

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collection; and
- 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 submissions of response.

III. Current Actions

Type of Review: Extension (Pending emergency OMB approval).

Agency: Employment and Training Administration.

Title: One-Stop Labor Market Information Grant Reporting.

OMB Number: 1205-ONEW.

Affected Public: States.

Form	Number of respondents	Responses per year	Total responses	Hours per response	Total burden hours
Annual Plan	54	1	54	36	1,944
Progress Reports	54	2	108	6	648
Totals	54	3	162	42	2,592

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining): \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 8, 2000.

Grace Kilbane,

Administrator, Office of Workforce Security.

[FR Doc. 00-23513 Filed 9-12-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

September 6, 2000.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized,

collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning the extension of the collection of the One-Stop Occupational Employment Statistics Survey Plan and Progress Reports. A copy of this ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee's section below on or before November 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Steve Aaronson, U.S. Employment Service, Office of Workforce Security, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room C-4512, Washington, DC 20210; telephone 202-219-9092 x.151 fax 202-208-5844 (these are not toll-free numbers).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

This extension is being requested in order to continue collecting information from States for One-Stop Occupational Employment Statistics survey grants. Specifically we are seeking approval for an annual grant narrative and two brief progress reports. This information is needed in order for the Secretary of Labor to assure that the Department is meeting in part the responsibilities in Wagner-Peyser section 15 for an employment statistics system. Further, this information is necessary in order that departmental staff, primarily in the Employment and Training

Administration, may make intelligent and informed decisions as to whether or not funds awarded to the States were productive and produced a return on investment and met customer needs.

II. Review and Focus

The Office of Management and Budget is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information have a practical utility;

- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- 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 automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of response.

III. Current Action

Type of Review: Extension.

Agency: Employment & Training.

Title: One-Stop Occupational Employment Statistics Survey Grant Reporting.

OMB Number: 1205-ONEW.

Affected Public: States.

Form	Number of respondents	Responses per year	Total responses	Hour per response	Total burden hours
Annual Plan	54	1	54	36	1944
Progress Reports (2)	54	2	108	6	648
Totals	54	3	162	42	2592

Total Burden Hours: 2592.
Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): 0.
Total Burden Cost (operating/
maintaining): 0.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 8, 2000.

Grace Kilbane,

Administrator, Office of Workforce Security.
[FR Doc. 00-23514 Filed 9-12-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Grants for Implementing Individual Training Account (ITA) Approaches Through the ITA Experiment

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Labor.

ACTION: Notice of availability of funds and solicitation for grant applications (SGA). *This Notice Contains All of the Necessary Information and Forms Needed to Apply for Grant Funding.*

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) announces a competitive solicitation for grant applications (SGA) and the availability of approximately \$4.5 million for approximately six grant awards. Through this notice, DOL seeks to identify local Workforce Investment Areas (local areas) committed to implementing three distinctly different approaches for delivering Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) to their customers (participants). Applicants awarded a grant under this SGA will participate in the ITA Experiment, the purpose of which is to provide better information to State and local administrators as they determine the roles of counselors in the management of participant choices in ITAs; plan the allocation of staff and training resources to best meet their objectives; and strive for the continuous improvement of services under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

The WIA legislation provides States and locals with considerable flexibility in using ITAs to manage participants' choices of training providers. State and local administrators are therefore faced with developing their own ITA approaches to best serve their participants. The ITA Experiment will

test three ITA approaches from a spectrum of possible ITA approaches that could be adopted by local areas. All eligible participants will receive an ITA offer; that is, there will be no "control group" where participants are denied ITAs. Control groups will not be used because the goal of the ITA Experiment is to see which type of ITA approach, or aspects of those approaches, works best. By rigorously testing three very different ITA approaches, the ITA Experiment will help to establish which approach(es) work best for participants, for counselors, for local areas, and for the workforce development system as a whole. Administrators will be able to use this information to determine how to design an ITA system best suited for their State or local community.

Applicants awarded a grant under this SGA will receive the following benefits: (1) Federal funding to support administrative costs and other activities related to implementation and operation of ITAs; (2) support from DOL and research contractor staff experienced with and knowledgeable about ITAs and related employment and training activities; (3) technical assistance in implementing ITAs that is based on the most current research findings from the employment and training community nationwide; (4) on-going support from the research contractors in conducting all experimental activities, where the objectives of the research contractors will be to involve local staff in planning, minimize the burden on local staff, and provide responsive technical assistance and clear training materials; and (5) practical information on what ITA approach works best in their community. It is anticipated that grantees selected to implement the ITA approaches under this SGA will be exempt from performance measures for the length of the intake period.

DATES: Applications will be accepted commencing on the date of publication. The closing date for receipt of applications under this announcement is Thursday, November 30, 2000, at 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) at the address below. *Telefacsimile (FAX), Telegraphed, or Electronic Applications Will Not Be Honored.*

ADDRESSES: Applications shall be mailed to the U. S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Division of Federal Assistance, Attention: Ms. Yvonne Harrell, SGA/DFA 00-111, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room S-4203, Washington, DC 20210.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions should be faxed to Ms. Yvonne Harrell, Grants Management

Specialist, Division of Federal Assistance, Fax (202) 219-8739. This is not a toll-free number. All inquires should include the SGA number (DFA 00-111), and a contact name, fax and telephone numbers. This solicitation is also being published on the Internet at ETA's home page at www.doleta.gov. Award notifications will also be published on the ETA home page.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Authority

The Individual Training Account (ITA) Experiment is being conducted under Section 171(c) of the Workforce Investment Act, which provides DOL/ETA with the authority to conduct multi-service projects, research projects, and multi-state projects. For example, multi-service projects test an array of approaches to the provision of employment and training services to a variety of targeted population; design, develop, and test various training approaches in order to determine effective practices; and assist in the development and replication of effective service delivery strategies for targeted populations for the national employment system as a whole. Research projects contribute to the solution of employment and training problems. Multi-state projects effectively disseminate best practices and models for implementing employment and training services; and obtain information relating to the provision of services under different economic conditions or to various demographic groups in order to provide guidance at the national and State levels about how to best administer specific employment and training services.

II. Part I—Background Summary

ETA is soliciting proposals on a competitive basis for the implementation of three different ITA approaches for managing a participant's choice in the administration of ITAs under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). The ITA approaches will be implemented through the ITA Experiment to provide State and local administrators with information on the effects of different ITA approaches to assist them in determining which approach is most appropriate to adopt.

This announcement consists of six parts:

- (1) Part I—Background Summary
- (2) Part II—Eligible Applicants and Application Process.
- (3) Part III—Statement of Work
- (4) Part IV—Submission of Application
- (5) Part V—Rating Criteria and Selection Process