

office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment. The Department of Education 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.

Dated: June 7, 2000.

**John Tressler,**

*Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

**Office of Vocational and Adult Education**

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* New American High Schools Study—Phase I Activities.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:* Responses: 32; Burden Hours: 144.

*Abstract:* The New American High Schools (NAHS) Study is a longitudinal research project. The overall goal of this effort is to document the practices and outcomes of a group of high schools engaged in whole-school improvement efforts in order to inform both policy debate and improve secondary education.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address [OCIO\\_IMG\\_Issues@ed.gov](mailto:OCIO_IMG_Issues@ed.gov) or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request. Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Sheila Carey at (202) 708-6287 or via her internet address [Sheila\\_Carey@ed.gov](mailto:Sheila_Carey@ed.gov). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the

deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 00-14826 Filed 6-12-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-U**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests**

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before August 14, 2000.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment. The Department of Education 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.

Dated: June 7, 2000.

**John Tressler,**

*Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

**Office of Vocational and Adult Education**

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* Mapping Federal Funding to High Schools.

*Frequency:* One time.

*Affected Public:* State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:* Responses: 732; Burden Hours: 3,499.

*Abstract:* The Mapping Federal Funding to High Schools study will attempt to (1) ascertain the percentage of federal funds channeled to high schools; (2) identify specific high schools receiving federal funds; and (3) assess the utilization of the funds by high schools.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address [OCIO\\_IMG\\_Issues@ed.gov](mailto:OCIO_IMG_Issues@ed.gov) or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request. Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Sheila Carey at (202) 708-6287 or via her internet address [Sheila\\_Carey@ed.gov](mailto:Sheila_Carey@ed.gov). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 00-14827 Filed 6-12-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-U**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Recognition of Accrediting Agencies, State Agencies for the Approval of Public Postsecondary Vocational Education, and State Agencies for the Approval of Nurse Education**

**AGENCY:** National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity, Department of Education (The Advisory Committee).

**What Is the Purpose of This Notice?**

The purpose of this notice is to invite written comments on accrediting agencies whose applications to the

Secretary for initial or renewed recognition will be reviewed at the Advisory Committee meeting to be held on December 11–13, 2000. The notice also invites written comments on agencies submitting interim reports that will be reviewed at the December meeting.

#### **Where Should I Submit My Comments?**

Please submit your written comments by July 28, 2000 to Karen Kershenstein, Director, Accreditation and State Liaison. You may contact her at the U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW, 7th Floor, Room 7105, Washington, DC 20006–8509, telephone: (202) 219–7011. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339.

#### **What Is the Authority for the Advisory Committee?**

The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity is established under Section 114 of the Higher Education Act (HEA), as amended, 20 U.S.C. 1011. One of the purposes of the Advisory Committee is to advise the Secretary of Education on the recognition of accrediting agencies and State approval agencies.

#### **Will This Be My Only Opportunity to Submit Written Comments?**

Yes, this notice announces the only opportunity you will have to submit written comments. However, a subsequent **Federal Register** notice will announce the meeting and invite individuals and/or groups to submit requests to make oral presentations before the Advisory Committee on the agencies that the Committee will review. That notice, however, does not offer a second opportunity to submit written comment.

#### **What Happens to the Comments That I Submit?**

We will review your comments, in response to this notice, as part of our evaluation of the agencies' compliance with the Secretary's Criteria for Recognition of Accrediting Agencies. The Criteria are regulations found in 34 CFR Part 602 (for accrediting agencies) and in 34 CFR Part 603 (for State approval agencies).

We will also include your comments in the staff analyses we present to the Advisory Committee at its December 2000 meeting. Therefore, in order for us to give full consideration to your comments, it is important that we receive them by July 28, 2000. In all instances, your comments about agencies seeking initial or continued

recognition must relate to the Criteria for the Recognition. In addition, your comments for any agency whose interim report is scheduled for review must relate to the issues raised and the Criteria for Recognition cited in the Secretary's letter that requested the interim report.

#### **What Happens to Comments Received After the Deadline?**

We will review any comments received after the deadline as complaints. If such comments, upon investigation, reveal that the accrediting agency is not acting in accordance with the Criteria for Recognition, we will take action either before or after the meeting, as appropriate. We will also notify the commentors of the disposition of those comments.

#### **What Agencies Are on the Agenda for the Meeting?**

The Secretary of Education recognizes accrediting agencies and State approval agencies for public postsecondary vocational education and nurse education if the Secretary determines that they meet the Criteria for Recognition. Recognition means that the Secretary considers the agency to be a reliable authority as to the quality of education offered by institutions or programs that are encompassed within the scope of recognition he grants to the agency. The following agencies will be reviewed during the December 2000 meeting of the Advisory Committee:

#### **Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies**

##### *Petition for Initial Recognition*

1. Midwifery Education Accreditation Commission (Requested scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation of direct-entry (non-nurse) midwifery certificate and undergraduate and graduate degree educational programs and institutions offering those types of programs)

2. Teacher Education Accreditation Council (Requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of professional education programs in institutions offering baccalaureate and graduate degrees for the preparation of teachers and other professional personnel for elementary and secondary schools)

##### *Petitions for Renewal of Recognition*

1. American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (Current scope of recognition: the accreditation of clinical training programs in marriage and family therapy at the master's, doctoral,

and postgraduate levels. Requested scope of recognition: the current scope of recognition plus the preaccreditation of clinical training programs in marriage and family therapy at the master's, doctoral, and postgraduate levels [“Candidacy”] of programs)

2. American Bar Association, Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar (Requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of programs in legal education that lead to the first professional degree in law, as well as freestanding law schools offering such programs)

3. Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (Requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of first-professional master's degree and professional master's level certificate and diploma programs in acupuncture and Oriental medicine)

4. Accrediting Commission on Education for Health Services Administration (Requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of graduate programs in health services administration)

5. American Osteopathic Association, Bureau of Professional Education (Requested scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation [“Provisional Accreditation”] of freestanding institutions of osteopathic medicine and programs leading to the degree of Doctor of Osteopathy or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine)

6. American Podiatric Medical Association, Council on Podiatric Medical Education (Requested scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation [“Candidate Status”] of freestanding colleges of podiatric medicine and programs of podiatric medicine, including first professional programs leading to the degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine)

7. Council on Occupational Education (Requested scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation [“Candidate for Accreditation”] of non-degree granting postsecondary occupational/vocational institutions and those postsecondary occupational/vocational education institutions that grant the applied associate degree in specific vocational/occupational fields)

8. National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (Requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of professional education units providing baccalaureate and graduate degree programs for the preparation of teachers and other professional personnel for elementary and secondary schools)

9. New York State Board of Regents (Current scope of recognition: the accreditation [registration] of collegiate

degree-granting programs or curricula offered by institutions of higher education located in the State of New York and of credit-bearing certificate and diploma programs offered by degree-granting institutions of higher education located in the State of New York. Requested scope of recognition: the preaccreditation and accreditation of those degree-granting institutions in New York State that designate the Board of Regents as their sole nationally recognized accrediting agency or as their primary nationally recognized accrediting agency for purposes of establishing eligibility for HEA Title IV funds)

10. North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Executive Board of the Commission on Schools (Requested scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ["Candidate for Accreditation"] of schools offering non-degree, postsecondary education in Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and the Navajo Nation.

*Interim Reports* (An interim report is a follow-up report on an accrediting agency's compliance with specific criteria for recognition that was requested by the Secretary when the Secretary granted renewed recognition to the agency.)

1. Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc.
2. Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training
3. Accreditation Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology
4. Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc.
5. Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, Commission on Accrediting
6. Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education, Commission on Accreditation
7. North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education
8. New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education
9. Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Colleges
10. Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges
11. Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Schools

### State Agencies Recognized for the Approval of Public Postsecondary Vocational Education

#### *Petition for Renewal of Recognition*

1. Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

#### *Interim Report*

1. Missouri State Board of Education

### State Agencies Recognized for the Approval of Nurse Education

#### *Interim Report*

1. Missouri State Board of Nursing
2. New Hampshire Board of Nursing

### Where Can I Inspect Petitions and Third-Party Comments Before and After the Meeting?

All petitions and interim reports, and those third-party comments received in advance of the meeting, will be available for public inspection and copying at the U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW, 7th Floor, Room 7105, Washington, DC 20006-8509, telephone (202) 219-7011 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, until November 17, 2000. They will be available again after the December 11-13 Advisory Committee meeting. It is preferred that an appointment be made in advance of such inspection or copying.

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2.

Dated: June 8, 2000.

**A. Lee Fritschler,**

*Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.*

[FR Doc. 00-14876 Filed 6-12-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Secretary of Energy Advisory Board; Notice of Open Meeting

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces an open meeting of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board's Laboratory Operations Board (LOB). The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770), requires that agencies publish these notices in the **Federal Register** to allow for public participation.

**NAME:** Secretary of Energy Advisory Board—Laboratory Operations Board.

**DATES:** Wednesday, June 21, 2000, 8:30 A.M.—3:15 P.M., Eastern Daylight Time.

**ADDRESSES:** Spallation Neutron Source Project Building, Room 101A, 701 Scarboro Road, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge National

Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Betsy Mullins, Executive Director, or Laurie Keaton, LOB Staff Director, Office of Secretary of Energy Advisory Board (AB-1), US Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20585, (202) 586-7162 or (202) 586-6279 (fax).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the Laboratory Operations Board is to provide independent external advice to the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board regarding the strategic direction of the Department's laboratories, the coordination of budget and policy issues affecting laboratory operations, and the reduction of unnecessary and counterproductive management burdens on the laboratories. The Laboratory Operations Board's goal is to facilitate the productive and cost-effective utilization of the Department's laboratory system and the application of best business practices.

#### **Tentative Agenda**

*Wednesday, June 21, 2000*

- 8:30 a.m.—8:45 a.m. Co-Chairs Opening Remarks
- 8:45 a.m.—9:15 a.m. Legislative Update
- 9:15 a.m.—9:45 a.m. Summary of Lab Director's Meeting
- 9:45 a.m.—10 a.m. Lab Responses to NIF Interim Report
- 10 a.m.—10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:15 a.m.—11:15 a.m. Update on Foreign Visits and Assignments Program
- 11:15 a.m.—11:30 a.m. LOB Terms of Reference
- 11:30 a.m.—12 a.m. LOB Work Plan
- 12 p.m.—1 p.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m.—2 p.m. Lab Stories: Performance-Based Management
- 2 p.m.—3 p.m. Management Initiatives at the Department of Energy Headquarters
- 3 p.m.—3:15 p.m. Public Comment Period
- 3:15 p.m. Adjourn

This tentative agenda is subject to change.

*Public Participation:* In keeping with procedures, members of the public are welcome to monitor the business of the Laboratory Operations Board and to submit written comments or comment during the scheduled public comment period. The meeting will be conducted in a fashion that will, in the Co-Chairs' judgment, facilitate the orderly conduct of business. During its open meeting, the Laboratory Operations Board welcomes public comment. Members of the public will be heard in the order in which they sign up at the beginning of the meeting. The Board will make every effort to hear the views of all interested parties. You may submit written