

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT  
FOR PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION**

FFEL Administrative Requirements for States, Not-for-Profit Lenders and Eligible Lender  
Trustees

- 1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. What is the purpose for this information collection? Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection. Include a citation that authorizes the collection of information. Specify the review type of the collection (new, revision, extension, reinstatement with change, reinstatement without change). If revised, briefly specify the changes. If a rulemaking is involved, list the sections with a brief description of the information collection requirement, and/or changes to sections, if applicable.**

This request is for the extension of a current paperwork collection in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number 1845-0085 for the reporting requirement contained in the regulations for States, not-for-profit lenders and eligible lender trustees under [34 CFR 682.302](#) for the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program. Section 682.302 contains information collection requirements. The information collection requirements are necessary to determine or recertify eligibility to receive program benefits and to prevent fraud and abuse of program funds. As required under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507(d)), the Department of Education (the Department) is including a link above to this section of the regulations to OMB for its review.

The Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program, while no longer making new loans, continues to require servicing of existing loans held by lenders and servicers. The current regulations include program administration for State and not-for-profit loan holders. These regulations are designed to reduce administrative burden for program participants, provide benefits to borrowers, and protect the taxpayers' interest.

**Sections 682.302 - Eligible Not For Profit Holder.**

The regulations in §682.302 require a State, non-profit entity, or eligible lender trustee to provide to the Secretary a certification on the State or non-profit entity's letterhead signed by the State or non-profit's Chief Executive Officer which states the basis upon which the entity qualifies as a State or non-profit entity. The submission must include documentation establishing the entity's State or non-profit status. In addition, the submission must include the name and lender identification number for which the eligible not-for-profit designation is being certified.

Once an entity has been approved as an eligible not-for-profit holder, the entity must provide to the Secretary an annual certification on the State or non-profit entity's letterhead signed by the CEO, which includes the name and lender identification number(s) of the entities for which designation is being recertified. The annual

certification must state that the State or non-profit entity has not altered its status as a State or non-profit entity since its prior certification to the Secretary and that it continues to satisfy the requirements of an eligible not-for-profit holder either in its own right or through a trust agreement with an eligible lender trustee.

When an approved not-for-profit holder has a change in status, within 10 days of becoming aware of the occurrence of a change that may result in a State or non-profit entity that has been designated an eligible not-for-profit holder, either directly or through an eligible lender trustee, losing that eligibility, the State or non-profit entity must submit details of the change to the Secretary.

- 2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.**

The 2007 College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRAA) added a category of “eligible not-for-profit holder” to the Higher Education Act (HEA) at section 435(p), 20 U.S.C. § 1085(p). Entities that met the definition as an eligible not-for-profit holder are subject to different special allowance formula. The Department is responsible for reviewing the annual certification of applications for not-for-profit eligibility status to ensure that only those entities that meet the definition are allowed to continue to receive this benefit. The regulatory information allows such an assessment. The reporting requirements are imposed to assure accountability of program participants for proper program administration and to justify the payment of funds by the federal government. Not collecting the information described could result in improper payments.

- 3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision of adopting this means of collection. Please identify systems or websites used to electronically collect this information. Also describe any consideration given to using technology to reduce burden. If there is an increase or decrease in burden related to using technology (e.g. using an electronic form, system or website from paper), please explain in number 12.**

To comply with the regulations, a State, not-for-profit entity, or an eligible lender trustee must submit copies of signed documents, originally or e-signed documents (such as attestations), and annual certifications for approval. If an entity’s status changes required contact with the Department it could be made electronically.

- 4. Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purposes described in Item 2 above.**

A review of procedures indicates that current requirements are minimal and avoid duplication. This review was done in conjunction with affected parties who have a vested interest in eliminating duplication.

5. **If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities, describe any methods used to minimize burden. A small entity may be (1) a small business which is deemed to be one that is independently owned and operated and that is not dominant in its field of operation; (2) a small organization that is any not-for-profit enterprise that is independently owned and operated and is not dominant in its field; or (3) a small government jurisdiction, which is a government of a city, county, town, township, school district, or special district with a population of less than 50,000.**

No small businesses are impacted by this collection.

6. **Describe the consequences to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently, as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.**

Reporting requirements are imposed to assure accountability of program participants for proper program administration and less frequent collection could impair accountability of program participants.

7. **Explain any special circumstances that would cause an information collection to be conducted in a manner:**
- **requiring respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly;**
  - **requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it;**
  - **requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document;**
  - **requiring respondents to retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years;**
  - **in connection with a statistical survey, that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results than can be generalized to the universe of study;**
  - **requiring the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB;**
  - **that includes a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in statute or regulation, that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or that unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use; or**
  - **requiring respondents to submit proprietary trade secrets, or other confidential information unless the agency can demonstrate that it has**

**instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.**

The collection of this information will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5(d) (2). There are no special circumstances.

- 8. As applicable, state that the Department has published the 60 and 30 Federal Register notices as required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB.**

**Include a citation for the 60 day comment period (e.g. Vol. 84 FR ##### and the date of publication). Summarize public comments received in response to the 60 day notice and describe actions taken by the agency in response to these comments. Specifically address comments received on cost and hour burden. If only non-substantive comments are provided, please provide a statement to that effect and that it did not relate or warrant any changes to this information collection request. In your comments, please also indicate the number of public comments received.**

**For the 30 day notice, indicate that a notice will be published. Describe efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instruction and record keeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.**

**Consultation with representatives of those from whom information is to be obtained or those who must compile records should occur at least once every 3 years – even if the collection of information activity is the same as in prior periods. There may be circumstances that may preclude consultation in a specific situation. These circumstances should be explained.**

These regulations were made under negotiated rulemaking in 2008 and have not been changed since that time.

On May 12, 2023, a notice was published in the Federal Register (Vol. 88, No. 92, pages 30732-30733 inviting public comment on the burden estimates in this information collection. Two comments were received which were outside the scope of this collection. No changes have been made to the form, or number of respondents/responses/burden hours.

We are now requesting the 30-day Federal Register Notice inviting public comment.

- 9. Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees with meaningful justification.**

No payments or gifts will be provided to the respondents.

- 10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy. If personally identifiable information (PII) is being collected, a Privacy Act statement should be included on the instrument. Please provide a citation for the Systems of Record Notice and the date a Privacy Impact Assessment was completed as indicated on the IC Data Form. A confidentiality statement with a legal citation that authorizes the pledge of confidentiality should be provided.<sup>1</sup> If the collection is subject to the Privacy Act, the Privacy Act statement is deemed sufficient with respect to confidentiality. If there is no expectation of confidentiality, simply state that the Department makes no pledge about the confidentiality of the data. If no PII will be collected, state that no assurance of confidentiality is provided to respondents. If the Paperwork Burden Statement is not included physically on a form, you may include it here. Please ensure that your response per respondent matches the estimate provided in number 12.**

There is no assurance of confidentiality provided to the non-profit entities for the submission of this information.

- 11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private. The justification should include the reasons why the agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.**

The Department is not requesting any sensitive data.

- 12. Provide estimates of the hour burden for this current information collection request. The statement should:**

- **Provide an explanation of how the burden was estimated, including identification of burden type: recordkeeping, reporting or third party disclosure. Address changes in burden due to the use of technology (if applicable). Generally, estimates should not include burden hours for customary and usual business practices.**
- **Please do not include increases in burden and respondents numerically in this table. Explain these changes in number 15.**
- **Indicate the number of respondents by affected public type (federal government, individuals or households, private sector – businesses or other for-**

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<sup>1</sup> Requests for this information are in accordance with the following ED and OMB policies: Privacy Act of 1974, OMB Circular A-108 – Privacy Act Implementation – Guidelines and Responsibilities, OMB Circular A-130 Appendix I – Federal Agency Responsibilities for Maintaining Records About Individuals, OMB M-03-22 – OMB Guidance for Implementing the Privacy Provisions of the E-Government Act of 2002, OMB M-06-15 – Safeguarding Personally Identifiable Information, OM:6-104 – Privacy Act of 1974 (Collection, Use and Protection of Personally Identifiable Information)

**profit, private sector – not-for-profit institutions, farms, state, local or tribal governments), frequency of response, annual hour burden. Unless directed to do so, agencies should not conduct special surveys to obtain information on which to base hour burden estimates. Consultation with a sample (fewer than 10) of potential respondents is desirable.**

- **If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form and aggregate the hour burden in the table below.**
- **Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents of the hour burdens for collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage rate categories. [Use this site](#) to research the appropriate wage rate. The cost of contracting out or paying outside parties for information collection activities should not be included here. Instead, this cost should be included in Item 14. If there is no cost to respondents, indicate by entering 0 in the chart below and/or provide a statement.**

Current burden for OMB 1845-0085

NOT-FOR-PROFITS	27 respondents/responses x 1 hour burden = 27 hours
STATES	16 respondents/responses x 1 hour burden = 16 hours
Total:	43 respondents/responses x 1 hour burden = 43 hours

Recalculated amount of burden for State and Not-for-profit entities:

15 - States submitting documentation	15 responses
Average time to complete the submission	1.0 hour
Total time to complete the submissions	15 hours
20 - 501(c) (3) non-profit entities submitting documentation	20 responses
Average time to complete the submission	1.0 hour
Total time to complete the submissions	20 hours

Revised burden for §682.305

Total number of respondents	35
Total number of responses	35
Total hours of revised burden:	35 hours

The estimated cost to the public will be approximately \$1,085. This was determined by multiplying the estimated number of respondent's (35), times the number of responses per respondent (1), times the number of hours it takes to collect, complete, review, submit and maintain the form (1.00), times an average hourly wage of \$31 per hour.

### Estimated Annual Burden and Respondent Costs Table

Information Activity or IC (with type of respondent)	Number of Respondents	Number of Responses	Average Burden Hours per Response	Total Annual Burden Hours	Estimated Respondent Average Hourly Wage	Total Annual Costs (hourly wage x total burden hours)
Individual						
For-Profit Institutions						
Private Institutions	20	20	1	20	\$31.00	\$620.00
Public Institutions	15	15	1	15	\$31.00	\$465.00
Annualized Totals	35	35		35		\$1,085.00

*Please ensure the annual total burden, respondents and response match those entered in IC Data Parts 1 and 2, and the response per respondent matches the Paperwork Burden Statement that must be included on all forms.*

- 13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to respondents or record keepers resulting from the collection of information. (Do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in Items 12 and 14.)**
- **The cost estimate should be split into two components: (a) a total capital and start-up cost component (annualized over its expected useful life); and (b) a total operation and maintenance and purchase of services component. The estimates should take into account costs associated with generating, maintaining, and disclosing or providing the information. Include descriptions of methods used to estimate major cost factors including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, the discount rate(s), and the time period over which costs will be incurred. Capital and start-up costs include, among other items, preparations for collecting information such as purchasing computers and software; monitoring, sampling, drilling and testing equipment; and acquiring and maintaining record storage facilities.**
  - **If cost estimates are expected to vary widely, agencies should present ranges of cost burdens and explain the reasons for the variance. The cost of contracting out information collection services should be a part of this cost burden estimate. In developing cost burden estimates, agencies may consult with a sample of respondents (fewer than 10), utilize the 60-day pre-OMB submission public comment process and use existing economic or regulatory impact analysis associated with the rulemaking containing the information collection, as appropriate.**
  - **Generally, estimates should not include purchases of equipment or services, or portions thereof, made: (1) prior to October 1, 1995, (2) to achieve regulatory compliance with requirements not associated with the information collection, (3) for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the**

government or (4) as part of customary and usual business or private practices. Also, these estimates should not include the hourly costs (i.e., the monetization of the hours) captured above in Item 12.

Total Annualized Capital/Startup Cost :  
 Total Annual Costs (O&M) : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Annualized Costs Requested :

There are no additional costs.

14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government. Also, provide a description of the method used to estimate cost, which should include quantification of hours, operational expenses (such as equipment, overhead, printing, and support staff), and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information. Agencies also may aggregate cost estimates from Items 12, 13, and 14 in a single table.

There are no additional costs to the Federal government as a result of the regulations.

15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments. Generally, adjustments in burden result from re-estimating burden and/or from economic phenomenon outside of an agency's control (e.g., correcting a burden estimate or an organic increase in the size of the reporting universe). Program changes result from a deliberate action that materially changes a collection of information and generally are result of new statute or an agency action (e.g., changing a form, revising regulations, redefining the respondent universe, etc.). Burden changes should be disaggregated by type of change (i.e., adjustment, program change due to new statute, and/or program change due to agency discretion), type of collection (new, revision, extension, reinstatement with change, reinstatement without change) and include totals for changes in burden hours, responses and costs (if applicable).

Provide a descriptive narrative for the reasons of any change in addition to completing the table with the burden hour change(s) here.

	Program Change Due to New Statute	Program Change Due to Agency Discretion	Change Due to Adjustment in Agency Estimate
Total Burden			-8
Total Responses			-8
Total Costs (if applicable)			

This is a request for an extension of the current collection package. The burden decrease of 8 hours is due to a corresponding decrease in the number of participants. The recalculated burden is now 35 hours based on 35 respondents with a single annual



1 hour response. There has been no change in the regulations or the information required to be provided to the Department.

- 16. For collections of information whose results will be published, outline plans for tabulation and publication. Address any complex analytical techniques that will be used. Provide the time schedule for the entire project, including beginning and ending dates of the collection of information, completion of report, publication dates, and other actions.**

The results of the collection of information will not be published.

- 17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.**

The Department is not seeking this approval.

- 18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in the Certification of Paperwork Reduction Act.**

The Department is not requesting any exceptions to the "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions" of OMB Form 83-1.