

annual adjustments and to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** each calendar year, announcing annual adjustments in allowable charges that may be made by covered agricultural and logging employers for providing three meals daily to their U.S. and alien workers. The 2005, rates were published in the **Federal Register** Notice, 70 FR 10152, (March 2, 2005).

DOL has determined the percentage change between December of 2004, and December of 2005, for the CPI-U for Food was 2.4 percent. Accordingly, the maximum allowable charges under 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4), 655.202(b)(4), 655.111, and 655.211 were adjusted using this percentage change, and the new permissible charges for 2006, are as follows: (1) Charges under 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4) and 655.202(b)(4) shall be no more than \$9.30 per day, unless ETA has approved a higher charge pursuant to 20 CFR 655.111 or 655.211; (2) charges under 20 CFR 655.111 and 655.211 shall be no more than \$11.52 per day, if the employer justifies the charge and submits to ETA the documentation required to support the higher charge.

C. Maximum Travel Subsistence Expense

The regulations at 20 CFR 655.102(b)(5) establish that the minimum daily subsistence expense related to travel expenses, for which a worker is entitled to reimbursement, is equivalent to the employer's daily charge for three meals or, if the employer makes no charge, the amount permitted under 20 CFR 655.104(b)(4). The regulation is silent about the maximum amount to which a qualifying worker is entitled.

The Department, in Field Memorandum 42-94, established the maximum meals component of the standard continental United States (CONUS) per diem rate established by the General Services Administration (GSA) and published at 41 CFR Pt. 301. The CONUS meal component is now \$39.00 per day.

Workers who qualify for travel reimbursement are entitled to reimbursement up to the CONUS meal rate for related subsistence when they provide receipts. In determining the appropriate amount of subsistence reimbursement, the employer may use the GSA system under which a traveler qualifies for meal expense reimbursement per quarter of a day. Thus, a worker whose travel occurred during two quarters of a day is entitled, with receipts, to a maximum reimbursement of \$19.50. If a worker has no receipts, the employer is not

obligated to reimburse above the minimum stated at 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4) as specified above.

Signed in Washington, DC this 7 day of March, 2006.

Emily Stover DeRocco,

Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration.

[FR Doc. E6-3841 Filed 3-15-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Workforce Security Programs: Unemployment Insurance Program Letters Interpreting Federal Law, UIPL 14-05 and UIPL 14-05, Change 1

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In December 2002, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) began a review of the performance management system for the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program. The review addressed the following topics: (a) The performance measures; (b) the criteria used to gauge success against the measures; and (c) the administration of UI Performs. ETA conducted the review in significant consultation with State Workforce Agencies (SWAs) and indirectly through the National Association of State Workforce Agencies' Subcommittee for UI Performs. ETA contracted with Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. to assist with the data analyses.

The review resulted in a recommendation that ETA publish a guidance to streamline the UI performance management system (UI Performs) in the following three significant ways: (1) Reduce the number of performance goals to a few "core" measures; (2) utilize the data of the remaining measures for program management with no performance goals; and (3) streamline the State Quality Service Plan narrative. In response, on June 16, 2004, ETA published UIPL No. 21-04, which outlined the proposed changes to UI Perform and invited public comments. (69 FR 33669 (2004)).

UIPL 14-05

At the end of the comment period, ETA issued UIPL 14-05 to advise SWAs of the changes made to UI Performs based on the recommendation and data of the comprehensive review and the comments received in response to the June 2004 UIPL. UIPL 14-05 also

summarized the comments that were received in response to the June 2004 publication and established the effective dates for implementing the changes.

In order to fully implement the changes outlined in UIPL 14-05, ETA collected additional data to analyze and formulate policy on the definitions and to determine the Acceptable Levels of Performance (ALPs). Through this Notice, ETA is publishing UIPL 14-05, Change 1, which describes ETA's policy on these issues and the requirements for SWAs.

UIPL 14-05, Change 1

UIPL 14-05, Change 1 identifies the methodology used to measure performance and set the ALP for the detection of overpayments. In addition, this UIPL clarifies the methods for measuring the average age of pending lower and higher authority appeals and clarifies the implementation schedule for the tax quality measure corrective action plans.

DATES: UIPL 14-05 was effective on February 18, 2005. UIPL 14-05, Change 1 was effective on October 12, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Delores Mackall, Office of Workforce Security, Employment and Training Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room 4231, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone (202) 693-3183 (this is not a toll-free number). Individuals with hearing or speech impairments may access the telephone number above via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Please go to <http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/> to view a copy of UIPL 14-05 and UIPL 14-05, Change 1.

Signed in Washington, DC, this 8th day of March, 2006.

Emily Stover DeRocco,

Assistant Secretary of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

[FR Doc. E6-3839 Filed 3-15-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment Standards Administration

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, 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 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, the Employment Standards Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed collection: Application for Farm Labor Contractor and Farm Labor Contractor Employee Certificate of Registration (WH-530). A copy of the proposed information collection request 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 15, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Ms. Hazel M. Bell, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Room S-3201, Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 693-0418, fax (202) 693-1451, E-mail bell.hazel@dol.gov. Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or E-mail).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. *Background:* Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act (MSPA), 29 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*, section 101(a) provides that no person shall engage in any farm labor contracting activity unless such person has a certificate of registration from the Secretary of Labor specifying which farm labor contracting activities such person is authorized to perform. Contracting activities include recruiting, soliciting, hiring, employing, furnishing, transporting or driving any migrant or seasonal agricultural worker and, with respect to migrant agricultural workers, providing housing. MSPA section 101(b) provides that a farm labor contractor shall not hire, employ or use any individual to perform farm labor contracting activities (i.e. recruiting, soliciting, hiring, employing, furnishing or transporting any migrant or seasonal agricultural worker) unless such individual has a certificate of registration as a farm labor contractor, or a certificate of registration as an employee of a farm labor contractor employer, which authorizes the activity for which such individual is hired, employed or used. Section 102 of MSPA provides that, after appropriate investigation and review, the Secretary

shall issue a farm labor contractor certificate of registration (including a certificate of registration as an employee of a farm labor contractor) to any person who has filed with the Secretary a written application. Form WH-530 is the application form which provides the Department of Labor with the information necessary to issue certificates specifying the farm labor contracting activities authorized. This information collection is currently approved for use through August 31, 2006.

II. *Review Focus:* 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:* The Department of Labor seeks approval for the extension of this information collection in order to carry out its responsibility to issue, after appropriate investigation and review, a farm labor certificate of registration, including a certificate of registration as an employee of a farm labor contractor, to any person who has filed with the Secretary a written application for a certificate.

Type of Review: Extension.

Agency: Employment Standards Administration.

Title: Application for Farm Labor Contractor and Farm Labor Contractor Employee Certificate of Registration.

OMB Number: 1215-0037.

Agency Number: WH-530.

Affected Public: Individuals or household; business or other for-profit; Farms.

Total Respondents: 7,800.

Total Responses: 7,800.

Time per Response: 30 minutes.

Frequency: On Occasion (initial application); biannually (renewal).

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 3,900.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): \$2,130.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 9, 2006.

Sue Blumenthal,

Acting Chief, Branch of Management Review and Internal Control, Division of Financial Management, Office of Management, Administration and Planning, Employment Standards Administration.

[FR Doc. E6-3830 Filed 3-15-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee; Notice of Renewal

The Secretary of Labor has determined that renewal of the charter of the Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee (FESAC) is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed upon the Commissioner of Labor Statistics by 29 U.S.C. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. This determination follows consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration.

Name of Committee: Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee.

Purpose and Objective: The Committee presents advice and makes recommendations to the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis and Bureau of the Census (the Agencies) from the perspective of the professional economics and statistics community. The Committee examines the Agencies' programs and provides advice on statistical methodology, research needed, and other technical matters related to the collection, tabulation, and analysis of Federal economic statistics.

Balanced Membership Plan: The Committee is a technical committee that is balanced in terms of the professional expertise required. It consists of approximately 14 members, appointed by the Agencies. Its members are economists, statisticians, and behavioral scientists who are recognized for their attainments and objectivity in their respective fields.

Duration: Continuing.

Agency Contact: Cheryl Kerr, 202-691-7808.