

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE****Immigration and Naturalization Service****[INS 2119-01]****Effective Date of the Revised Form I-129W****AGENCY:** Immigration and Naturalization Service, Justice.**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces that, effective April 13, 2001, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) will only accept the December 18, 2000, version of Form I-129W, H-1B Data Collection and Filing Fee Exemption. Prior editions of the form will not be accepted. Form I-129W is a supplemental form designed by the INS to capture essential information required for the adjudication of Form I-129, Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker. The information captured on Form I-129W is required as a result of recent legislation.

**DATES:** This notice is effective April 13, 2001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John W. Brown, Adjudications Officer, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 425 I Street, NW., Room 3214, Washington, DC 20536, telephone (202) 353-8177.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background***Who Is an H-1B Nonimmigrant?*

An H-1B nonimmigrant is an alien employed in a specialty occupation or a fashion model of distinguished merit and ability. A specialty occupation is an occupation that requires theoretical and practical application of a body of specialized knowledge and attainment of a bachelor's or higher degree in the specific specialty as a minimum for entry into the United States.

*What Is a Form I-129W?*

Form I-129W, H-1B Data Collection and Filing Fee Exemption, is a supplemental form designed by the INS to capture essential information required for the adjudication of Form I-129, Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker. The information captured on Form I-129W is required as a result of the passage of three bills: The American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998, Public Law 105-277 (ACWIA); An Act to increase the amount of fees charged to employers who are petitioners for the employment of H-1B nonimmigrant workers, Public Law 106-311; and the American Competitiveness in the Twenty-First

Century Act, Public Law 106-313 (AC21). The Form I-129W also captures information required by the INS to compile reports required by Congress. The INS is presently modifying Form I-129 in order to capture the information requested on Form I-129W. When this effort is completed, the Form I-129W will no longer be used. Once Form I-129 is revised, INS will publish these proposed changes in a future edition of the **Federal Register** for public comment in accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

*What Does This Notice Do?*

This notice announces that as of April 13, 2001, the INS will only accept December 18, 2000, versions of Form I-129W. Earlier versions of the Form I-129W that are submitted after April 13, 2001 will not be accepted. The INS will reject a Form I-129 that is not accompanied by the correct version of Form I-129W.

Dated: March 23, 2001.

**Mary Ann Wyrsh,***Acting Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service.*

[FR Doc. 01-7842 Filed 3-29-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4410-10-M****DEPARTMENT OF LABOR****Veterans' Employment and Training Service****Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Request for Comments****AGENCY:** Veterans' Employment and Training Service, Labor.**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on the proposed continued 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, VETS is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection request for the VETS 300,

Cost Accounting Report, DVOP/LVER Programs and Manager's Report.

**DATES:** Comments are to be submitted by May 29, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments are to be mailed to the Veterans' Employment and Training Service, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-1316, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20210, to the attention of Ronald Bachman, Acting Director, Office of Operations and Programs. Written comments limited to 10 pages or fewer may be transmitted by facsimile to (202) 693-4755 or e-mail to *Bachman-Ronald@dol.gov*. Receipt of submissions, whether by U.S. mail, e-mail or FAX transmittal, will not be acknowledged; however, the sender may request confirmation that a submission has been received, by telephoning VETS at (202) 693-4707 (VOICE) or (202) 693-4753 (TTY/TDD).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Ronald Bachman, Acting Director, Office of Operations and Programs, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-1316, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20210, telephone: (202) 693-4707.

Copies of the referenced information collection request are available for inspection and copying through VETS and will be mailed to persons who request copies by telephoning Ronald Bachman at (202) 693-4707.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Background**

The VETS 300 Cost Accounting Report DVOP/LVER Report provides data on State public employment service program expenditures. This data is used at the Federal level by VETS for program budgeting and administration purposes, and to meet the mandated reporting requirements to the President and to Congress. Each State Employment Service Office is required to submit the VETS 300 Cost Accounting Report on a quarterly basis, and one additional, Final Fiscal Year Report.

Title 38 U.S.C. requires not less frequently than on a quarterly basis, an LVER assigned to a local employment service office (LESO) submit a report (Manager's Report) to the manager of the office, and to the Director Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DVET). This report addresses the LESO's compliance and performance with Federal law and regulations with respect to special services and priorities for eligible veterans and eligible persons. Section V(C)(3) of the Special Grant Provisions, requires that this

quarterly report also include, at the least, an analysis of compliance with the applicable measures of Services or standards of performance pertinent to services to veterans, and the quantity and quality of services provided to eligible veterans and eligible persons by the LESO (or other designated service delivery point), to include Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment activity.

These reports were previously submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval as part of a package by the Employment and Training Administration and assigned OMB No. 1205-0240. VETS is submitting a new request to extend the current collection forms and requesting a new OMB Number.

**II. Desired Focus of Comments**

Currently VETS is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection

request for the VETS 300 Cost Accounting Report DVOP/LVER Programs and Manager's Report. The Department of Labor 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 will have 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 collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

**III. Current Actions**

This notice requests extended approval from OMB for the collection of information, submission, and other paperwork requirements of the VETS Cost Accounting Report; DVOP/LVER Programs.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Agency:* Veterans' Employment and Training Service.

*Title:* VETS 300 Cost Accounting Report DVOP/LVER.

*OMB Number:* New (formerly 1205-0240).

*Affected Public:* State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

Reports	Number of respondents	Number of responses	Frequency	Average time per response (hours)	Estimated burden hours
VETS-300 .....	53	265	Quarterly .....	1	265
Manager's Report .....	1,600	8,000	Annually .....		
			Quarterly .....	.83	6,640
			Annually .....		
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>1,653</b>	<b>8,265</b>	.....	.....	<b>6,905</b>

*Total Annualized Capital/startup costs:* \$0.

*Total Initial Annual Costs:* \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the agency's request for OMB approval of the information collection request. Comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 26, 2001.

**Stanley A. Seidel,**

*First Assistant Secretary, VETS.*

[FR Doc. 01-7910 Filed 3-29-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-79-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Employment and Training Administration**

**Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor (DOL), 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 the requested data can be provided in the desired format, the reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, the collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is soliciting comments about the proposed new collection of information on the validity or correctness of certain Unemployment Insurance (UI) data that States now provide to ETA in monthly, quarterly or annual reports. Some of these data are used to calculate performance measures or to allocate the funds used for program administration. ETA is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval under the PRA95 to establish a UI Data Validation (UIDV) program to replace the existing Workload Validation (WV) program. The WV program, for which authority expired on 12/31/2000, validated—checked the accuracy of—a small number of reported data elements that

are used to determine the allocation of funds appropriated for UI program administration. Under the more comprehensive UIDV program, States would validate about half the data they now report, including all the workload items. The UIDV system would increase the validation reporting burden. A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section below on or before May 29, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** All comments about this proposed collection of information should be addressed to: Burman Skrable, Office of Workforce Security, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-4231, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: 202-693-3197 (this is not a toll-free number); fax: 202-693-3229; e-mail: [bskrable@doleta.gov](mailto:bskrable@doleta.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

Section 303(a)(6) of the Social Security Act specifies that the Secretary