
**SUPPORTING STATEMENT
FOR PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION**

Application for Grants under the Historically Black Graduate Institutions (HBGI) Program
(CFDA No: 84.031K)

A. Justification

- 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.**

The Office of Postsecondary Education is requesting a reinstatement of the previously-approved application package for the Historically Black Graduate Institutions (HBGI) program, which expired on August 31, 2025. The new application is needed to make non-competing continuation (NCC) awards in fiscal year (FY) 2026 using the Phase I data collection process, **required by legislation to calculate awards annually**. The collection of the information requested in the proposed application under Section 326, Part B of Title III and [eCFR: 34 CFR Part 609 -- Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions Program](#) (hyperlink provided) requires the Secretary to collect Phase I formula data annually from eligible HBGIs to determine funding allotments. Submission and collection of Phase II of the application process occur once at the beginning of each five-year cycle when the institution submits its five-year Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) and the submission of revised budgets for continuing HBGIs. The program will begin a new grant cycle in FY 2029.

The HBGI program provides financial assistance to establish or strengthen the academic resources, endowment building capacity, management capabilities, and physical plants of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Section §326 of Title III, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) and the governing regulations (34 CFR Part 609) require the collection of information identified in the application package. The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 increased the number of HBGIs or Qualified Graduate Programs (QGP) by six (6); therefore, the number of eligible HBGIs is now 24. The applicable program legislation and regulations are as follows:

Legislation

- Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended; Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities; Title III, Part B, Section 326 ([20 U.S.C. 1063B](#))

Regulations

- [34 CFR Part 609](#)

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- [Education Department General Administrative Regulations](#) (EDGAR), Parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99

Since OMB's last review and approval of the package, the application has been updated to include only the program-specific forms required for this collection. All standard forms that have already been approved by OMB and are not unique to this information collection, as well as additional information not directly related to the program-specific forms associated with this program, have been removed from the collection.

- 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.**

Phase I of the application process requires that HBGIs provide numerical data to determine grant awards according to a Congressionally-mandated formula. After submitting the required Phase I data, the HBGI applicants are notified of their annual award amount based on the data received, aggregated, and calculated from all eligible applicants.

In Phase II, the HBGIs submit a detailed project plan that includes legislatively allowable activities and measurable objectives designed to strengthen administration, financial management, academic programs, and instructional facilities. Program staff reviews the institutions' objectives to determine compliance with legislative intent, regulatory requirements, and sound educational principles.

- 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.**

The HBGI program's collection of information will be 100% electronic, thereby minimizing paperwork burden to the fullest.

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

The information submitted in each application is unique to each respondent. Moreover, the information changes annually. No other existing information collection can serve the purposes described in item 2.

- 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.

Not applicable – small businesses or other small entities are not 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.

All eligible HBGIs that seek assistance under this program must submit the required data that will be applied to a formula, which calculates individual awards for the HBGIs and professional schools. If this information is not collected or collected less frequently, the programs cannot meet their statutory requirements and cannot make awards.

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.

There are no special circumstances that would require the collection to be conducted as outlined above in question 7.

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

The Department will publish the applicable 30-day Federal Register notice required for public comment. Additionally, annual consultations and reviews have occurred with representatives of the HBGIs regarding the data collection instrument, and instructions have been provided during annual technical assistance workshops for all grantees and during individual on-site visits.

- 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 are provided.

- 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.¹ If the collection is**

¹ 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

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.

The Department's disclosure policies adhere to the provisions of the Privacy Act and no assurances of confidentiality are provided.

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.

Questions of a sensitive nature are not included in this information collection.

12. Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information. 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-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.

Provide a descriptive narrative here in addition to completing the table below with burden hour estimates.

The estimated burden hours for this collection vary by data collection phase and year of the collection cycle.

Estimated burden hours for the Phase I data collection = 16 hours (Years 1-3)

Estimated burden hours for the Phase II data collection = 80 hours (Year 1) and 40 hours (Years 2-3)

Estimated Annual Burden and Respondent Costs Table

Information Activity or IC (with type of respondent)	Sample Size (if applicable)	Respondent Response Rate (if applicable)	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)
Phase I – Public (Years 1- 3)	N/A	N/A	17	17	16	272	\$85/hour	\$23,120.00
Phase I – Private (Years 1- 3)	N/A	N/A	7	7	16	112		\$9,520.00
Phase II – Public (Year 1)	N/A	N/A	17	17	80	1,360		\$115,600.00
Phase II – Private (Year 1)	N/A	N/A	7	7	80	560		\$47,600.00
Phase II – Public (Years 2 -3)	N/A	N/A	17	17	40	680		\$57,800.00
Phase II – Private (Years 2-3)	N/A	N/A	7	7	40	280		\$23,800.00

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.

Estimated Average Annual Burden Hours

Year	Number of Hours per Respondent	Number of Responses per Respondent	Total Number of Responses
Year 1	96	2	48
Year 2	56	2	48
Year 3	56	2	48
Total	208	6	144
Average over three years	69	2	48

208 hours divided by 3 years = 69.3 average annual burden hours per respondent each year

208 hours divided by 6 responses = 34.7 average burden hours per response across three years

48 average responses per year x 34.7 average burden hours per response = 1,665.6 total average annual burden hours across three years

Estimated Average Annual Burden Hours by Respondent Type

Year	Total Number of Responses	Public	Private
Year 1	48	34	14
Year 2	48	34	14
Year 3	48	34	14
Total	144	102	42
Average over three years	48	34	14
Burden hours (# responses x 34.7)	1,665.6	1,179.8	485.8

Average Estimate of Cost to Applicants Per Response:

Professional staff

(1 personnel X 34.7 hours X \$85 per hour) = \$2,950

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: (1) a total capital and start-up cost component (annualized over its expected useful life); and (2) 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 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 :

The total for the capital and start-up cost components for this information collection is zero. This information collection will not require the purchase of any capital equipment and will not create any start-up 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.

Estimated annual cost to the Federal Government	
Development and Approval Process (1 staff x 80 hours x \$85 per hour)	\$6,800
Developing an electronic Phase I formula worksheet (1 worksheet x 6 pages x 2 hours x 1 staff x \$85 per hour)	\$1,020
Monitoring of Grants (600 hours x 1 staff x \$85 per hour)	\$51,000

World Wide Web Preparation for Posting (4 hours x 1 staff x \$85 per hour)	\$340
Staff time to review and approve the funding recommendations (24 hours x 1 staff x \$85 per hour)	\$2,040
Staff time to generate, approve, and issue grant awards (48 hours x 1 staff x \$85 per hour)	\$4,080
Processing Applications (5 hours per award x 24 awards x \$85 per hour)	\$10,200
Total estimated cost to the Federal Government	\$75,480

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		1,665.6	
Total Responses		48	
Total Costs (if applicable)			

This is a reinstatement. Therefore, all burden is new.

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 Department does not plan to publish the collected information.

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.

Not applicable. This report will display the expiration date for the OMB approval of the information collection.

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

Not applicable. There are no exceptions to the certification statement.