

requirements of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. Appendix; (8) reporting on the activities of the Inspectors General to the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE); and (9) participating in the investigative qualitative assessment review process requirements of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-296.)

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

The OIG 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. The OIG may make these disclosures on a case-by-case basis or, if the OIG has met the requirements of the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act, under a computer matching agreement.

(1) *Disclosure for Use by Other Law Enforcement Agencies.* The OIG may disclose information from this system of records as a routine use to any Federal, State, local, or foreign agency or other public authority responsible for enforcing, investigating, or prosecuting violations of administrative, civil, or criminal law or regulations if that information is relevant to any enforcement, regulatory, investigative, or prosecutorial responsibility of the receiving entity.

(2) *Disclosure to Public and Private Entities to Obtain Information Relevant to Department of Education Functions and Duties.* The OIG may disclose information from this system of records as a routine use to public or private sources to the extent necessary to obtain information from those sources relevant to an OIG investigation, audit, inspection, or other inquiry.

(3) *Disclosure for Use in Employment, Employee Benefit, Security Clearance, and Contracting Decisions.*

(a) *For Decisions by the Department.* The OIG may disclose information from this system of records as a routine use to a Federal, State, local, or foreign agency maintaining civil, criminal, or other relevant enforcement or other pertinent records, or to another public authority or professional organization, if necessary to obtain information relevant to a Department decision concerning the hiring or retention of an employee or other personnel action, the issuance or retention of a security clearance, the letting of a contract, or the issuance or retention of a license, grant, or other benefit.

(b) *For Decisions by Other Public Agencies and Professional Organizations.* The OIG may disclose information from this system of records as a routine use to a Federal, State, local, or foreign agency, other public authority, or professional organization in connection with the hiring or retention of an employee or other personnel action, the issuance or retention of a security clearance, the letting of a contract, or the issuance or retention of a license, grant, or other benefit.

(4) *Disclosure to Public and Private Sources in Connection with the Higher Education Act of 1965, as Amended (HEA).* The OIG may disclose information from this system of records as a routine use to any accrediting agency that is or was recognized by the Secretary of Education pursuant to the HEA; to any guaranty agency that is or was a party to an agreement with the Secretary of Education pursuant to the HEA; or to any agency that is or was charged with licensing or legally authorizing the operation of any educational institution or school that was eligible, is currently eligible, or may become eligible to participate in any program of Federal student assistance authorized by the HEA.

(5) *Litigation Disclosure.*

(a) *Disclosure to the Department of Justice.* If the disclosure of certain records to the Department of Justice (DOJ) is relevant and necessary to litigation and is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected, the OIG may disclose those records as a routine use to the Department of Justice. The OIG may make such a disclosure in the event that one of the following parties is involved in the litigation or has an interest in the litigation:

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

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

(iii) Any employee of the Department in his or her individual capacity if the DOJ has agreed to represent the employee or in connection with a request for that representation; or

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

(b) *Other Litigation Disclosure.* If disclosure of certain records to a court, adjudicative body before which the Department is authorized to appear, individual or entity designated by the Department or otherwise empowered to resolve disputes, counsel or other representative, party, or potential witness is relevant and necessary to

litigation and is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected, the OIG may disclose those records as a routine use to the court, adjudicative body, individual or entity, counsel or other representative, party, or potential witness. The OIG may make such a disclosure in the event that one of the following parties is involved in the litigation or has an interest in the litigation:

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

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

(iii) Any employee of the Department in his or her individual capacity if the Department has agreed to represent the employee; or

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

(6) *Disclosure to Contractors and Consultants.* The OIG may disclose information from this system of records as a routine use to the employees of any entity or individual with whom or with which the Department contracts for the purpose of performing any functions or analyses that facilitate or are relevant to an OIG investigation, audit, inspection, or other inquiry. Before entering into such a contract, the Department shall require the contractor to maintain Privacy Act safeguards, as required under 5 U.S.C. 552a(m) with respect to the records in the system.

(7) *Debarment and Suspension Disclosure.* The OIG may disclose information from this system of records as a routine use to another Federal agency considering suspension or debarment action if the information is relevant to the suspension or debarment action. The OIG also may disclose information to another agency to gain information in support of the Department's own debarment and suspension actions.

(8) *Disclosure to the Department of Justice.* The OIG may disclose information from this system of records as a routine use to the DOJ to the extent necessary for obtaining the DOJ's advice on any matter relevant to Department of Education programs or operations.

(9) *Congressional Member Disclosure.* The OIG may disclose information from this system of 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.

(10) *Benefit Program Disclosure.* The OIG may disclose records as a routine