

commercial delivery, or hand delivery. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ, Room 2E-347, Washington, DC 20202-4537.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact NCES Information Collections at [NCES.Information.Collections@ed.gov](mailto:NCES.Information.Collections@ed.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

*Title of Collection:* NPEFS 2016-2018: Common Core of Data (CCD) National Public Education Financial Survey.

*OMB Control Number:* 1850-0067.

*Type of Review:* A revision of an existing information collection.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 56.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 5,334.

*Abstract:* The National Public Education Financial Survey (NPEFS) is an annual collection of state-level

finance data that has been included in the NCES Common Core of Data (CCD) since FY 1982 (school year 1981-82). NPEFS provides function expenditures by salaries, benefits, purchased services, and supplies, and includes federal, state, and local revenues by source. The NPEFS collection includes data on all state-run schools from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. NPEFS data are used for a wide variety of purposes, including to calculate federal program allocations such as states' "average per-pupil expenditure" (SPPE) for elementary and secondary education, certain formula grant programs (e.g. Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) as amended, Impact Aid, and Indian Education programs). Furthermore, other federal programs, such as the Educational Technology State Grants program (Title II Part D of the ESEA), the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program under Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and the Teacher Quality State Grants program (Title II Part A of the ESEA) make use of SPPE data indirectly because their formulas are based, in whole or in part, on State Title I Part A allocations. On December 10, 2015, an amendment to ESEA, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), was signed into law. This request is to add two new items to the NPEFS data collection (to report current expenditures disaggregated by source of funds and to align with the State and LEA report cards required by ESSA) and to conduct the annual NPEFS collection of state-level finance data for FY 2016-2018.

Dated: October 11, 2016.

**Kate Mullan,**

*Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Office of the Chief Privacy Officer, Office of Management.*

[FR Doc. 2016-24891 Filed 10-13-16; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Office of Postsecondary Education

#### Accrediting Agencies Under Review for Recognition by the U.S. Secretary of Education

**AGENCY:** Accreditation Group, Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Call for written third-party comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice provides information to members of the public on submitting written comments for accrediting agencies currently undergoing review for purposes of recognition by the U.S. Secretary of Education. This solicitation of third-party comments concerning the performance of accrediting agencies under review by the Secretary is required by § 496(n)(1)(A) of the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, as amended.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Herman Bounds, Director, Accreditation Group, Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Room 6C115, Washington, DC 20202, telephone: (202) 453-7615, or email: [herman.bounds@ed.gov](mailto:herman.bounds@ed.gov).

*Agencies Under Review and Evaluation:* Below is a list of agencies currently undergoing review and evaluation by the Accreditation Group, including their current and requested scopes of recognition:

#### Applications for Renewal of Recognition

1. *American Podiatric Medical Association Scope of Recognition:* The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Provisional Accreditation") throughout the United States of freestanding colleges of podiatric medicine and programs of podiatric medicine, including first professional programs leading to the degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine.

2. *Commission on English Language Program Accreditation Scope of Recognition:* The accreditation of postsecondary, non-degree-granting English language programs and institutions in the United States.

3. *The Council on Chiropractic Education Scope of recognition:* The accreditation of programs leading to the Doctor of Chiropractic degree and single-purpose institutions offering the Doctor of Chiropractic program.

4. *Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology Scope of recognition:* The accreditation of education programs in radiography, magnetic resonance, radiation therapy, and medical dosimetry, including those offered via distance education, at the certificate, associate, and baccalaureate levels.

#### Compliance Report

*Western Association for Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) Compliance report includes the following:* (1) Findings identified in the

April 5, 2016 letter from the senior Department official following the December 2015 NACIQI meeting available at: <https://opeweb.ed.gov/aslweb/finalstaffreports.cfm>, (2) Findings identified in the January 4, 2016 Secretary's appeal decision available at: <http://oha.ed.gov/secretarycases/2014-10-O.pdf>

(3) The limitation on ACCJC's authority to approve single baccalaureate programs within the scope of accreditation of previously accredited institutions, as outlined in the April 5, 2016 letter from the senior Department official, (4) Review under 34 CFR 602.33.

**Scope of recognition:** The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of community and other colleges with a primarily pre-baccalaureate mission located in California, Hawaii, the United States territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, which offer certificates, associate degrees, and the first baccalaureate degree by means of a substantive change review offered by institutions that are already accredited by the agency, and such programs offered via distance education and correspondence education at these colleges. This recognition also extends to the Committee on Substantive Change of the Commission, for decisions on substantive changes, and the Appeals Panel.

#### Application for an Expansion of Scope

**Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools Scope of recognition:** The accreditation of private, postsecondary institutions in the United States offering predominantly allied health education programs and the programmatic accreditation of medical assistant, medical laboratory technician and surgical technology programs, leading to a certificate, diploma, Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Occupational Science, Academic Associate degree, or Baccalaureate degree, including those offered via distance education. This scope extends to the Substantive Change Committee, jointly with the Commission, for decisions on substantive changes.

**Requested Scope:** The accreditation of private, postsecondary institutions in the United States offering predominantly allied health education programs and the programmatic accreditation of medical assistant, medical laboratory technician and surgical technology programs, leading to

a certificate, diploma, Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Occupational Science, Academic Associate degree, Baccalaureate degree and Master's degree, including those offered via distance education. The scope extends to the Substantive Change Committee, jointly with the Commission, for decisions on substantive change.

#### Application for Renewal of Recognition—State Agency for the Approval of Nurse Education

Missouri State Board of Nursing, Submission of written comments regarding a specific accrediting agency or state approval agency under review: Written comments about the recognition of a specific accrediting or State agency must be received by November 14, 2016, in the [ThirdPartyComments@ed.gov](mailto:ThirdPartyComments@ed.gov) mailbox and include the subject line "Written Comments: (agency name)." The email must include the name(s), title, organization/affiliation, mailing address, email address, and telephone number of the person(s) making the comment. Comments should be submitted as a Microsoft Word document or in a medium compatible with Microsoft Word (not a PDF file) that is attached to an electronic mail message (email) or provided in the body of an email message. Comments about an agency's recognition after review of a compliance report must relate to issues identified in the compliance report and the criteria for recognition cited in the senior Department official's letter that requested the report, or in the Secretary's appeal decision, if any. Comments about the renewal of an agency's recognition based on a review of the agency's petition must relate to its compliance with the Criteria for the Recognition of Accrediting Agencies, or the Criteria and Procedures for Recognition of State Agencies for Approval of Nurse Education as appropriate, which are available at <http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html>.

Only material submitted by the deadline to the email address listed in this notice, and in accordance with these instructions, become part of the official record concerning agencies scheduled for review and are considered by the Department and NACIQI in their deliberations.

**Electronic Access to this Document:** The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available via the Federal Digital System at: [www.gpo.gov/fdsys](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys). At this site you

can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site. You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: [www.federalregister.gov](http://www.federalregister.gov). Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

**Authority:** 20 U.S.C. 1099b.

**Lynn B. Mahaffie,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning, Policy, and Innovation, delegated the duties of Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.*

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**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 10934-027]

#### William B. Ruger, Jr.; Notice of Intent To File License Application, Filing of Pre-Application Document, and Approving Use of the Traditional Licensing Process

a. *Type of Filing:* Notice of Intent To File License Application and Request To Use the Traditional Licensing Process.

b. *Project No.:* 10934-027.

c. *Date Filed:* May 23, 2016.

d. *Submitted By:* William B. Ruger, Jr.

e. *Name of Project:* Sugar River II Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the Sugar River, in Sullivan County, New Hampshire. No federal lands are occupied by the project works or located within the project boundary.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* 18 CFR 5.3 of the Commission's regulations.

h. *Potential Applicant Contact:* Paul Nolan, 5515 North 17th Street, Arlington, VA 22205; (703) 534-5509; email—[pvnrvndiver@gmail.com](mailto:pvnrvndiver@gmail.com).

i. *FERC Contact:* Steve Kartalia at (202) 502-6131; or email at [Stephen.kartalia@ferc.gov](mailto:Stephen.kartalia@ferc.gov).

j. Mr. Ruger filed his request to use the Traditional Licensing Process on May 23, 2016. Mr. Ruger provided public notice of this request, along with a Pre-Application Document (PAD), on August 15, 2016. In a letter issued on October 6, 2016, the Director of the Division of Hydropower Licensing