

Docket: ED-2026-SCC-1090

Formula Grant EASIE Electronic Application System for Indian Education

Comment On: ED-2026-SCC-1090-0001

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Formula Grant EASIE  
Electronic Application System for Indian Education

Document: ED-2026-SCC-1090-0004

Comment on FR Doc # 2026-06548

Submitter Information Email: carl.bryan@dpi.wi.gov

Government Agency Type: State

Government Agency: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Program Office Comments

**(1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department?**

WDPI views the proposed information collection as a valuable resource for not only the Department, but also for school districts, state education agencies, Tribal education departments and those who support the education of American Indian students. We believe the data gathered through this process can meaningfully support efforts to improve educational outcomes for Native students in public school districts, their Tribal Nations and communities. The data reported promotes accountability by ensuring that services provided align with submitted budgets and proposed educational plans.

The required completion of the Indian Parent Committee (IPC) Approval form helps ensure that the local education agencies (LEA) develop projects with the participation and written approval of an IPC and develop meaningful consultation and ongoing collaboration with nearby Tribal Nations. Since the majority of teachers of American Indian students tend not to be Indigenous themselves, it is important that the educators have access to a source of authentic and reliable information about the cultures of the American Indian students they teach and families they work with.

**Response:** The Department affirms that this collection of information is both appropriate and essential.

**(2) Will this information be processed and used in a timely manner?**

As WDPI is not an eligible grant recipient, we are unable to provide feedback on the processing and use of this information.

**Response:** No Comment.

**(3) Is the estimate of burden accurate ?**

As WDPI is not an eligible grant recipient, we are unable to provide feedback on the estimated burden for this information collection or on the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.

**Response:** No Comment.

**(4) How might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected ?**

To further enhance this program, the WDPI encourages the Department to track how the collected information is used within the Department, in order to identify any data elements that may be unnecessary. Additionally, sharing the data collected with the submitting American Indian Education programs can help improve the accuracy of the submission, as the grant submitters can better understand the importance and utility of the information collected. By improving the accuracy, relevance, and clarity of the data, and by adopting more efficient technological solutions, the agency can reduce administrative burdens for those submitting the information. This approach not only streamlines program management but also strengthens the program's overall impact, ensuring it continues to meet the evolving needs of the students.

With this year's newly emphasized requirement that grantees share their grant proposals with their state education agency's Indian Education contact, we have seen the amount of data entry required, and do feel that the actual amount of data required is not overwhelmingly burdensome. The use of prepopulated drop down menus helps speed up the process of entering the required information.

**Response:** The Department affirms that collected data is aligned with statutory requirements. The updated application ensures State Education Agency (SEA) review is included in the formula grantmaking process.

**(5) How might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology?**

The WDPI values the collection and use of current, relevant information to guide the management and improvement of grant programs and educational initiatives. However, gathering this data efficiently can be challenging. Simplifying data entry portals or sites to be clear, straightforward, and user-friendly could help streamline the data collection process.

The WDPI is dedicated to improving educational outcomes for all students in Wisconsin, including American Indian students attending schools across the state. While the WDPI does not have any general supervisory responsibilities for Indian education programs such as those funded by the Formula Grant for Indian Education, it supports efforts to meet the educational needs of American Indian students, Tribal Nations, and communities.

**Response:** The Department seeks to minimize burden on respondents by using prepopulated fields, streamlined forms, and enhanced digital submission systems.