HRSA
Health Resources & Services Administration

5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

DATE: May 19, 2026

TO: Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget

FROM: HRSA Information Collection Clearance Officer; Office of Planning, Analysis and Evaluation

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Request: The Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW) requests approval for non-substantive changes to the Faculty Loan Repayment Program (FLRP) Disadvantaged Background Form (OMB #0906-0082, expiration date 1/31/2027).

Purpose: The purpose of this request is to make changes to the previously approved 'Disadvantaged Background' Form by replacing the word "disadvantaged" with "vulnerable" and replacing "environmental" with "geographic" to align with the Administration's priorities.

Collection of this information provides accurate data reporting on several key measures, allowing HRSA to adhere to the program's intent of providing loan repayment assistance to faculty members from vulnerable backgrounds with eligible health professions degrees or certificates.

Through the Faculty Loan Repayment Program, HRSA identifies individuals whose geographic or economic circumstances inhibited their ability to obtain the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to enroll in and graduate from an eligible health professions school. These requested changes are consistent with the statute's intent while incorporating more current terminology.

Changes: Changes to the previously approved 'Disadvantaged Background' Form include replacing the word "disadvantaged" with "vulnerable" and replacing "environmental" with "geographic" to align with the Administration's priorities.

This change will take effect in the fiscal year 2026 application cycle, scheduled to accept applications the Summer of 2026. The application process will continue to include documentation to assess the applicant's eligibility for an award, including proof they come from a vulnerable background. Applicants would submit the signed Certification of

Vulnerable Background form to indicate that they were from an economically or geographically vulnerable background.

Instruments: The Certification Regarding Vulnerable Background form (formerly the Certification Regarding Disadvantaged Background form) updates the terminology, using "vulnerable" in place of "disadvantaged," and "geographically" in place of "environmental."

These changes are needed to align the form with updated terminology that is more inclusive, person-centered, and specific, aligning with Administration priorities. These updates were made throughout the form to improve consistency and help ensure that applicants and reviewers understand the criteria using current terminology.

Time Sensitivity: The data collection changes must be completed in a timely manner to ensure that the survey data collection schedule will not experience significant delay. Approval of these changes is needed by May 29, 2026, to implement the changes in the data collection instruments and to prepare for the timely collection of data critical to HRSA reviewers.

Burden: It is anticipated that the revisions included herein will not impact the burden of the FLRP application process or the Certification of Vulnerable Background Form, as no new forms will be required and the changes will be inserted into the larger, already-approved FLRP application, including the Certification of Vulnerable Background Form (formerly the Disadvantaged Background form).

PROPOSED CLARIFICATIONS AND NON-SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES:

Table A

Instrument	Change implemented	Rationale
Certification Regarding Disadvantaged Background	Changed instrument title from "Certification Regarding Disadvantaged Background" to "Certification Regarding Vulnerable Background".	To align with the Administration's priority of reinforcing programs that direct resources to areas of greatest need and improve health outcomes.
Certification Regarding Disadvantaged Background	Changed "disadvantaged background" to "vulnerable background"	To align with the Administration's priority of reinforcing programs that direct resources to areas of greatest need and improve health outcomes.
Certification Regarding	Changed "economically disadvantaged	To align with the Administration's priority of

Disadvantaged Background	background" to "economically vulnerable background"	reinforcing programs that direct resources to areas of greatest need and improve health outcomes.
Certification Regarding Disadvantaged Background	Changed "environmentally disadvantaged background" to "geographically vulnerable background"	To align with the Administration's priority of reinforcing programs that direct resources to areas of greatest need and improve health outcomes.

Attachments:

1. Certification Regarding Vulnerable Background (All changes and additions are tracked in the attached document)