Supporting Statement A
Faculty Loan Repayment Program (FLRP) Application
OMB Control No. 0906-0082 - Revision

Terms of Clearance: None

A. Justification

1. Circumstances of Making the Collection of Information Necessary

This is a revision request of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for continued approval of the information collection requirements and application form for the FLRP under OMB Control No. 0906-0082 expiring January 31, 2027. Responsibility for the FLRP program resides in the Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

The FLRP is governed by section 738(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 293b). The purpose of the FLRP is to provide loan repayment assistance to faculty members from an economically or geographically vulnerable background with an eligible health professions degree or certificate to serve at eligible academic institutions.

In exchange, the faculty member agrees to serve as a full-time or part-time faculty member for a minimum of 2 years and remain compliant with program requirements for the duration of the loan repayment agreement. Loan repayment agreements are approved by the Secretary for eligible undergraduate and graduate health professional educational loans incurred with government or commercial lending institutions.

The FLRP application and forms are electronic, and the collected information is used to determine the applicants' eligibility and to verify their existing undergraduate and/or graduate health professional educational loans.

2. Purpose and Use of Information

The applicant completes and submits an electronic application that identifies for the Secretary that the applicant comes from an economically or geographically vulnerable background, has a contract with an eligible health professions school to serve as a full-time or part-time faculty member for a minimum of 2 years, and has qualifying outstanding educational loans. In addition, for each undergraduate and/or graduate loan for which repayment is sought, the applicant is required to submit loan documentation verifying the establishment of the educational loan(s) and lender account statements, promissory notes including the original date, and current balance of the outstanding educational loan(s). After a thorough review of all applications, eligible participants are selected.

The information is needed to determine whether applicants meet the eligibility requirements of the FLRP contract and that the evidence submitted is satisfactory to the Secretary before entering into an agreement for repayment of undergraduate and/or graduate health professions loans.

The terms and conditions for participating in the FLRP are set forth in the contract between the individual and the Secretary. In addition, the contract includes the relevant statute authorizing the administration of the FLRP.

This revised ICR contains two new forms. The first is the Employer's Agreement to Loan Repayment Match/Request for a Waiver of the Loan Repayment Match form, which is needed to ensure applicant eligibility and school compliance with the statute. The second is the Semi-annual In-Service Verification form, which is sent to current participants and the institution twice each year to confirm their employment status. The addition of these forms and an increased number of respondents/applicants to the FLRP will increase the estimated burden hours.

This revised ICR also contains updated terminology with respect to Disadvantaged Background and accompanying definitions by updating the following:

- Changing form title to "Certification Regarding Vulnerable Background",
- Replacing "disadvantaged" with "vulnerable" throughout the form, and
- Replacing "environmentally disadvantaged" with "geographically vulnerable".

These changes are needed to align the form with the Administration's priority of reinforcing programs that direct resources to areas of greatest need to improve health outcomes.

3. Use of Improved Information Technology

Currently all FLRP materials are available on the internet. FLRP Application and Program Guidance and application materials have been integrated into a website for easier access by the public. Program staff members are available to answer inquiries via My BHW account portal, telephone and e-mail. The website provides the purpose and goal of the program, eligibility and employer requirements are featured as well as the FLRP Fact Sheet. The FLRP materials are easily accessible 24-hours a day. During the application cycle, the application can also be accessed from the FLRP website.

4. Efforts to Identify Duplication

The information requested in the application is specific to the applicant and unique to the FLRP.

5. Impact of Small Businesses or Other Small Entities

No small businesses will be involved in this information collection.

6. Consequences of Collecting the Information Less Frequently

The FLRP requests the information once from each applicant during the application cycle. Without this information, the Program would be unable to determine the applicant's eligibility. There are no legal obstacles to reducing the burden.

7. Special Circumstances Relating to the Guidelines of 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2)

This request fully complies with the regulation.

8. Comments in Response to the Federal Register Notice/Outside Consultation

A 60-day Federal Register Notice was published in the *Federal Register* on August 21, 2026, Vol. 91, No. 161; pp. 54335-55337. There were no public comments. A 30-day Federal Register Notice was published in the Federal Register on November 3, 2026, Vol. 91, No. 211; pp. 69261-62.

Section 8B:

This program has consulted with five (5) individuals to obtain constructive feedback to improve the application, improve efficiency, and minimize the collection burden. The comments on clarity of the application and forms were positive. The individuals recommended providing clearer application instructions and documentation requirements. They also recommended developing a FLRP Application and Documentation Checklist to enhance clarity and streamline the application process.

9. Explanation of Any Payment/Gift to Respondents

Respondents will not receive any payments or gifts.

10. Assurance of Confidentiality Provided to Respondents

Data will be kept private to the extent allowed by law. The Right to Financial Privacy Act, Pub. L. 95-630, regulates any financial institution that provides a Federal agency with access to information contained in the financial records of a customer. Section 1102(a) prohibits government access to financial records unless one of five procedures is used and the records are "reasonably described." The procedure being used by FLRP requires the applicant to submit loan documentation that verifies the establishment of the loan(s) and lender statement(s), which identifies the current loan balance(s), and verifies the applicant’s address. All applicants must comply with this requirement.

A Privacy Act Notification Statement is included on the FLRP website which describes the purpose of the information collection and the potential disclosures. A Privacy Act System of Records, #09–15–0037, have been established for the FLRP, HHS/HRSA/BHW.

11. Justification for Sensitive Questions

Questions regarding race and ethnicity are asked in the online application; however, responses to these questions are optional. The disclosure of the applicant's Social Security Number (SSN) is required by section 4 of the Debt Collection Act of 1982 (26 U.S.C. 6103) and the applicant provides this on the online application. The disclosure of the SSN is required for participation in the program, since the amounts repaid to lenders must be reported to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as "other income" on IRS Form 1099. The FLRP will also use the SSN to perform

a formal review of the applicant's credit history with credit bureaus as well as through the Federal government's Do Not Pay list during its review of applications to ensure the applicant has not defaulted on any federal or non-federal payment obligations and maintains eligibility to receive federal payments. Safeguards are followed concerning the use of the SSN in the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a note).

12. A. Estimates of Annualized Burden Hours

Form Name	Completed By	No. of Respondents	No. Responses per Respondent	Total Responses	Average Burden per Response (in hours)	Total Burden Hours
Eligible Applications	Applicant	225	1	225	1.0	225.00
Institution/ Loan Repayment Employment Form	Institution on behalf of Applicant	225	1	225	1.0	225.00
Authorization to Release Information Form	Applicant	225	1	225	0.25	56.25
Certification of Vulnerable Background Form	Applicant	225	1	225	0.20	45.00
Employer's Agreement to Loan Repayment Match/Request for a Waiver of the Loan Repayment Match Form	Institution on behalf of Applicant	225	1	225	1.00	225.00
Participant Semi-Annual In Service Verification Form	Institution/ Participant	150	2	300	0.50	150.00
Total		600*	.....	1,425	.....	926.25

* The total number of unique respondents is estimated to be 600, consisting of 225 applicants and 225 institutions completing forms on behalf of the applicant. Additionally, an estimated 75 participants receiving the loan repayment and 75 institutions verifying service will complete the semi-annual In-Service Verification Form.

Note: The totals in ROCIS may not exactly match the burden table due to rounding.

Burden estimates were derived from information provided by applicants and institutions completing the required application package and forms. The application and the two employment forms require 1 hour each to complete. The employment forms include both the Institution/Loan Repayment Employment Form and the Employer's Agreement to Loan Repayment Match/Request for a Waiver of the Loan Repayment Match Form. The In-Service Verification form requires a total of 2 hours throughout the duration of the service commitment. Authorization to Release Information required 15 minutes to complete or 0.25 hours. The Vulnerable Background Form required 12 minutes to complete or 0.20 hours. The hour-burden estimates include the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

12. B. Estimated Annualized Burden Costs

Type of Respondent	Total Burden Hours	Hourly Wage Rate	Total Respondent Costs
***Mid-level Education Administrator**	525.00	$100.58	$52,804.50
****Mid-level Health Specialties Teacher, Postsecondary**	401.25	$103.18**	$41,400.97
Total	926.25	$203.76	$94,205.47

* The Mid-level Education Administrator is the best approximation of the type of respondent that would be completing the institution/loan repayment employment form, the employer's agreement to loan repayment match/request for a waiver of the loan repayment match form, and the participant semi-Annual in service verification form.
**This figure is the annual median wage divided by 2080 hours and then doubled to account for benefits and overhead costs.
*** Based on the following: The Health Specialties Teacher, Postsecondary is the best approximation of the type of respondent that would be completing the online application, the certification for vulnerable background form, the authorization to release forms and the participant semi-Annual in service verification form.

13. Estimates of other Total Annual Cost Burden to Respondents or Record Keepers/Capital Costs

Other than their time, there is no cost to respondents.

14. Estimates of Annualized Estimates of Annualized Cost to the Government

Instrument	Base Pay Rate*	Base Pay Rate (x1.5)**	Project Time per FTE	Number of FTEs	Total Annual Cost
FLRP	$112,657/ GS-12 Step 4	$168,985.50/ GS-12 Step 4	.15	10	**$253,478.25**

FLRP Online Application Contract	**$ 31,740.53**	**……..**	**……..**	**……**	**$ 31,740.53**
Total	**…….**		**……**	**……..**	**$285,218.78**

*Base Pay Rate based on the Office of Personnel Management Pay Scale: (https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/pdf/2026/DCB.pdf).
**Base Pay Rate multiplied by 1.5 to account for overhead costs.

The annual cost to the government is approximately $31,740.53 for the contract costs for the online application system and $168,985.50 for 10 GS-12 Step 4 employees at a 0.15 FTE to process the applications and facilitate team members in the loan repayment process for a total of $285,218.78.

15. Explanation for Program Changes or Adjustments

The estimated total burden for this activity is estimated to be 926.25 hours (rounding down to 926 hours in ROCIS). The estimated burden hours percentage change from the current Notice of Action to the revised estimated burden hours reflects an increase of about 76% which is a difference of about 395 hours. This is due to an increase in the number of respondents/applicants to the FLRP as well as the addition of two new forms.

16. Plans for Tabulation, Publication, and Project Time Schedule

Statistical data related to the FLRP has been published and can be obtained at the following website: https://data.hrsa.gov/data/download?data=SCH#SCH. BHW Program Applicant and Award data is published at the end of each fiscal year upon reconciliation of awards data on October 1st.

17. Reason(s) Display of OMB Expiration Date is Inappropriate

The OMB number and expiration date will be displayed on every page of every form/instrument.

18. Exceptions to Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions

This project fully complies with the guidelines set forth in 5 CFR 1320.9. The required certifications are included in this package.