

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)

Summary of Public Comments on

Proposed Changes to the 2024 Annual Performance Report (APR)

Following 30 Day Review Period

On November 21, 2023, the Department of Education (Department) published a Notice of Proposed Information Collection Request (Notice) in the Federal Register inviting comments by December 21, 2023, on the proposed annual performance report (APR) for the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) program. One respondent submitted comments and a summary of our responses is below.

RESPONSES TO COMMENTS

COMMENT: Commenter requested that question 13c be delayed for two years.

RESPONSE: No changes made. Question 13c is for any applicant that received a waiver of the scholarship requirement in 2019 or later. Beginning in 2019, the application package required waiver applicants to describe how eligible students would receive scholarships through other means and let them know that they would have to report on the number of students who received scholarships and the average amount disbursed. The question also provides flexibility for estimates to be provided.

COMMENT: Commenter requested that question 13d be removed.

RESPONSE: No changes made. Question 13d is for any applicant that received a waiver of the scholarship requirement in 2023 or later. The information requested is consistent with what those grantees had to provide in their waiver application. The question also provides flexibility for estimates to be provided.

COMMENT: Commenter requested that question 28 remains optional.

RESPONSE: This change was made.

COMMENT: Commenter requested that questions 37 and 39 be optional in the first year of implementation.

RESPONSE: This change was made, and these questions are optional for 2024.

COMMENT: Commenter requested that questions 36 and 37 be changed to mirror the format in the Final Performance Report to include the unduplicated count.

RESPONSE: This change was made.

COMMENT: Commenter asked that we ensure consistency between the on-line and paper versions.

RESPONSE: The paper version and the on-line version will be consistent, and respondents will be allowed to overwrite pre-populated data on the applicable questions.