

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Rupp, Secretary of the Board,
Telephone: 703-518-6304

Mary Rupp,

Board Secretary.

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BILLING CODE 7535-01-P

NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD**Proposed Information Collection Requests**

AGENCY: National Mediation Board.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Director, Office of Administration, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments within 60 days from the date of this publication.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Director, Office of Administration, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Record keeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Currently, the National Mediation Board is soliciting comments concerning the new collection of information in the form of an Application for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Services and is interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the agency; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of

burden accurate; (4) how might the agency enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the agency minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

June D.W. King,

Director, Office of Administration, National Mediation Board.

A. Application for ADR Services

Type of Review: New Collection.

Title: Application for ADR Services.

Frequency: On occasion.

Affected Public: Union Officials and Officials of Railroads and Airlines.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: Estimate about 45 annually.
Burden Hours: 9.

Abstract: The Railway Labor Act, 45 U. S. C., 151 a. General Purposes, provides that the purposes of the Act are (1) to avoid any interruption to commerce or to the operation of any carrier engaged therein. * * * (4) to provide for the prompt and orderly settlement of all disputes concerning rates of pay, rules, or working conditions, and (5) to provide for the prompt and orderly settlement of all disputes growing out of grievances or out of the interpretation or application of agreements concerning rates of pay, rules, or working conditions.

In fulfilling its role to administer the Act, the National Mediation Board offers the parties to disputes mediation and arbitration services. On a voluntary basis, training programs in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and facilitation services are also available. These ADR programs are designed to enhance the bargaining and grievance handling skill level of the disputants and to assist the parties in the resolution of disputes. The impact of these ADR programs is that mediation and arbitration can be avoided entirely or the scope and number of issues brought to mediation or arbitration is significantly reduced.

This collection is necessary to confirm the voluntary participation of the parties in the ADR process. The information provided by the parties is used by the NMB to schedule the parties for ADR training and facilitation. Based on a recent survey of those who participated in the NMB's ADR Programs, 94.6% said they were satisfied with the ADR Programs and said they recommend the program for all negotiators. Collecting the brief information on the Application for ADR Services form allows the parties to voluntarily engage the services of the

NMB in the orderly settlement of all disputes and fulfill the purposes of the Act.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://www.nmb.gov> or should be addressed to Daniel Rainey, Director, Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution Services, National Mediation Board, 1301 K Street, NW., Suite 250 E, Washington, DC 20005, or faxed to 202-692-5083. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to June D.W. King, Director, Office of Administration, National Mediation Board, 1301 K Street NW., Suite 250 East, Washington, DC 20005, or at 202-692-5010 or via e-mail address king@nmb.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD/TDY) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. E9-22688 Filed 9-21-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7550-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**Notice of Intent To Seek Approval To Establish an Information Collection**

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is announcing plans to request clearance of this collection. In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), we are providing opportunity for public comment on this action. After obtaining and considering public comment, NSF will prepare the submission requesting that OMB approve clearance of this collection for no longer than 1 year.

DATES: Written comments on this notice must be received by November 23, 2009 to be assured of consideration.

Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 295, Arlington, Virginia 22230; telephone (703) 292-7556; or send e-mail to splimpto@nsf.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through

Friday. You may obtain a copy of the data collection instruments and instructions from Ms. Plimpton.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: Revitalizing Computing Pathways (CPATH) in Undergraduate Education Program Evaluation.

OMB Number: 3145-NEW.

Expiration Date of Approval: Not Applicable.

Type of request: New.

Abstract: The CPATH program was established by the National Science Foundation's Computer & Information Science & Engineering (CISE) division with a vision towards preparing a U.S. workforce with the computing competencies and skills imperative to the Nation's health, security, and prosperity in the 21st century. This workforce includes a cadre of computing professionals prepared to contribute to sustained U.S. leadership in computing in a wide range of application domains and career fields, and a broader professional workforce with knowledge and understanding of critical computing concepts, methodologies, and techniques. To achieve this vision, CISE/CPATH is calling for colleges and universities to work together and with other stakeholders (industry, professional societies, and other types of organizations) to formulate and implement plans to revitalize undergraduate computing education in the United States. The full engagement of faculty and other individuals in CISE disciplines will be critical to success. Successful CPATH projects will be systemic in nature, address a broad range of issues, and have significant potential to contribute to the transformation and revitalization of undergraduate computing education on a national scale.

The qualitative data collection of this program evaluation will document CPATH program strategies utilized in infusing computational thinking across different contexts and disciplines, examine the development of communities of practitioners and the dissemination of best practices around computational thinking, and analyze preliminary evidence for how the CPATH program is preparing students for career options in the STEM workforce.

Five overarching evaluation questions will guide this program evaluation:

(1) How is the CPATH program infusing computational thinking into a wide range of disciplines serving undergraduate education?

(2) What is the evidence that university and community college

departments and faculty are integrating computational thinking into their courses?

(3) How are undergraduate students benefiting from participating in CPATH projects?

(4) What is the evidence that the CPATH program is developing communities of practitioners that regularly share best practices across different contexts and disciplinary boundaries?

(5) How is the CPATH program promoting sustainable multi-sector partnerships that represent a broad range of stakeholders (e.g., industry, higher education, K12) and contribute to workforce development that supports continued U.S. leadership in innovation?

Answers to these questions will be obtained through the use of mixed evaluation methods including document analyses, site visit interviews, and telephone interviews with selected CPATH grant participants including principal investigators, staff, faculty, administrators, students, and external partners. Participation in CPATH program evaluation activities is a mandatory requirement for all CPATH awardees in accordance with the America Competes Act, H.R. 2272, and implementing directives.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response.

Respondents: Individuals.

Estimated Number of Responses per Form: 200.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 300 hours (200 respondents at 1.5 hours per response).

Frequency of Response: One time.

Comments: Comments are invited on (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the NSF, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the NSF's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; (d) ways to 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.

Dated: September 17, 2009.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. E9-22772 Filed 9-21-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541)

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of Permit Applications Received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by October 22, 2009. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nadene G. Kennedy at the above address or (703) 292-7405.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

The applications received are as follows:

1. *Applicant:* Permit Application No. 2010-012. Sam Feola, Director, Raytheon Polar Services Company, 7400 South Tucson Way, Centennial, CO 80112.