• Information provided by the customer concerning the types and amounts of traditional bank products needed or desired by the customer and the customer’s ability to obtain those products from the bank or its affiliates; and
• The bank personnel authorized to make the analysis described above for individual customers or classes of customers and the training and guidelines provided these personnel; and
• The internal processes and controls, including approval and documentation requirements, the bank uses to ensure that the analysis described above is (i) performed by the bank for a customer before the customer is offered a mixed-product arrangement and (ii) adequately reflected in the records of the bank.

The bank’s policies and procedures also should ensure that any material information relied on by the bank in analyzing the types and amounts of traditional bank products likely required by a customer is current and reliable, and that the assessment of a customer’s ability to satisfy the condition associated with a mixed-product arrangement solely through the purchase of traditional bank products is made prior to, and reasonably current with, the time the arrangement is offered to the customer.

The types and amount of information and level of analysis necessary for a bank to establish a good faith belief that a customer has a meaningful choice under a mixed-product arrangement may vary depending on the nature and characteristics of the arrangement and the types of customer(s) to which it is offered. For example, a less detailed and granular review likely would be required for a bank to establish a good faith belief that a large, complex company has a meaningful option of satisfying a condition solely through the purchase of traditional bank products than a smaller company with less complex business operations. In addition, a less detailed review likely would be necessary for a bank to develop a good faith estimate of the need for traditional bank products of an existing customer with a long history with the bank than of a potential customer or a customer with only a brief relationship with the bank.

C. Ability of Banks to Offer Mixed-Product Arrangements to Individuals

Bank products directed to individuals typically are standardized. Although such standardization may allow the product to be offered economically to large numbers of individual customers, it also means that the terms of the product typically are not modified to the same extent as with corporate customers to reflect the specific needs and resources of the customer.

Furthermore, because individuals typically have less bargaining power and may be less financially sophisticated, individuals may be more susceptible to subtle pressure by a bank that encourages the customer to purchase a non-traditional product from the bank or an affiliate. The potential for such subtle pressure to be applied in a manner that is both effective and difficult to uncover is particularly strong in mixed-product arrangements because these arrangements include both traditional bank products and non-traditional products and individuals often believe that they do not have (and, in fact, may not have) the ability to negotiate with a bank. These facts make it difficult for a bank to establish a good faith belief that a mixed-product arrangement provides an individual a meaningful option to satisfy the condition associated with the arrangement solely through the purchase of traditional bank products without a detailed and, in many cases, uneconomical analysis of the financial needs and capabilities of each individual offered the arrangement.

The Board recognizes that section 106 limits the ability of banking organizations to provide individual consumers with discounts on packages of bundled products and, thus, pass along the cost savings that may arise from bundled offerings in ways that are both pro-consumer and not anti-competitive. It was in part to allow banks some flexibility to provide individual consumers with the benefits of discounts on bundled offerings that the Board in 1995 exercised its exemptive authority to adopt a safe-harbor for combined-balance discount programs, which are a type of mixed-product arrangement that typically are marketed to individuals.76 Moreover, the Board notes that section 106 does not impede the ability of a bank to provide individual consumers with discounts on packages of bundled traditional bank products and does not restrict the ability of a nonbank affiliate of a bank to offer mixed-product arrangements to individual consumers.

76 This exception, which is discussed in Part IV.D, allows banks to offer certain combined-balance discount programs to individuals without making a specific determination that the particular customer has a meaningful option of qualifying for the discounts within the program solely through the use of the deposit products (a traditional bank product) included in the program. See 12 CFR 225.7(b)(2).
Diem Bulletin 04

CONUS per diem rate is insufficient to travel travelers to find lodging close to where Government continues to grow as GSA has awarded the per diem rate-setting process. The FPLP Lodging Program (FPLP) into the per diem localities. The per diem prescribed in Bulletin 04—1 may be found at http://www.gsa.gov/perdiem. In an effort to improve the ability of the per diem rates to meet the lodging demands of Federal travelers to high cost travel locations, the General Services Administration (GSA) has integrated the contracting mechanism of the new Federal Premier Lodging Program (FPLP) into the per diem rate-setting process. The FPLP continues to grow as GSA has awarded virtually all contracts in the top 70 Federal metropolitan travel destinations. The FPLP enhances the Government’s ability to better meet its overall room night demand and allows travelers to find lodging close to where they need to conduct business. If a CONUS per diem rate is insufficient to meet necessary expenses bulletin 04—1 also contains a listing of pertinent lodging and meal cost data that must be submitted through an agency requesting a location be resurveyed.

DATES: This notice is effective October 1, 2003, and applies for travel performed on or after October 1, 2003.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

After an analysis of additional data, GSA has determined that current lodging and meals and incidental expenses (M&E) allowances for certain localities do not adequately reflect the cost of lodging in those areas.

B. Change in Standard Procedure

GSA will issue/publish the CONUS per diem rates, formerly published in appendix A to 41 CFR chapter 301, solely on the Internet at http://www.gsa.gov/perdiem. This new process ensures timely increases or decreases in per diem rates established by GSA for Federal employees on official travel within CONUS. Notices published periodically in the Federal Register such as this one now constitute the only notification of revisions in CONUS per diem rates to agencies.


John Sindelar, Deputy Associate Administrator. [FR Doc. 03–22107 Filed 8–28–03; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 6620–14–M

HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Notice of Intent To Extend an Information Collection

AGENCY: Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation.

ACTION: Submission for OMB review; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Truman Scholarship Foundation [Foundation] has submitted the following information collection requirement to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. This is the second notice for public comment; the first was published in the Federal Register (June 27, 2003 (Volume 68, Number 124), Page 38341), and no comments were received. The Foundation is forwarding the proposed renewal submission to OMB for clearance simultaneously with the publication of this second notice.

Comments: Comments regarding (a) whether the proposed 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 proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (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 should be addressed to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, and to Louis H. Blair, Executive Secretary, Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation, 712 Jackson Place, NW., Washington, DC 20005, or send e-mail to lblair@truman.gov.

DATES: Comments regarding this information collection are best assured of having their full effect if received on or before September 28, 2003. Copies of the submission may be obtained at 202–395–7434.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Louis H. Blair, Executive Secretary, Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation, 712 Jackson Place, NW., Washington, DC 20006; telephone 202–395–4831; or send e-mail to lblair@truman.gov. You also may obtain a copy of the data collection instrument and instructions from Mr. Blair.

The Foundation may not conduct a collection of information unless the collection displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such person are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: Truman Scholarship Application.

OMB Approval Number: 3200–0004.

Expiration Date of Approval: 08/03.

Type of Request: Intent to seek approval to extend an information collection for three years.

Proposed Project: The Foundation has been providing scholarships since 1977 in compliance with Public Law 93–642. This data collection instrument is used to collect essential information to enable the Truman Scholarship Finalists Selection Committee to determine whom to invite to interviews. It is used by Regional Review Panels as essential background information on the Finalists whom they interview and ultimately the Truman Scholars they select. A total response rate of 100% was provided by the 635 candidates who applied for Year 2003 Truman Scholarships.

Estimate of Burden: The Foundation estimates that, on average, 50 hours per respondent will be required to complete the application, for a total of 35,000 hours for all respondents.

Respondents: Individuals.

Estimated Number of Responses: 700.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 35,000 hours.


Louis H. Blair, Executive Secretary. [FR Doc. 03–22203 Filed 8–28–03; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 6620–AD–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Announcement of Continuation of a Cooperative Agreement for the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Program for Academic Societies

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of the Secretary, Office of Public Health and Science, Office of Research Integrity.