DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Public Health Service

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

DATE: 11/17/2026

TO: Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
NIH, OIRA Desk Officer

THROUGH: Project Clearance Chief, NIH
Reports Clearance Officer, DHHS

FROM: Hope Cummings
Center for Scientific Review (CSR)

SUBJECT: Non-substantive change: Early Career Reviewer Program Application and Vetting System (EAVS) (OMB Control # 0925-0695, Expiration Date 07/31/2029)

This is a request for OMB to approve a non-substantive change to the NIH CSR *Early Career Reviewer Program Application and Vetting System (EAVS)* data collection instrument, which was last approved on 7/14/2026. This information collection concerns the Early Career Reviewer (ECR) program—which helps identify and train qualified scientists who are early in their scientific careers and who have not had prior CSR review experience. The goals of the program are to expose these early career scientists to the peer review experience so that they become more competitive as applicants as well as to enrich the existing pool of NIH reviewers. The ECR program uses an online application and vetting system (*EAVS*) to collect applicant information such as their name, contact information, a description of their areas of expertise, their study section preferences, and their curriculum vitae. A change is requested to streamline the application and reduce input errors and missing information. This change will modify the process in which applicant information is gathered, by allowing more automation and extraction of information via *EAVS*. Some information that was previously gathered by having the applicant select from a drop-down menu of options or manually type in a response will now be automatically pulled from the applicants' curriculum vitae/resume (uploading this document is already, currently required); applicants are asked to review the extracted information for accuracy and have the ability to correct any errors or missing information. Given that applicants still need to review the extracted information and make changes as needed, we do not expect changes to have a significant impact on estimates to respondent time or cost burden.

The changes are as follows:

Applicant Field	Field Location/Page	Current Actions Required	Proposed Format/ Action *see note below
1. Position / start date	**Currently:** Position Information Page **Proposed:** Confirm Your Information Page (Pulled from CV).	– select from radio response options – write in open text box	– extracted from the CV and confirmed/edited by applicant
2. Institution / employer	**Currently:** Employment Information Page **Proposed:** Confirm Your Information Page (Pulled from CV)	– select from dropdown response options	– extracted from the CV and confirmed/edited by applicant
3. Department/lab Website	**Currently:** Employment Information Page **Proposed:** Confirm Your Information Page (Pulled from CV)	- write in open text boxes	– extracted from the CV and confirmed/edited by applicant
4. Keywords / expertise	**Currently:** NIH Commons Account Information Page **Proposed:** Confirm Your Information Page (Pulled from CV)	– write in open text box	– extracted from CV and confirmed/edited by applicant
5. Study section(s)	**Currently:** Employment Information Page **Proposed:** Application Details Page	– select from dropdown response options	Auto populates recommended study sections based on CV; can be edited by applicant
6. Review and submit	**Currently**: Employment Information Page **Proposed**: New Standalone Page	Application “Preview/Print” button and “Submit” button are located on last page of application (i.e., Employment Information page); no separate/standalone review	Standalone page allows applicants to review all application answers/inputs and press “Submit” button.

Applicant Field	Field Location/Page	Current Actions Required	Proposed Format/ Action *see note below
		page	

*Please note: In the proposed new format (see attachment 1 for marked-up version), information that will be extracted from the CV is displayed in a light green text box or marker; it is displayed in a yellow text box if the system has trouble pulling the information from the CV (i.e., #1-4 from table above); attention to the auto-population of suggested study sections (#5 above) is displayed with a purple text box.

Attachment 1: EAVS ECR Application Screenshots_Proposed New Format (depicts requested change to new application format)
Attachment 2: EAVS ECR Application Screenshots_Clean Version of Proposed New Format)

Your full consideration is appreciated.