

8358, FAX (202) 418-3251 or via email to MaryBeth.Smith-Toomey@opm.gov. Please include a mailing address with your request.

DATES: Comments on this proposal should be received within 60 calendar days from the date of this publication.

ADDRESSES: Send or deliver comments to—Pamela S. Israel, Chief, Operations Support Group, Retirement Services Program, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 3349, Washington, DC 20415-3540.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cyrus S. Benson, Team Leader, Publications Team, RIS Support Services/Support Group, (202) 606-0623.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Dan G. Blair,

Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 05-10271 Filed 5-23-05; 8:45 am]

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**OFFICE OF PERSONNEL
MANAGEMENT**

**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request for Extension of a
Revised Information Collection:
Nonforeign Area Cost-of-Living
Allowance Price and Background
Surveys**

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for extension of two previously-approved information collections for which approval will soon expire. OPM uses the two information collections, a price survey and a background survey, to gather data to be used in determining nonforeign area cost-of-living allowances (COLAs) paid to certain Federal employees in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. OPM conducts Price Surveys in the Washington, DC, area on an annual basis and once every 3 years in each allowance area on a rotating basis. Prior to these surveys, OPM conducts Background Surveys that are similar to the Price Surveys, but much more limited in scope. OPM uses the results of the Background Surveys to prepare for the Price Surveys.

The COLA Price Survey is necessary for collecting living-cost data used to determine COLAs. OPM uses the Price

Survey results to compare prices in the allowance areas with prices in the Washington, DC, area and to derive COLA rates where local living costs significantly exceed those in the DC area. The COLA Background Survey is necessary to determine the continued appropriateness of items, services, and businesses selected for the annual price surveys. OPM uses the Background Survey results to identify items to be priced and the outlets at which OPM will price the items in the Price Surveys.

OPM will survey selected retail, service, realty, and other businesses and local governments in the allowance areas and in the Washington, DC, area. OPM will contact approximately 2,000 establishments in each annual Price Survey and approximately 100 establishments in each annual Background Survey. Participation in the surveys is voluntary.

OPM estimates that the average price survey interview will take approximately 6 minutes, for a total burden of 200 hours. The average background survey interview will take approximately 6.5 minutes, for a total burden of 11 hours.

For copies of this proposal, please contact Mary Beth Smith-Toomey at (202) 606-8358; fax: (202) 418-3251; or E-mail: mbtoomey@opm.gov.

DATES: Submit comments on or before June 23, 2005.

ADDRESSES: *Comments:* Send or deliver comments to:

- Donald J. Winstead, Deputy Associate Director for Pay and Performance Policy, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20415-8200; fax: (202) 606-4264, or e-mail: cola@opm.gov; and

- Brenda Aguilar, OPM Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, NW., Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kurt M. Springmann, (202) 606-2838.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: OPM published notice of its intention to request an extension of the price and background surveys in the **Federal Register** on February 1, 2005 (70 FR 5258). OPM received no comments.

Office of Personnel Management.

Dan G. Blair,

Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 05-10272 Filed 5-23-05; 8:45 am]

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**OFFICE OF PERSONNEL
MANAGEMENT**

**Comment Request for Review of an
Expiring Information Collection:
Establishment Information Form, Wage
Data Collection Form, Wage Data
Collection Continuation Form DD 1918,
DD 1919, and DD 1919C**

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, May 22, 1995), the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) seeks comments on its intention to request Office of Management and Budget clearance of three currently approved information collection forms. The Establishment Information Form, the Wage Data Collection Form, and the Wage Data Collection Continuation Form are wage survey forms developed by OPM for use by the Department of Defense to establish prevailing wage rates for Federal Wage System employees.

DATES: Submit comments on or before July 25, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Send or deliver comments to Donald J. Winstead, Deputy Associate Director for Pay and Performance Policy, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20415-8200; fax (202) 606-4264; or e-mail pay-performance-policy@opm.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Madeline Gonzalez, (202) 606-2838; fax (202) 606-4264; or e-mail pay-performance-policy@opm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Defense contacts approximately 21,200 businesses annually to determine the level of wages paid by private enterprise establishments for representative jobs common to both private industry and the Federal Government. Each survey collection requires 1-4 hours of respondent burden, resulting in a total yearly burden of approximately 75,800 hours.

Comments are particularly invited on whether (1) this information is necessary for the proper performance of OPM functions, (2) it will have practical utility, (3) our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate and based on valid assumptions and methodology, and (4) ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.