

program, VA must first determine that the new program is suitable to the claimant's aptitudes, interests, and abilities, or that the cause of any unsatisfactory progress or conduct has been resolved before entering into a different program. VA Form 22-8873 is used to gather the necessary information only if the suitability of the proposed training program cannot be established from information already available in the claimant's VA education records.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 9,150 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 18,300.

Dated: October 2, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Jacqueline Parks,

IT Specialist, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-25837 Filed 10-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0379]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on the information needed to verify the actual number of hours worked by a work-study claimant.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before December 15, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to

Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20S52), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420 e-mail: irmnkess@vba.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0379" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-7079 or FAX (202) 275-5947.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-21), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Title: Time Record (Work-Study Program), VA Form 22-8690.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0379.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 22-8690 is used to report the number of hours completed and to ensure that the amount of benefits payable to a claimant who is pursuing work-study is correct. When a claimant elects to receive an advance payment, VA will make the advance payment for 50 hours, but will withhold benefits (to recoup the advance payment) until the claimant completes his or her 50 hours of service. VA will not pay any additional amount in advance payment cases until the claimant completes a total of 100 hours of service (50 hours for the advance payment and 50 hours for an additional payment). If the claimant elects not to receive an advance payment, benefits are payable when the claimant completes 50 hours of service.

Affected Public: State, Local or Tribal Governments, Individuals or households, Business or other for-profit, Not-for-profit institutions, and Federal Government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 10,750 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 5 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Annual Responses: 129,000.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 32,250.

Dated: October 1, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Jacqueline Parks,

IT Specialist, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-25838 Filed 10-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0523]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments for information to determine the veteran-borrower's ability to qualify for guaranteed loan.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before December 15, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20S52), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420 or <mailto:irmnkess@vba.va.gov>. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0523" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-7079 or FAX (202) 275-5947.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C., 3501-3520), Federal agencies must

obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Title: Loan Analysis, VA Form 26-6393.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0523.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 26-6393 is used to determine a veteran-borrower qualification for a VA-guaranteed loan. Lenders complete and submit the form to provide evidence that the lender's decision to submit a prior approval loan application or close a loan on the automatic basis is based upon appropriate application of VA credit standards.

Affected Public: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 100,000 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200,000.

Dated: October 2, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Jacqueline Parks,

IT Specialist, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-25839 Filed 10-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment Task Force; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that a meeting of the VA Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (VR&E) Task Force will be held on Wednesday,

October 22, 2003, in Room 530 at the VA Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. The meeting will be open to the public.

The purpose of the Task Force is to conduct an independent review of the VR&E program within the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA). The Task Force will provide recommendations to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on improving the Department's ability to provide comprehensive services and assistance to veterans with service-connected disabilities and employment handicaps in becoming employable, and obtaining and maintaining suitable employment. The Task Force will also assess independent living services provided by VBA.

The October 22, 2003, meeting will convene at 8 a.m. and adjourn after the Task Force has completed discussion on potential recommendations designed to improve VA's ability to deliver employment and vocational rehabilitation services. That discussion is expected to focus on issues that fall generally within the Task Force's areas of emphasis—internal management, systems integration, employment, and independent living services.

No time will be allocated for receiving oral presentations from the public. Members of the public may submit written comments for review by the Committee to: Mr. John O'Hara, Designated Federal Officer, Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment Task Force, c/o Office of Policy, Planning, and Preparedness (008B), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. Mr. O'Hara's email is john.o'hara@mail.va.gov and his fax number is (202) 273-5991.

Dated: October 3, 2003.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Phil Riggan,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-25840 Filed 10-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Performance Review Board Members

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 4314(c)(4) agencies are required to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** of the appointment of Performance Review Board (PRB) members. This notice revises the list of

members of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Performance Review Boards, which was published in the **Federal Register** (Vol. 67, No. 185), on September 24, 2002.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 14, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Charlotte Moment, Office of Human Resources Management (052B), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8165.

VA Performance Review Board (PRB)

William H. Campbell, Acting Assistant Secretary for Human Resources and Administration (Chairperson)

Nora E. Egan, Chief of Staff

William D. Stinger, Deputy Under

Secretary for Benefits, Veterans

Benefits Administration

Jonathan B. Perlin, Deputy Under

Secretary for Health, Veterans Health

Administration

John H. Thompson, Deputy General

Counsel

D. Mark Catlett, Principal Deputy

Assistant Secretary for Management

Lucretia M. McClenney, Special

Assistant

Michael G. Sullivan, Deputy Inspector

General

Edward F. Meagher, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information Technology

Management

Eligah D. Clark, Chairman, Board of

Veteran's Appeals

Ventris C. Gibson, Deputy Assistant

Secretary for Human Resources

Management (Alternate)

Michael Walcoff, Associate Deputy

Under Secretary for Operations,

Veterans Benefits Administration

(Alternate)

Laura J. Miller, Assistant Deputy Under

Secretary for Health for Operations

and Management (Alternate)

Veterans Benefits Administration PRB

William D. Stinger, Deputy Under

Secretary for Benefits, (Chairperson)

Robert J. Epley, Associate Deputy Under

Secretary for Policy & Program

Management

James Bohmbach, Chief Financial

Officer

Michael Walcoff, Associate Deputy

Under Secretary for Field Operations

Geraldine V. Breakfield, Associate

Deputy Under Secretary for

Management

Diana M. Rubens, Director, Western

Area Office

Ronald R. Aument, Deputy Chief of

Staff, Office of the Secretary

Veterans Health Administration PRB

Jonathan B. Perlin, M.D., Ph.D.,

M.S.H.A., Deputy Under Secretary for

Health (Chairperson)