



October 15, 2021

Sharon Block
Acting Administrator
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Ms. Block:

Pursuant to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) procedures established at 5 CFR Part 1320, *Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public*, I request that the proposed information collection project, “COVID-19 Symptom Tracker for Students, Emotional Wellness Form for Students, and Student Vaccination Status and Test Consent Form Collection (OMB 1205-0NEW),” be processed as an Emergency Clearance Request, in accordance with section 5 CFR § 1320.13, Emergency Processing. I have determined that this information must be collected prior to the time periods established under Part 1320 of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) and that this information is essential to the mission of the Department’s Employment and Training Administration (ETA) to collect data on Job Corps students to ensure their safety and provide them with appropriate healthcare during their time in the program. U.S. Department of Labor regulations for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)—Job Corps’ authorizing statute—require Job Corps to provide medical, dental, and mental health care services to students during the program. 20 C.F.R. § 686.530(d).

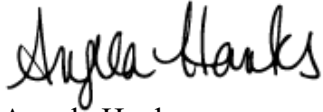
Job Corps provides education and jobs training to a unique cross-section of opportunity youth, including those who did not complete high school or who are basic skills deficient, parents, or victims of human trafficking. Job Corps largely serves this population in a residential setting. COVID-19 is a highly dangerous communicable disease, which can spread easily through residential programs like Job Corps. Additionally, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic—and the protections needed to avoid illness—have had a profound negative mental health impact on many Job Corps students. In sum, the aforementioned forms collect information critical to detecting COVID-19 and preventing its spread to students and staff, determining how to best protect students based on vaccination status, and identifying warning signs that a student is in distress due to the mental toil of the COVID-19 pandemic. ETA cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures under the PRA as ETA has an urgent necessity to collect this information from Job Corps students to assess and prevent the potential spread of COVID-19.

Therefore, ETA requests a 180-day emergency clearance to establish the “COVID-19 Symptom Tracker for Students, Emotional Wellness Form for Students, and Student Vaccination Status and Test Consent Form Collection (OMB 1205-0NEW)” to capture the impact of COVID-19 amongst the Job Corps students and ensure adequate prevention and

containment measures. During the 180-day approval, ETA will work to establish a regular clearance submission of this data collection.

Please provide an approval/disapproval determination of this request to collect information under an emergency clearance by close of business on October 22, 2021.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Hanks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Angela Hanks
Acting Assistant Secretary