



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF PLANNING, EVALUATION AND POLICY EDUCATION

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

TO: Mr. Paul Ray
Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

THROUGH: Stephanie Valentine
Information Technology Program Services
U.S. Department of Education

FROM: Jim Blew
Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development

SUBJECT: Emergency Clearance of Information Collections in Presidential Cybersecurity
Education Award

The U.S. Department of Education (Department) plans to issue a new System of Records Notice (SORN) for the Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award pursuant to Executive Order 13870 of May 2, 2019, as published in the Federal Register at 84 Fed. Reg. 20,523 – 20,527 (May 9, 2019) (Executive Order 13870).¹ The Department, in consultation with the Deputy Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism and the National Science Foundation, has developed and will implement, consistent with applicable law, an annual Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award to be presented to one elementary and one secondary school educator per year. The Department will solicit nominations for the two individual educators who will be awarded this Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award.

The SORN defines the routine uses of records maintained in the system including categories of users and purposes of such uses. The SORN will need to be approved by OMB and Congress before it publishes in the Federal Register for public comment. Should the Department receive any public comments, the Department will thoroughly consider them and incorporate into the SORN as appropriate. Should any changes be made to the SORN based on the public comments, the Department will publish the final SORN in the Federal Register. In the future, should the Department want to make any updates to this SORN, the Department will publish a new notice and seek public comment again.

¹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-americas-cybersecurity-workforce/>
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Additionally, the Rules, Terms, and Conditions of the Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award include information on the following: purpose of the Award, eligibility, definitions, nomination process, information requested on educator being nominated, instructions to nominators, review criteria, selection process, where to go for technical assistance, the authority of the Award, and the privacy act statement.

Emergency Request

The Rules, Terms, and Conditions of the Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award contain information collection activities covered under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). The activities consist of: (1) a new nomination for educators themselves or others nominating educators to submit to the Department to apply for the 2020 Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award; (2) the reporting of specific educator-level data on the educator's demonstrated accomplishments related to teaching about cybersecurity or cybersecurity-related subjects and academic achievement of students; and (3) instructions for educators themselves or others nominating educators to submit nominations to the Department to be considered for the Award (including a letter of reference).

The Executive Order 13870 specifically states that “within 1 year of the date of this order” (May 2, 2019), the Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award be presented to one elementary and one secondary school educator who best instill skills, knowledge, and passion with respect to cybersecurity or cybersecurity-related subjects. The Award recognizes those educators who have deep content knowledge of cybersecurity as well as the ability to educate and prepare students for achievement in cybersecurity careers and educational pathways. Educators from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and each of the outlying areas—American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands—the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools, and tribes are eligible to apply or be nominated.

In recognition of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, the Department plans to announce the Award on October 1, 2019. However, the Department must wait until the SORN is published in the Federal Register to accept nominations. The Department anticipates that the SORN should be published by December 2019, at which point nominations can be submitted to the Department. The nomination period will close January 31, 2020. By announcing in October, this allows nominators more time to put together the information required to submit nominations. The Department will prompt nominators to refer to the website (still under construction) for updated details on when nominations can be submitted to the Department. Between February and April 2020, the Department will conduct an internal review of the nominations, recommend one elementary and one secondary awardee to the Department of Education's Office of the Secretary, and awardees will be recognized during Teacher Appreciation Week in May 2020. This quick timeline will ensure meeting the President of the United States' Executive Order 13870 directive to make awards within one year of the Order being signed.

The Department is requesting emergency approval to ensure prompt implementation of the Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award, which is critical to its success and meeting the

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timeline in the Executive Order. Specifically, emergency approval will permit the nomination process to begin; otherwise, less time will be available to educators and nominators of educators to submit their nominations and burden on them could increase. In sum, following the regular clearance schedule without emergency approval would delay the implementation of the Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award program and not fulfill the President of the United States' Executive Order 13870.

The Department requests approval by September 20, 2019. Thank you for your prompt consideration of this request. If you have questions, please contact Jean Morrow of my staff at (202) 453-7233 or Jean.Morrow@ed.gov.

Sincerely,



James Blew, Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development
U.S. Department of Education
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