

From: [Oglesby, Rachel](#)
To: [Chapman, Chris](#); [Schafer, Shelby](#); [Soldner, Matthew](#)
Subject: Re: Next OMB packages for clearance
Date: Sunday, March 23, 2025 1:49:24 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Apologies for delay here – I am good with both of these moving forward.

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Rachel Oglesby
Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Education



From: Chapman, Chris <Chris.Chapman@ed.gov>
Date: Monday, March 10, 2025 at 11:13 AM
To: Oglesby, Rachel <Rachel.Oglesby@ed.gov>, Schafer, Shelby <Shelby.Schafer@ed.gov>, Soldner, Matthew <Matthew.Soldner@ed.gov>
Subject: RE: Next OMB packages for clearance

Thank you, Rachel. I know you and your team are managing through a lot of changing and moving parts. In case it might be helpful, I will summarize what the OMB package for PISA is doing. Most of the package is a set of tables about specific item changes with a column noting why something was changed.

1. The primary purpose is to remove content prohibited by executive order.
2. The secondary purpose is to show changes made, as described in the 30-day notice that was cleared last month, to remove items to:
 - a. Account for content that does not make sense for U.S. students (e.g., what is the floor of your home made of);
 - b. Account for content being dropped by all other countries and that do not provide a lot of additional information without a set of comparison countries (e.g., teacher items that were too vague for respondents to clearly understand);
 - c. Account for field test results as discussed in the prior 30-day notice (e.g., too few people responded to support estimates).

Note that this OMB package is for final issuance of an OMB clearance number. All public comment periods have closed. We received none on the last 30 package that noted that the changes above were to occur apart from the executive order actions (those were issued after the earlier 30-day notice).

If this is a sufficient summary to not need a meeting, please let me know. Happy to meet as always though. I hope that you had a good weekend.

Sincerely,
Chris

From: Oglesby, Rachel <Rachel.Oglesby@ed.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2025 6:36 AM
To: Chapman, Chris <Chris.Chapman@ed.gov>; Schafer, Shelby <Shelby.Schafer@ed.gov>; Soldner, Matthew <Matthew.Soldner@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: Next OMB packages for clearance

Thank you for this, Chris! I am adding Shelby here to find some time later this week for us to discuss. I am unfamiliar with much of this and will need a more basic description from you about these requests as opposed to a 63-page memo Adding Matt to join that conversation as well.

My understanding is that the PISA contract was reversed and should be back in place.

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Rachel Oglesby
Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Education



From: Chapman, Chris <Chris.Chapman@ed.gov>
Date: Friday, March 7, 2025 at 12:43 PM
To: Oglesby, Rachel <Rachel.Oglesby@ed.gov>
Subject: FW: Next OMB packages for clearance

Hi Rachel,

I was asked about the PISA study yesterday at the National Assessment Governing Board meeting. Can you let me know if this routed to OMB yet? I think we need it in process there next week to make the study feasible. Contracts for the study were cleared by OS.

Have a nice weekend.
Chris

From: Chapman, Chris
Sent: Tuesday, March 4, 2025 3:21 PM
To: Oglesby, Rachel <Rachel.Oglesby@ed.gov>
Subject: Next OMB packages for clearance

Dear Rachel,

My name is Chris Chapman. I am currently the Acting Commissioner for NCES.

Thank you for agreeing to support us in getting these information collection requests (ICRs) through the review process. The two that you approved earlier this week are already at OMB and awaiting final approval, and we appreciate your attention and time.

We have two more packages that are ready for your review. The documents and a brief description of what is necessary is below and attached here, with a summary table at the bottom of this email.

NCES System Clearance for Cognitive, Pilot, and Field Test Studies 2025-2028 (OMB# 1850-0803 v.363)

The Generic/Developmental Clearance that allows us to refine and improve our own research is nearing its expiration date on June 30, 2025. Each piece of work to test our studies is cleared and budgeted individually as each research program faces unique needs, but the testing requires an overall umbrella clearance to make each small request faster and more responsive to immediate needs. The umbrella clearance has to publish a Federal Register Notice and then wait for 60+30 days while the public and interested stakeholders review the documents. so we need to get this process started as soon as possible to make sure the 90+ day review period can be completed and the work approved without a lapse in coverage.

To support this request, we've included two documents for this package:

1. Part A, the overall description of the work. The most useful and interesting part of this document is the list on pp. 4-5 that shows the range of work that has been done under this clearance in the past 3 years. A full 2/3 of the generic packages over the last several years have been to improve NAEP, School Pulse, and IPEDS data collections. That list on pp. 4-5 is the only substantive change made to this package when we ask for extension; the rest of the content is unchanged since last approval.
2. A template for the Federal Register Notice we will publish for the first 60 day period. We are unsure who the appropriate signatory should be at this time (and are working on this with OCDO), but this is the text that will be published in the Federal Register.

Program for International Student Assessments (PISA) 2025 Main Study (OMB# 1850-0755)

PISA was completing a 30-day review period when the administration changed and work stopped. That 30D public review concluded on February 18. The funding for this program has been restored and so we now needs to revise previously submitted documents to make sure the data collection is fully compliant with the recently issued EOs, and request an immediate clearance.

To support this request, we've included two documents for this package:

1. The review request memo from Rachel to Dom, outlining the case for immediate review and clearance.
2. A detailed change memo. The original draft of this was included as part of the 30D review period but has been revised (see blue text) to also include revisions required by EOs.

	What needs to happen next	Clearance Needed By	Supporting Documents
NCES System Clearance for Cognitive, Pilot, and Field Test Studies 2025-2028 (OMB# 1850-0803 v.363)	Needs to publish a 60/30.	Expires 6/30/25 and needs ~4 months to clear.	Part A Federal Register Notice (draft)
Program for International Student Assessments (PISA) 2025 Main Study (OMB# 1850-0755) ICR# 202501-1850-003	Completed 30D on Requires revision to submitted materials to comply with Gender EO.	3/1/25	Review Request Memo Change Memo

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Chris

Chris Chapman
Acting Commissioner
National Center for Education Statistics
Institute of Education Sciences
U.S. Department of Education

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