

## **Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2027 Science Pilot 30-day Clearance Package**

Department is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

*Title of Collection:* National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2027 Science Pilot 30-day Clearance Package

*OMB Control Number:* 1850-0928.

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved ICR.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* Individuals and Households; State, Local, and Tribal Governments

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 17,960.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 10,790.

*Abstract:* The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), is a federally authorized survey of student achievement at grades 4, 8, and 12 in various subject areas, such as mathematics, reading, writing, science, U.S. history, and civics. The National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act (Pub. L. 107-279, title III, section 303) requires the assessment to collect data on specified student groups and characteristics, including information organized by race/ethnicity, sex, socio-economic status, disability, and limited English proficiency. It requires fair and accurate presentation of achievement data and permits the collection of background, noncognitive, or descriptive information that is related to academic achievement and aids in fair reporting of results. The intent of the law is to provide representative sample data on student achievement for the nation, the states, and subpopulations of students and to monitor progress over time. NAEP consists of two assessment programs: the NAEP long-term trend (LTT) assessment and the main NAEP assessment. The LTT assessments are given at the national level only and are administered to students at ages 9, 13, and 17 in a manner that is very different from that used for the main NAEP assessments. LTT reports mathematics and reading results that present trend data since the 1970s. LTT does not provide scores for individual students or schools. In addition to the operational assessments, NAEP also uses pilot assessments, which test items and

*procedures for future administrations of NAEP.*

*The purpose of this 30-day Clearance Package request (OMB# 1850-0928 v.39) is to conduct the NAEP Grade 8 Science Pilot in 2027. Following completion of the 30-day Federal Register posting of the 2027 Clearance Package, one Amendment will follow, expected in summer 2026.*

*This package contains a combination of final and draft materials to be used in the 2027 data collection. Specifically, this 30-Day Clearance Package includes the following:*

- 1. Part A: the supporting statement outlining the purpose and scope, participants, updates to burden hours, and costs to the Federal Government,*
- 2. Part B: additional supporting information about the data collection including potential respondent universe, sample design, sampling and weighting procedures, etc.,*
- 3. Appendix A: standing committees and their members,*
- 4. Appendix B: 2022 weighting procedures,*
- 5. Appendix C: 2026 sampling memo,*
- 6. Appendix D: draft and final 2027 communication and recruitment materials,*
- 7. Appendix E: draft 2027 preassessment and assessment day feedback forms for school coordinators,*
- 8. Appendix G: 2022 NAEP sample design,*
- 9. Appendix I: draft and final 2027 Assessment Management System (AMS) screens,*
- 10. Appendices J1, J2, J3: previously approved core, science, and debrief survey questionnaire items for students, teachers, and school administrators.*

*As of April 2025, NCES's assurances of confidentiality protections for NAEP 2027 have changed due to staffing changes at the Department of Education. NCES has removed the Foundations of Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018, Title III, Part B, Confidential Information Protection ("CIPSEA") as a confidentiality assurance. However, confidentiality assurances under the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (ESRA) remain in effect.*