

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Administration for Children and Families

[Program Announcement No. 93612-002]

Cancel Availability of Financial Assistance for the Mitigation of Environmental Impacts to Indian Lands Due to Department of Defense (DOD) Activities

AGENCY: Administration for Native Americans (ANA), ACF, DHHS.

ACTION: Cancel grant program announcement, remaining application deadlines and competitions to assist on environmental problems and impacts from DOD activities to Indian Lands. Additional information to follow.

SUMMARY: On January 22, 1999, in Vol. 64, No. 14 of the **Federal Register**, pages 3594 to 3601, the Administration for Native Americans announced the "Availability of Finance Assistance for the Mitigation of Environmental Impacts to Indian Lands due to Department of Defense Activities". Indian land was defined as all lands used by American Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages. Three deadline dates for submission of applications were published in that announcement: March 12, 1999, November 5, 1999 and November 4, 2000. This notice cancels the two remaining competitions under the program announcement; i.e., November 5, 1999 and November 4, 2000 deadlines are canceled. The Administration for Native Americans will publish additional information on the grant program as soon as possible.

Dated: August 31, 1999.

Gary N. Kimble,

Commissioner, Administration for Native Americans.

[FR Doc. 99-23899 Filed 9-13-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Administration for Children and Families
Privacy Act of 1974; Amended Systems of Records Notice

AGENCY: Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), ACF, DHHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) is

publishing an advisement concerning its system of records entitled "The Location and Collection System", DHHS/OCSE No. 09-90-0074.

The purpose of this notice is to advise the public about a pilot that OCSE and the Social Security Administration (SSA) will be conducting to determine the benefits and risks of allowing SSA to use a real time read only query to read limited information in the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH) for the purposes of verifying eligibility and/or payment amounts under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. The query gives SSA read only ability to look at limited wage, new hire and unemployment information ONLY to those social security numbers that have a payment or entitlement issue under the SSI program. No decision on whether to implement the proposed pilot on a permanent basis will be made until completion of the pilot and data analysis.

The goals of the pilot are to enable SSA to access which factors are most important for determining a SSI applicant's eligibility and payment amount on a pre-allowance (decisional) basis. Current means of verification are done on a post-entitlement basis, after individuals are in pay status. Pre-decisional information about entitlement and eligibility is expected to improve payment accuracy for SSA, reducing both overpayments and underpayments to beneficiaries and reduce the number of overpayment recovery activities SSA must take. The pilot will demonstrate the extent to which these expectations are realized, and provide a basis for deciding which data is most useful for improving payment accuracy.

DATES: The amendments described in this notice are effective September 14, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donna Bonar, Director, Division of Program Operations, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Administration for Children and Families, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW, 4th Floor East, Washington, DC 20447, (202) 401-4963. **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) is amending one of its System of Records, "The Location and Collection System," DHHS/OCSE No. 09-90-0074, last published at 64 FR 11015 on March 8, 1999. This amendment will allow the Social Security Administration (SSA) to use its Real-time Query Access (RQA) process to obtain information contained in the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH) for the purposes of verifying

eligibility and/or payment amounts under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. Section 453(j)(4) of the Social Security Act (the Act) authorized OCSE to provide SSA with information in the NDNH. The NDNH contains new hire, quarterly wage, and unemployment insurance information provided pursuant to sections 453(n), 453A(b) and 453A(g)(2) by the 50 States, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories and possessions, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and Federal agencies and instrumentalities. This amendment will allow SSA to have limited RQA to information in the NDNH database for the purpose of establishing or verifying eligibility and/or payment amounts under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program. Specifically, data elements to be used from the Quarterly Wage portions of the NDNH database are: For employees—SSN, SSN verification indicator and any corrected SSN, first name, middle name, last name, wage amount, quarter paid, and reporting period; for employers—name of employer, Federal (or optional State if no Federal) Employer Identification Number or Federal Information Processing System Code, address(es), State or Federal agency reporting the data; date the report was processed. Data elements to be used from the New Hire portions of the NDNH database are: For employees—employees' SSN, SSN verification indicator and any corrected SSN; employees' first name, middle name, last name, address(es), date of birth (optional), date of hire (optional), State of hire (optional); for employers—name of employer, Federal (or optional State if no Federal) Employer Identification Number or Federal Information Processing System Code, address of employer. Data elements to be used from the Unemployment Insurance portions of the NDNH database are: Unemployment insurance record identifier, SSN, SSN verification indicator and any corrected SSN; employee's first name, middle name, last name, address, unemployment insurance benefit amount, reporting period, quarter paid, payer State, date report processed. SSA anticipates that RQA access to the NDNH will facilitate earlier overpayment detection, reduce the number of incorrect entitlements, and reduce the number of overpayment recovery actions. Fifty field offices within the SSA will participate in a pilot program during which they will utilize RQA data retrieval. If the pilot is determined to be successful, a national rollout will follow.