://www.ed.gov/grants-and-programs/apply-grant/getting-started-discretionary-grant-applications>.

- *Time to Submit an Application:* The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors, including the size of the application and the speed of your internet connection. Therefore, the Department recommends that you leave yourself plenty of time to complete your submission.

- *Application Deadline, Date- and Time-Stamped:* Applications received by *Grants.gov* are date- and time-stamped upon submission. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted, received, and date- and time-stamped by the *Grants.gov* system no later than 11:59:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, the Department will not accept your application if it is submitted, received, and date- and time-stamped by the *Grants.gov* system after 11:59:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on the application deadline date. The Department will not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements. When the Department retrieves your application from *Grants.gov*, the Department will notify you if the Department is rejecting your application because it was late. Receipt of a date-

and time-stamp from *Grants.gov* does not mean that your application meets program eligibility requirements described in the NIA.

- **Artificial Intelligence:** The Department recognizes the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) systems (including machine learning, generative artificial intelligence, and large language models) and generated content to support the mission of promoting student achievement and ensuring equal access. The use of AI in the development of grant application materials is allowable. Applicants submitting a grant application must certify on the standard application form to the “true, complete, and accurate” nature of all the contents of their grant application, regardless of whether it is generated by AI.

- **Forms:** When you submit your application electronically, all documents must be submitted electronically, including all information you typically provide on the following forms: the Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all Department-specific assurances and certifications.

- **File Type:** When you submit your application electronically, you must upload any narrative sections and all other attachments to your application as files in Portable Document Format (PDF). The Department recommends applicants submit all documents as read-only flattened PDFs, meaning any fillable PDF files must be saved and submitted as non-fillable PDF files and not as interactive or fillable PDF files, to better ensure applications are processed in a more timely, accurate, and efficient manner. If you upload a file type other than PDF or if you submit a password-protected file, the Department will be unable to review that material. Please note that this will likely result in your application not being considered for funding. The Department will not convert material from other formats to PDF.

- **Notification of Receipt:** After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from *Grants.gov* an automatic notification of receipt that contains a *Grants.gov* tracking number. *Grants.gov* will also notify you automatically by email if your application met all of the *Grants.gov* validation requirements or if there were any errors. If you discover that your submitted application was incomplete or included errors, you will be given an opportunity to correct any errors and resubmit, but you must still meet the

deadline date and time (11:59:59) for submission.

Once your application is successfully validated by *Grants.gov*, the Department will retrieve your application from *Grants.gov* and send you an email with a unique PR/Award number for your application.

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because of technical problems within the *Grants.gov* system, the Department will grant you an extension until 11:59:59 p.m., Eastern Time, the following business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically, provided the Department can verify the technical issues that affected your ability to submit your application on time via your *Grants.gov* Support Desk Case Number.

Note: The extensions to which the Department refers in this section apply only to technical problems with the *Grants.gov* system. The Department will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register in order to submit your application to *Grants.gov* (including with the required UEL number and TIN currently registered in SAM) before the application deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the *Grants.gov* system.

Application Review Information

1. **Submission of Proprietary Information:** Given the types of projects that may be proposed in applications for funding, your application may include business information that you consider proprietary. In 34 CFR 5.11 we define “business information” and describe the process we use in determining whether any of that information is proprietary and, thus, protected from disclosure under Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552, as amended).

Because we plan to make successful applications available to the public, you may wish to request confidentiality of business information.

Consistent with Executive Order 12600, please designate in your application any information that you believe is exempt from disclosure under Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act. In the appropriate Appendix section of your application, under “Other Attachments Form,” please list the page number or numbers on which we can find this information. For additional information please see 34 CFR 5.11(c).

2. **Intergovernmental Review:** Most Department competitions are subject to intergovernmental review under Executive Order 12373. If applicable,

information about this process is in the program application package.

3. **Past Performance:** In reviewing applications in any discretionary grant competition, the Secretary may consider the past performance of the applicant in carrying out a previous award, such as the applicant’s use of funds, achievement of project objectives, and compliance with grant conditions. The Secretary may also consider whether the applicant failed to submit a timely performance report or submitted a report of unacceptable quality.

4. **Assurances:** In addition, in making a competitive grant award, the Secretary requires various assurances, including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department.

5. **Risk Assessment and Specific Conditions:** Before awarding grants under this competition, the Department conducts a review of the risks posed by applicants. The Secretary may impose specific conditions and, in appropriate circumstances, high-risk conditions on a grant if the applicant or grantee is not financially stable; has a history of unsatisfactory performance; has a financial or other management system that does not meet the standards in 2 CFR part 200, subpart D; has not fulfilled the conditions of a prior grant; or is otherwise not responsible.

6. **Integrity and Performance Review:** If you are selected to receive an award that over the course of the project period may exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$250,000), we must make a judgment about your integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards—that is, the risk posed by you as an applicant—before we make an award. In doing so, we must consider any information about you that is in the System for Award Management’s (SAM) Responsibility/Qualification reports (formerly referred to as the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)). You may review and comment on any information about yourself that a Federal agency previously entered and that is currently in the Responsibility/Qualification reports in SAM.

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from the Federal Government exceeds \$10,000,000, the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 200, Appendix XII, require you to report certain integrity information to SAM semiannually. Please review these requirements if this

grant plus all the other Federal funds you receive exceed \$10,000,000.

Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we will notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN), or we may send you an email containing a link to access an electronic version of your GAN. We also may notify you informally.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we will notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* Administrative and national policy requirements are identified in the application package and referenced in the *Applicable Regulations* section of the competition's NIA. The regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section of the competition notice include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Open Licensing Requirements:* Unless an exception applies and is identified in the NIA, if you are awarded a grant by the Department, you will be required to openly license to the public grant deliverables created in whole, or in part, with Department grant funds. When the deliverable consists of modifications to pre-existing works, the license extends only to those modifications that can be separately identified and only to the extent that open licensing is permitted under the terms of any licenses or other legal restrictions on the use of pre-existing works. Additionally, a grantee that is awarded competitive grant funds must have a plan to disseminate these public grant deliverables. This dissemination plan can be developed and submitted after your application has been reviewed and selected for funding. For additional information on the open licensing requirements please refer to 2 CFR 3474.20.

4. *Reporting:* (a) If you apply for a grant, you must ensure that you have in place the necessary processes and systems to comply with the reporting requirements should you receive funding under the competition. This does not apply if you have an exception.

(b) At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multiyear award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure

information as directed by the Secretary. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports.

(c) The Secretary may provide a grantee with additional funding for data collection analysis and reporting. In this case the Secretary establishes a data collection period.

5. *Continuations:* When applicable, in making a continuation award, the Secretary considers, among other things: whether a grantee has made substantial progress in achieving the goals and objectives of the project; whether the grantee has expended funds in a manner that is consistent with its approved application and budget; if the Secretary has established performance measurement requirements, whether the grantee has made substantial progress in achieving the performance targets in the grantee's approved application; and whether the continuation of the project is in the best interest of the Federal Government.

In making a continuation award, the Secretary also considers whether the grantee is operating in compliance with the assurances and specific conditions in its approved application, including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department.

Accommodations; Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section in the competition NIA. If the Department provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability in connection with the application process, the individual's application remains subject to all other requirements and limitations in the competition NIA.

On request to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an accessible format. The Department will provide the requestor with an accessible format that may include Rich Text Format (RTF) or text format (txt), a thumb drive, an MP3 file, braille, large print, audiotape, compact disc, or other accessible format.

Murray Bessette.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development.

[FR Doc. 2025-16571 Filed 8-28-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2025-SCC-0023]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students With Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID) Evaluation Protocol

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 29, 2025.

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 Shedita Alston, 202-453-7090.

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