

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) Type of Information Collection: *Revision of a currently approved collection.*

(2) Title of the Form/Collection: *Application for Asylum and Withholding of Removal.*

(3) Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Justice sponsoring the collection: *Form I-589. Office of International Affairs, Asylum Division, Immigration and Naturalization Service.*

(4) Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract: *Primary: Individuals or Households. The information collected is used by the INS and EOIR to access eligibility of persons applying for asylum and withholding of deportation.*

(5) An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of times estimated for an average respondent to respond: *80,000 responses at three and one half (3.5) hours per response.*

(6) An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection: *280,000 annual burden hours.*

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please contact Richard A. Sloan 202-616-7600, Director, Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Department of Justice, Room 5307, 425 I Street, NW., Washington, DC 20536. Additionally,

comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time may also be directed to Mr. Richard A. Sloan.

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Robert B. Briggs, Clearance Office, United States Department of Justice, Information Management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center, 1001 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: February 24, 1997.

Robert B. Briggs,

*Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.*

[FR Doc. 97-5110 Filed 2-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-18-M

### Agency Information Collection Activities:

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Extension of existing collection; medical certification for disability exceptions.

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval is being sought for the information collection listed below. This proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register on December 26, 1996 at 61 FR 68056, utilizing emergency review in addition to allowing a 60-day comment period. No comments were received by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comments. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until [April 2, 1997]. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, should be directed to OMB, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: OMB Desk Officer for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20530 (202-395-7316). Additionally, comments may be submitted to OMB via facsimile to 202-395-7285. Comments may also be submitted to the Department of Justice (DOJ), Justice Management Division, Information Management and Security Staff, Attention: Department Clearance Officer, Suite 850, 1001 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20530. Additionally,

comments may be submitted to DOJ via facsimile to 202-514-1534.

Written comments and suggestions from the public should address one or more of the following four points.

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumption used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of Responses.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) Type of Information Collection: *Extension of a currently approved collection.*

(2) Title of the Form/Collection: *Medical Certification for Disability Exceptions.*

(3) Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Justice sponsoring the collection: *Form N-648. Adjudications Division, Immigration and Naturalization Service.*

(4) Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract: *Primary: Individuals or Households. These medical certifications, executed by licensed health care providers, will be used to support an applicant's claim to an exception of the literacy and history/government knowledge requirements found in section 312 of the Immigration and Nationality Act.*

(5) As estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond: *300,000 respondents at 3 hours per response.*

(6) An estimate of the total public burden (in hour) associated with the collection: *900,000 annual burden hours.*

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Robert B. Briggs, Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Information management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center,

1001 G Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: February 24, 1997.  
 Robert B. Briggs,  
*Department Clearance Officer,*  
 [FR Doc. 97-5113 Filed 2-28-97; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 4410-18-M**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Extension of existing collection; Reengineered foreign students pilot program.

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval is being sought for the information collection listed below. This proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register on December 10, 1996 at 61 FR 65082, utilizing emergency review in addition to allowing a 60-day comment period. No comments were received by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comments. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until April 2, 1997. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, should be directed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: OMB Desk Officer for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10325, Washington, DC 20530 (202-395-7316). Additionally, comments may be submitted to OMB via facsimile to 202-395-7285. Comments may also be submitted to the Department of Justice (DOJ), Justice Management Division, Information Management and Security Staff, Attention: Department Clearance Officer, Suite 850, 1001 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20530. Additionally, comments may be submitted to DOJ via facsimile to 202-514-1534.

Written comments and suggestions from the public should address one or more of the following points:

- (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies/components estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

**Overview of this Information Collection:**

- (1) Type of Information Collection: *Extension of a currently approved collection.*
- (2) Title of the Form/Collection: *Reengineered Foreign Students Pilot Program.*
- (3) Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Justice sponsoring the collection: *No agency form number. Office of Examinations—Adjudications Division, Immigration and Naturalization Service.*
- (4) Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract: *Primary: Not-for-profit institutions, Business or other for-profit. The INS and the United States Information Agency (USIA) are initiating a pilot project to test a prototype of a reengineered Foreign Student and School Program as mandated under Subtitle D, Section 641 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996. The pilot effort will test an administrative process to use a computer-supported notification and reporting process from schools to the INS regarding foreign students and exchange visitors through the duration of their status in the United States.*
- (5) An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time

estimated for an average respondent to respond: 50 respondents at 60 hours per response.

(6) An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection: 3,000 annual burden hours.  
 If additional information is required contact: Mr. Robert B. Briggs, Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Information Management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center, 1001 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: February 24, 1997.  
 Robert B. Briggs,  
*Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.*  
 [FR Doc. 97-5112 Filed 2-28-97; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 4410-18-M**

**MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection**

**AGENCY:** Merit Systems Protection Board.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) is requesting a one-year extension of approval of its optional appeal form, Optional Form 283 (Rev. 10/94) from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The appeal form is currently displayed in 5 CFR Part 1201, Appendix I, and on the MSPB Web Page at <http://www.gpo.gov/mspb/index.htm>.

In this regard, we are soliciting comments on the public reporting burden. The reporting burden for the collection of information on this form is estimated to vary from 20 minutes to one hour per response, with an average of 30 minutes, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

**ESTIMATED ANNUAL REPORTING BURDEN**

5 CFR section	Annual Number of respondents	Frequency per response	Total annual responses	Hours per response (average)	Total hours
1201 and 1209 .....	9,000	1	9,000	.5	4,500