SYSTEM NAME:

Congressional Grant Notification Control System.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

None.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

Congressional Outreach, Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 7E301, Washington, DC 20202.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

The Congressional Grant Notification Control System contains records about members of Congress.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

This system consists of direct inquiries and letters of support concerning discretionary grants from Members of Congress.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

5 U.S.C. 301.

PURPOSE:

The information in this system is used to provide responses to inquiries from Members of Congress regarding discretionary grant notification.
ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSE OF SUCH USES:

The Department of Education (the Department) may disclose information contained in a record in this system of records under the routine uses listed in this system of records without the consent of the individual if the disclosure is compatible with the purposes for which the record was collected. These disclosures may be made on a case-by-case basis or, if the Department has complied with the computer matching requirements of the Privacy Act, under a computer matching agreement.

(1) Inter-Agency Disclosure. Inquiries that do not pertain to the Department, but fall under the jurisdiction of another Federal agency, are transferred to that Agency with a request that a direct response be provided to the correspondent.

(2) Congressional Member Disclosure. The Department may disclose records to a member of Congress from the record of an individual in response to an inquiry from the member made at the written request of that individual. The member’s right to the information is no greater than the right of the individual who requested it.

(3) Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution.
(a) In the event of litigation where one of the parties listed below is involved in litigation or ADR, the Department may disclose such records as it deems desirable or necessary to the Department of Justice (DOJ) to enable DOJ to effectively represent such party, provided such disclosure is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected.

(i) The Department of Education, or any component of the Department; or

(ii) Any Department employee in his or her official capacity; or

(iii) Any Department employee in his or her individual capacity if the Department of Justice (DOJ) has agreed to provide or arrange for representation for the employee; or

(iv) Any Department employee in his or her individual capacity where the agency has agreed to represent the employee; or

(iv) The United States where the Department determines that the litigation is likely to affect the Department or any of its components.

(b) Disclosure to the DOJ. If the Department determines that disclosure of certain records to the DOJ is relevant and necessary to litigation or ADR, the Department may disclose those records as a routine used to the DOJ.
(c) Administrative Disclosures. If the Department determines that disclosure of certain records to an adjudicative body before which the Department is authorized to appear, an individual or entity designated by the Department or otherwise empowered to resolve or mediate disputes is relevant and necessary to the administrative litigation, the Department may disclose those records as a routine use to the adjudicative body, individual, or entity.

(d) Parties, counsels, representatives and witnesses. If the Department determines that disclosure of certain records to a party, counsel, representative or witness in an administrative proceeding is relevant and necessary to the litigation, the Department may disclose records as a routine use to the party, counsel, representative or witness.

DISCLOSURE TO CONSUMER REPORTING AGENCIES:

Not applicable to this system of records.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

STORAGE:

The records are maintained in hard copy filed in standard file cabinets.
RETRIEVABILITY:

Records are indexed alphabetically by grant title.

SAFEGUARDS:

Records are kept in the responsible grant notification team member’s office. All physical access to the Department’s site, and the sites of Department contractors where this system of records is maintained, is controlled and monitored by security personnel who check each individual entering the building for his or her employee or visitor badge.

The computer system employed by the Department offers a high degree of resistance to tampering and circumvention. This security system limits data access to Department and contract staff on a ‘‘need-to-know’’ basis, and controls individual users’ ability to access and alter records within the system. All users of this system of records are given a unique user ID with personal identifiers. All interactions by individual users with the system are recorded.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:

Records are maintained for two years.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:
Director, Congressional Outreach, Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 7E301, Washington, DC 20202.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:

If you wish to determine whether a record exists regarding you in this system of records, provide the system manager at the above address with the name of the Member of Congress who corresponded with the Department, the name of the referenced constituent, the grant title, and the date of the correspondence. Your request must meet the requirements of the regulations at 34 CFR 5b.5, including proof of identification.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Same as the Notification Procedure.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

If you wish to contest the content of a record pertaining to you, contact the system manager at the address noted above, and reasonably identify the record and specify the information to be contested. Your request must meet the requirements of the regulations at 34 CFR 5b.7.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:
The information in this system is provided by the correspondent and by the agency that prepares the final response.

SYSTEM EXEMPTED FROM CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ACT:

None.