

Washington, DC 20224, or through the Internet at [Allan.M.Hopkins@irs.gov](mailto:Allan.M.Hopkins@irs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Public Inspection of Exempt Organization Returns.

*OMB Number:* 1545-0742.

*Regulation Project Number:* EE-111-80.

*Abstract:* Internal Revenue Code section 6104(b) authorizes the IRS to make available to the public the returns required to be filed by exempt organizations. The information requested in section 301.6104(b)-1(b)(4) of this regulation is necessary in order for the IRS not to disclose confidential business information furnished by businesses which contribute to exempt black lung trusts.

*Current Actions:* There is no change to this existing regulation.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 22.

*Estimated Time per Respondent:* 1 hour.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 22.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

*Request for Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the 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 collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (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; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation,

and that employees must be notified of the availability and terms of the program. Also, substantiation may be required to verify that employees are entitled to exclude from their gross income amounts paid or expenses incurred by the employer.

Approved: November 5, 2009.

**R. Joseph Durbala,**

*Supervisory Tax Analyst.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

**Internal Revenue Service**

**[EE-178-78]**

**Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project**

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, EE-178-78 (TD 7898), Employers' Qualified Educational Assistance Programs (Section 1.127-2).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before January 19, 2010 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to R. Joseph Durbala, Internal Revenue Service, room 6129, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the regulation should be directed to Allan Hopkins at (202) 622-6665, Internal Revenue Service, room 6129, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224, or through the Internet at [Allan.M.Hopkins@irs.gov](mailto:Allan.M.Hopkins@irs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Employers' Qualified Educational Assistance Programs.

*OMB Number:* 1545-0768.

*Regulation Project Number:* EE-178-78.

*Abstract:* Internal Revenue Code section 127(a) provides that the gross income of an employee does not include amounts paid or expenses incurred by an employer if furnished to the employee pursuant to a qualified educational assistance program. This regulation requires that a qualified educational assistance program must be a separate written plan of the employer

and that employees must be notified of the availability and terms of the program. Also, substantiation may be required to verify that employees are entitled to exclude from their gross income amounts paid or expenses incurred by the employer.

*Current Actions:* There is no change to this existing regulation.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations, and individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 5,200.

*Estimated Time per Respondent:* 7 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 615.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

*Request for Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the 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 collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (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; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: November 5, 2009.

**R. Joseph Durbala,**

*Supervisory Tax Analyst.*

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