

**Discussion of Public Comments on  
Proposed Extension of Information Collection Request for  
Measuring Educational Gain in the National Reporting System for Adult Education  
OMB Control Number 1830-0567  
Docket ED-2026-SCC-0464**

On March 11, 2026, the Department of Education (Department) published a notice in the Federal Register inviting comments by May 11, 2026, on the proposed extension without change of the currently approved information collection request (ICR) for *Measuring Educational Gain in the National Reporting System for Adult Education*. This ICR implements the provisions of title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 462 Subpart B which establishes procedures the Secretary uses when considering the suitability of tests for use in the National Reporting System (NRS). Consistent with these regulations, the information collected under this ICR is used by the Secretary to review the suitability of assessments submitted by test publishers for measuring educational functioning level gain by pre- and post-testing, for purposes of performance accountability under section 212 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). This ICR does not establish performance accountability requirements under the NRS for adult education or implement the collection and reporting of program performance or participant demographic data.

The Department received four comments in response to the notice. The Department reviewed each of the comments and provided responses. A summary and discussion of the comments are provided on the proposed extension of this ICR.

**Comment:** One commenter recommended adding a row to certain NRS tables, approved in a separate ICR under OMB control number 1830-0027, and proposed a new table for reporting workplace literacy gains. The commenter advocated for the development of new reporting criteria for students enrolled in distance education, revising the joint table for reporting measurable skill gains (MSG) approved in a separate ICR under OMB control number 1205-0526, making changes to the denominator specifications for the MSG indicator for WIOA title II programs, addressing concerns about the denominator for the credential attainment indicator, providing waivers to WIOA title II agencies, resuming a discussion about recognizing incremental gains within an educational functioning level (EFL), and reconsidering restrictions on the use of federal funds under WIOA’s “supplement not supplant” provision. The commenter further discussed the need for digital literacy assessments and urged the Department to accelerate its review of such assessments.

**Discussion:** We appreciate the comments on these topics and understand the challenges they illustrate. However, some of these topics fall within the domain of other OMB approved ICRs, others are regulated by the joint rule in 34 CFR Part 463 Subpart I, while others are referenced in specific sections of WIOA. Thus, they are beyond the purview of this ICR and cannot be addressed in this context.

In respect to the comment about digital literacy assessments, clarifying information about the review process itself may be helpful. Each year, the Department publishes a notice in the Federal Register inviting publishers to submit tests for a determination of suitability for use in the NRS. All submissions are reviewed in accordance with the criteria and requirements articulated in 34 CFR 462.13. The assessment process described in 34 CFR Part 462 Subpart B is open to all test publishers who wish to submit a test for review, including digital literacy assessments. While we welcome the submission of new and innovative tests, the Department cannot determine or anticipate the types of tests submitted for review or the content areas they are designed to cover.

Change: No change.

Comment: One commenter supported the use of assessments for measuring educational gain in adult education programs and outlined concerns about the literacy proficiency of participants enrolled in eligible postsecondary institutions under title IV of the Higher Education Act. The commenter recommended that the Department require pre- and post-enrollment literacy testing at such institutions.

Discussion: We understand the concerns raised by the commenter. However, these issues are beyond the purview of this ICR which is designed to carry out the assessment review application process referenced in 34 CFR 462.10(b). Assessment administration in programs other than those authorized under title II of WIOA cannot be addressed in the context of this ICR.

Change: No change.

Comment: Two submitted comments were unrelated to the purpose of this ICR.

Discussion: This information collection is designed to carry out the assessment review application process described in 34 CFR 462.10(b). Comments not related to this ICR cannot be addressed.

Change: No change.