

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

Washington, DC 20006-8521

TO: Sharon Mar  
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget

THROUGH: Alan Schiff  
Chief of Staff for Higher  
Education Programs  
Office of Postsecondary Education

FROM: Lynn B. Mahaffie  
Director  
Teacher and Student Development Programs Service

SUBJECT: Request for Approval of the New Application for the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Masters Degree Program – CFDA No. 84.382G

Attached please find the information clearance collection for the new HBCU Masters Degree Program. The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) of 2008 amended Title VII, Subpart 4, of the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965 to add a new masters degree program to advance educational opportunities for African Americans and provided mandatory funding for the program under Title VIII, Part AA, Section 897 of the HEA.

The HBCU Masters Degree Program authorizes the Department of Education (the Department) to award grants to specified institutions that the Department determines are making a substantial contribution to graduate education opportunities for African Americans at the master's level in mathematics, engineering, the physical or natural sciences, computer science, information technology, nursing, allied health or other scientific disciplines. This program provides grants up to six years to establish or strengthen qualified masters degree programs in these fields at eligible institutions. This information collection is necessary to comply with the program statute and make grants under the authority of Title VIII, Part AA, Section 897 and Title VII, Subpart 4, Section 723 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

Applications will be accepted in the first year of the grant program. The information collected in this application allows the Department to evaluate the quality of applications and to ensure accuracy, consistency, and compliance with the program statute and applicable regulations.

Please review these documents for clearance. If additional information is needed, please contact Gary Thomas at 202-502-7767.

Attachments: A. Information Collection Submission Worksheet: Part I  
B. Information Collection Submission Worksheet: Part II  
C. Supporting Statement for Paperwork Reduction Act Submission  
D. Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions  
E. HBCU Application Package (including the program statute and all standard forms).