

MEMORANDUM

OMB # 1850-0803 v.40

DATE: January 6, 2011

TO: Shelly Martinez
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget

FROM: Patricia Etienne
National Center for Education Statistics

THROUGH: Kashka Kubzdela
National Center for Education Statistics

SUBJECT: Response to OMB passback on Cognitive Interview Study of NAEP Core Background Questions

1. As you know, the "going rate" for cog labs is forty dollars and nces provides no justification for the necessity of going above that for the adult participants. Therefore, this amount should be changed.

The remuneration amount for teachers/school administrators has been revised from \$50 to \$40 (see Volume I supporting statement, section 9, page 8).

2. Also, does naep and nces typically cite the adult confidentiality statement in phone scripts then the child version in writing? It seems odd to use the adult version at all in this context.

NCES has been including the confidentiality statement in NAEP correspondence and phone scripts with participants (students and adults). A previous writing cog lab study (April 2010) used the same confidentiality language. We have revised all communication materials to state that the *"answers may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law [Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, 20 U.S.C §9573]."*

3. Finally, much of the rationale for incentivizing children at lower rates than adults is that it is to be at (not above) a level needed to incentivize behavior but not to appear to coerce it. Therefore, we wonder whether children should be told about their parents incentive by nces's contractors during recruiting as it might appear to pressure students to agree to participate.

The text in Appendices B, I, J, and L has been revised to state *"If your parent will bring you to and from the cognitive laboratory site, your parent will also receive a \$25 gift card for their time and effort"*.