The Student Assistance General Provisions regulation was amended by adding Subpart R to 34 CFR Part 668. Subpart R – Program Cohort Default Rates mirrors Subpart N – Cohort Default Rates where applicable. Subpart R established a programmatic cohort default rate (pCDR) for gainful employment (GE) programs, whereas Subpart N established an institutional cohort default rate (iCDR).

On June 16, 2017, the Department of Education (the Department) published a notice in the Federal Register announcing the intention to establish a negotiated rulemaking committee to revise the gainful employment regulations published on October 31, 2014. The Department anticipates scheduling the negotiated rulemaking sessions beginning in November or December 2017.

The Department is requesting an extension without change of burden to the currently approved information collection as any new regulations will not be finalized before the expiration of this current package. There have been no changes to the regulations since the initial collection approval.

Section 668.504(b) – Draft cohort default rates and your ability to challenge before official program cohort default rates are issued, incorrect data challenges.

Under 668.504(b), the institution may challenge the accuracy of the data included on the Loan Record Detail Report (LRDR) by sending an incorrect data challenge to the relevant data manager(s) within 45 days of receipt of the LRDR from the Department. The challenge would include a description of the information in the LRDR that the institution believes is incorrect along with supporting documentation.

Based upon FY 2011 submissions, there were 353 institutional CDR challenges for incorrect data of a total of 510 challenges, requests for adjustments, and appeals, a 69 percent submission rate. Therefore 69 percent of the projected 1,863 challenges, adjustments, and appeals, or 1,285, are projected to be challenges for incorrect data.

We estimate that out of the likely 1,285 submissions, 1,182 (92 percent) would be from for-profit institutions. We estimate that the average institutional staff time needed to review a GE program's LRDR for each of these 1,182 programs and to gather and prepare incorrect data challenges would be 4 hours (1.5 hours for list review and 2.5 hours for documentation submission). Burden remains 4,728 hours under OMB Control Number 1845-0121.

Section 668.509 - Uncorrected data adjustments.

An institution may request an uncorrected data adjustment for the most recent cohort of borrowers used to calculate a GE program's most recent official pCDR, if in response to the institution's incorrect data challenge, a data manager agreed to change data but the changes were not reflected in the official pCDR.

Based upon FY 2011 submissions, there were 116 uncorrected data adjustments of the total 510 challenges, requests for adjustments, and appeals. Therefore, 23 percent of the projected 943 challenges, adjustments, and appeals (based on possible loss of eligibility) or 217 are projected to be uncorrected data adjustments. We estimate that the average institutional staff time needed is 1 hour for list review and 0.5 hours for documentation submission, for a total of 1.5 hours.

We estimate that 200 (92 percent) of the 217 projected uncorrected data adjustments will be from for-profit institutions. Burden at for-profit institutions remains 300 hours (200 adjustments times 1.5 hours) under OMB Control Number 1845-0121.

Section 668.510 – New data adjustments.

An institution may request a new data adjustment for the most recent cohort of borrowers used to calculate the most recent official pCDR for a GE program, if a comparison of the LRDR for the draft rates and the LRDR for the official rates show that data have been newly included, excluded, or otherwise changed and the errors are confirmed by the data manager.

Based upon FY 2011 submissions, there were 12 new data adjustments of the total 510 challenges, requests for adjustments, and appeals. Therefore, 2 percent of the projected 943 challenges, adjustments, and appeals (based on possible sanction) or 19 are projected to be new data adjustments. We estimate that the average institutional staff time needed is 3 hours for list review and 1 hour for documentation submission, for a total of 4 hours.

We estimate that 17 (92 percent) of the 19 projected new data adjustments would be from for-profit institutions. Burden at for-profit institutions remains 68 hours (17 adjustments times 4 hours) under OMB Control Number 1845-0121.

Section 668.512 Loan Servicing appeals.

An institution may appeal the calculation of a pCDR on the basis of improper loan servicing or collection.

Based upon FY 2011 submissions, there were 19 loan servicing appeals of the total 510 challenges, requests for adjustments, and appeals. Therefore, 4 percent or 38 of the projected 943 challenges, adjustments, and appeals are projected to be loan servicing appeals. We estimate that, on average, to gather, analyze, and submit the necessary documentation, each appeal would take 3 hours.

We estimate that 35 (92 percent) of the 38 projected loan servicing appeals would be from for-profit institutions. Burden at for-profit institutions remains 105 hours (35 servicing appeals times 3 hours) under OMB Control Number 1845-0121.

TOTALS

Responses 1,434 Respondents 1,434 Burden Hours 5,201