

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET**Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review**

AGENCY: Office of Management and Budget.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, as amended (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that an information collection request has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs for processing under 5 CFR 1320.10. The information collection request is for the proposed information collection contained in the recent revision of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-21, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions," published in the Federal Register on May 8, 1996 (61 FR 20880). The first notice, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act, was published in the Federal Register on May 30, 1996 (61 FR 27109).

The information collection request involves a submission of the Cost Accounting Standards Board's (CASB) Disclosure Statement (DS-2) by educational institutions receiving more than \$25 million in federally-sponsored agreements. Circular A-21's information collection requirement covers approximately 20 educational institutions not subject to CASB's regulatory requirement for filing the DS-2, pursuant to Public Law 100-679, which was previously approved and assigned OMB control number 0348-0055 (which expires August 31, 1997).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information or a copy of the revision, contact Gilbert Tran, Office of Federal Financial Management, OMB (telephone: 202-395-3993).

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent by February 24, 1997 to: Edward Springer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the May 30, 1996, notice, OMB received one comment on this proposed information collection. The comment and OMB's response is summarized below.

The commenter stated that the OMB estimate of 120 hours for completing the Disclosure Statement (DS-2) is understated. Instead, the commenter estimated preparation time for the DS-2 to range from 200 hours to 2000 hours per affected institution.

OMB disagrees that the preparation of the DS-2 can take as much as 2000 hours to complete unless a university does not currently have adequate written cost accounting policies for Federal grants and contracts. The DS-2 is a 20-page document that provides a summary of an educational institution's cost accounting system for Federal grants and contracts. OMB's estimated time for the completion of DS-2 does not include the development of any cost accounting policies for Federal grants and contracts; instead, it reflects the effort by a university to document the existing cost policies at the institution. Furthermore, the cost accounting practices used for Federal grants and contracts should be already documented as required by Subpart C, Section _____.21, Standards for financial management systems, in OMB Circular A-110, "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals and Other Non-Profit Organizations."

G. Edward DeSeve,

Controller.

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PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION**Request for Comment on Proposed Extension of Approval of Collection of Information Under the Paperwork Reduction Act; Qualified Domestic Relations Order Submitted to the PBGC**

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of intention to request OMB extension of approval.

SUMMARY: The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation intends to request that the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") extend the approval for a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act. The information collection relates to model forms contained in a PBGC booklet ("Divorce Orders & PBGC") providing guidance on how to submit a proper qualified domestic relations order to the PBGC. The effect of this notice is to advise the public of, and to solicit public comment on, the extension of approval of this collection of information.

DATES: Comments should be submitted to the PBGC by January 24, 1997.

ADDRESSES: All written comments should be addressed to: The Office of

the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, Suite 340, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005. The comments will be available for public inspection at the PBGC

Communications and Public Affairs Department, Suite 240, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Copies of the booklet, "Divorce Orders & PBGC," may be obtained by calling PBGC's Customer Service Center at 1-800-400-PBGC or writing to the PBGC QDRO Coordinator, P.O. Box 19153, Washington, DC 20036-0153. The booklet also is available from the PBGC Homepage on the World Wide Web, at <http://www.pbgc.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James L. Beller, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Suite 340, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005, 202-326-4024 (202-326-4179 for TTY and TDD). (These are not toll-free numbers.)

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) establishes policies and procedures for controlling the paperwork burdens imposed by Federal agencies on the public. The Act vests the OMB with regulatory responsibility over these burdens, and OMB has promulgated rules on the clearance of collections of information by Federal agencies.

On September 10, 1996, the PBGC published a notice (61 FR 47774) of its request for approval, on an emergency basis, of a new collection of information relating to guidance on the submission of qualified domestic relations orders ("QDROs") to the PBGC. OMB approved the collection of information with an expiration date of March 31, 1997. The PBGC intends to seek three-year approval for this collection of information.

The PBGC is a federal agency that insures the benefits of nearly 42 million working men and women in about 55,000 private-sector defined benefit pension plans. A defined benefit pension plan that does not have enough money to pay benefits may be terminated if the employer responsible for the plan faces severe financial difficulty, such as bankruptcy, and is unable to maintain the plan. In such an event, the PBGC becomes trustee of the plan and pays benefits, subject to legal limits, to plan participants and beneficiaries.

The benefits of a pension plan participant generally may not be assigned or alienated. Title I of ERISA provides an exception for domestic relations orders that relate to child