

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations and individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 10,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 23 hr., 55 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 239,175.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: February 28, 2003.

Glenn P. Kirkland,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-5341 Filed 3-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Internal Revenue Service Advisory Council (IRSAC) and Information Reporting Program Advisory Committee (IRPAC); Nominations

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service, Department of Treasury.

ACTION: Request for nominations.

SUMMARY: The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requests nominations of individuals to be considered for selection as Internal Revenue Service Advisory Council (IRSAC) and Information Reporting Program Advisory Committee (IRPAC) members. Interested parties may nominate themselves and/or at least one other qualified person for membership. Nominations will be accepted for current vacancies and should describe and document the applicants' qualifications for membership. IRSAC is comprised of twenty-three (23) members, approximately half of these IRSAC appointments will expire in November 2003; IRPAC is comprised of twenty (20) members, approximately half of these members appointments will expire in October 2003. It is important that the IRSAC and IRPAC continue to represent a diverse taxpayer and stakeholder base. Accordingly, to maintain membership diversity, selection is based on applicant's qualifications as well as the segment or group he/she represents.

The Internal Revenue Service Advisory Council (IRSAC) provides an organized public forum for IRS officials and representatives of the public to discuss relevant tax administration issues. The Council advises the Commissioner on issues that have a substantive effect on federal tax administration. As an advisory body designed to focus on broad policy matters, the IRSAC reviews existing tax policy and/or recommends policies with respect to emerging tax administration issues. The IRSAC suggests operational improvements, offers constructive observations regarding current or proposed IRS policies, programs, and procedures, and advises the Commissioner with respect to issues having substantive effect on federal tax administration.

The Information Reporting Program Advisory Committee (IRPAC) advises the IRS on information reporting issues of mutual concern to the private sector and the federal government. The committee works with the Commissioner and other IRS executives to provide recommendations on a wide range of information reporting administration issues. Membership is balanced to include representation from the taxpaying public, the tax professional community, small and large businesses, state tax administration, and the payroll community.

DATES: Written nominations must be received on or before May 30, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Nominations should be sent to Ms. Jacqueline Tilghman, National Public Liaison, CL:NPL:PAC, Room 7563 IR, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224, Attn: IRSAC Nominations; or by e-mail: *public_liaison@irs.gov. Applications may be submitted by mail to the address above or faxed to 202-927-5253. However, if submitted via a facsimile, the original application must be received by mail, as National Public Liaison cannot consider an applicant nor process his/her application prior to receipt of an original signature. Application packages are available on the Tax Professional's Page, which is located on the IRS Internet Web site at <http://www.irs.gov/taxpros/index.html>. Application packages may also be requested by telephone from National Public Liaison, 202-622-6440 (not a toll-free number).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Jacqueline Tilghman, 202-622-6440 (not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authorized under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Pub. L. No. 92-463, the first Advisory Group to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue or the Commissioner's Advisory Group (CAG)—was established in 1953 as a national policy and/or issue advisory committee and was renamed in 1998 to reflect the agency-wide scope of its focus as an advisory body.

Conveying the public's perception of IRS activities to the Commissioner, the IRSAC and IRPAC are comprised of individuals who bring substantial, disparate experience and diverse backgrounds on the Council's/Committee's activities. Membership is balanced to include representation from the taxpaying public, the tax professional community, small and large businesses, state tax administration, and the payroll community.

IRSAC and IRPAC members are appointed by the Commissioner and serve a term of three years. The Commissioner determines the size of the IRSAC and IRPAC and the organizations represented on the Council/Committee. Working groups mirror the reorganized IRS and address policies and administration issues specific to the four Operating Divisions. Members are not paid for their services. However, travel expenses for working sessions, public meetings and orientation sessions, such as airfare, per diem, and transportation to and from airports, train stations, etc., are reimbursed within prescribed federal travel limitations.

Receipt of nominations will be acknowledged, nominated individuals contacted, and immediately thereafter, biographical information must be completed and returned to Ms. Jacqueline Tilghman in National Public Liaison within fifteen (15) days of receipt. In accordance with Department of Treasury Directive 21-03, a clearance process including pre-appointment and annual tax checks, a Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal and subversive name check, and a security clearance will be conducted.

Equal opportunity practices will be followed for all appointments to the IRSAC and IRPAC in accordance with the Department of Treasury and IRS policies. To ensure that the recommendations of the IRSAC/IRPAC have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the IRS, membership shall include individuals who demonstrate the ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

Dated: February 27, 2003.

Robin Marusin,

Designated Federal Official, National Public Liaison.

[FR Doc. 03-5340 Filed 3-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-New, USAA/Hartford]

Agency Information Collection: Emergency Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the following emergency proposal for the collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3507(j)(1)). An emergency clearance is being requested pursuant to a Settlement Agreement resolving litigation between VA and United Services Automobile Association (USAA) and Hartford Life Insurance to reimburse veterans insured by either carrier during the period from January 1, 1995 through December 31, 2001 who paid copayments to VA during that

period for their VA care. OMB has been requested to act on this emergency clearance request by March 10, 2003.

DATE: Comments must be submitted on or before March 13, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT:

Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030, FAX (202) 273-5981 or e-mail: denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-New, USAA/Hartford."

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316 or FAX (202) 395-6974. Please refer to "2900-New, USAA/Hartford."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: VA Copayment Refund—USAA/Hartford Claim Form, VA Form 10-0406.

OMB Control Number: 2900-New, USAA/Hartford.

Type of Review: New collection.

Abstract: As a result of a Settlement Agreement between VA, USAA and Hartford, VA will reimburse veterans insured by either carrier for copayments they paid to VA for their medical care from January 1, 1995 through December 31, 2001. Such insured veterans will have a one year time period from the initial notification date on a first-come-first-served basis, to file claim with VA for refund of their copayments. VA Form 10-0406 will be used to collect the information and to determine the validity of such claims. If the information is not collected, VA will not be able to reimburse those insured veterans.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 12,000 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 24,000.

Dated: February 26, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Martin L. Hill,

Acting Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-5195 Filed 3-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0178]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 7, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT:

Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030, FAX (202) 273-5981 or e-mail: denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0178."

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0178" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Monthly Certification of On-the-Job and Apprenticeship Training, VA Form 22-6553d. (**Note:** A reference to VA Form 22-6553d also includes VA Form 22-6553d-1 unless otherwise specified. VA Form 22-6553d-1 contains the same information as VA Form 22-6553d.)

OMB Control Number: 2900-0178

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA 22-6553d is used by trainees and employers to report the number of hours worked in on-the-job training programs and apprenticeships, and to report terminations of training in such programs. VA uses the information to determine whether a trainee's education benefits are to be continued, changed or terminated, and the effective date of such action. VA is authorized to pay education benefits to veterans and