

(memorandum dated September 30, 1991).

Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

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DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

Pursuant to the provision of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. § 552b), notice is hereby given of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's (Board) meeting described below.

TIME AND DATE OF MEETING: 9:00 a.m., February 3, 1999.

PLACE: The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, Public Hearing Room, 625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20004.

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board will convene the ninth quarterly briefing regarding the status of progress of the activities associated with the Department of Energy's Implementation Plans for the Board's Recommendation 95-2, *Integrated Safety Management* ("ISM") and Recommendation 93-3, *Improving DOE Technical Capability in Defense Nuclear Facilities Programs*. Discussions will include overall ISM implementation status and DOE's response to the Board's March 20, 1998, letter on feedback and improvement programs. Feedback and improvement discussions will focus on acceleration of DOE Policy 450.5, improving the tracking and follow up and lessons learned processes, and implementation of the Functions, Responsibilities, and Authorities Manual (FRAM). DOE will also address Recommendation 93-3 implementation progress, and how DOE's response to this Recommendation is satisfying implementation of Recommendation 95-2, subrecommendation 5.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Richard A. Azzaro, General Counsel, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, 625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20004, (800) 788-4016. This is a toll-free number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board reserves its right to further schedule and otherwise regulate the course of this meeting, to recess, reconvene, postpone or adjourn the meeting, and otherwise

exercise its authority under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Dated: December 22, 1998.

John T. Conway,
Chairman.

[FR Doc. 98-34296 Filed 12-22-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of proposed information collection requests.

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

DATES: An emergency review has been requested in accordance with the Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 3507(j)), since public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal clearance procedures are followed. Approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has been requested by January 11, 1999. A regular clearance process is also beginning. Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before February 22, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding the emergency review should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Danny Werfel, Desk Officer: Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget; 725 17th Street, NW, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503. Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Pat.Sherrill@ed.gov, or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patrick J. Sherrill (202) 708-8196. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Director of OMB provide interested Federal agencies and the

public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Office of Management and Budget (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, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. 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. ED invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

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 respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: December 21, 1998.

Kent H. Hannaman,

Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Postsecondary Education

Type of Review: New.

Title: Application for Anytime Anywhere Partnership (New Grant).

Abstract: The Learning Anytime Anywhere Partnerships is a new grant competition. The information collected will be used by outside reviewers and Department of Education staff to select grant recipients. It is expected that comments will be received from college and university faculty and administrators, higher education associations, software developers and publishers, industry training groups and

other interested organizations and individuals.

Additional Information: This emergency notice is needed to provide funds in a timely manner this fiscal year and to give grantees ample time to complete the application. The normal 60-day comment period for discretionary grants would not be feasible as it would result in a significant delay in awarding grants.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profits; Not-for-profit institutions, State, local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden:

Responses: 500.

Burden Hours: 9,000.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Request for Comments on Agencies applying to the Secretary for Renewed Recognition.

DATES: Commenters should submit their written comments by February 8, 1999, to the address below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karen W. Kershenstein, Director, Accreditation and Eligibility Determination Division, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 3915 ROB-3, Washington, DC 20202-5244, telephone: (202) 708-7417. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUBMISSION OF THIRD-PARTY COMMENTS:

The Secretary of Education recognizes, as reliable authorities as to the quality of education offered by institutions or programs within their scope, accrediting agencies and State approval agencies for public postsecondary vocational education and nurse education that meet certain criteria for recognition. The purpose of this notice is to invite interested third parties to present written comments on the agencies listed in this notice that have applied for continued recognition. A subsequent **Federal Register** notice will announce the meeting and invite individuals and/or groups to submit requests for oral presentation before the National

Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (the "Advisory Committee") on the agencies being reviewed. That notice, however, does not constitute another call for written comment. This notice is the only call for written comment.

All comments received in response to this notice will be reviewed by Department staff as part of its evaluation of the agencies' compliance with the Secretary's Criteria for Recognition. In order for Department staff to give full consideration to the comments received and to address them in the staff analyses that will be presented to the Advisory Committee at its May 1999 meeting, the comments must arrive at the address listed above not later than February 8, 1999, with the exception of the comments for the American Bar Association, Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, for which the deadline for receiving comments is March 1, 1999 since the agency's interim report is not due into the Department until February 15, 1999. Comments received after the specified deadlines will be reviewed by Department staff, which will take action, as appropriate, either before or after the meeting, should the comments suggest that an accrediting agency is not acting in accordance with the Secretary's Criteria for Recognition.

All comments must relate to the Secretary's Criteria for the Recognition of Accrediting Agencies. Comments pertaining to agencies whose interim reports will be reviewed must be restricted to the concerns raised in the Secretary's letter for which the report is requested.

The Advisory Committee advises the Secretary of Education on the recognition of accrediting agencies and State approval agencies. The Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet May 11-13, 1999 in Washington, DC. All written comments in response to this notice that are received by the Department by the specified deadlines will be considered by both the Advisory Committee and the Secretary. Comments received after the specified deadlines, as indicated previously, will be reviewed by Department staff, which will take follow-up action, as appropriate, either before or after the meeting. Commenters whose comments are received after the deadline will be notified by staff of the disposition of those comments.

The following agencies will be reviewed during the May 1999 meeting of the Advisory Committee:

Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies

Petitions for Renewal of Recognition—

1. Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, Commission on Accrediting (Current scope of recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accredited Status") of freestanding institutions, as well as programs affiliated with larger institutions, that offer graduate professional education for ministry and graduate study of theology).

2. Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (requested scope of recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of institutions and graduate programs in Naturopathy that lead to the degree of Doctor of Naturopathy (N.D.) or Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine (N.M.D.).

3. Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education, Commission on Accreditation (requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of Montessori teacher education institutions and programs evaluated by the following review Committees: The American Montessori Society Review Committee and the Independent Review Committee).

4. Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Secondary Schools (requested scope of recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of public vocational/technical schools offering non-degree, postsecondary education in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands).

5. Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Schools (requested scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of adult and postsecondary schools that offer programs below the degree level in California, Hawaii, the United States territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands).

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. American Bar Association, Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar.