Additional Information or Comments: To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, contact Dana Hickman at (312) 751–4981 or Dana.Hickman@RRB.GOV. Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Brian Foster, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611–1275 or emailed to Brian.Foster@rrb.gov. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Brian D. Foster, Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2018–01347 Filed 1–25–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 7905–01–P

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Agency Forms Submitted for OMB Review, Request for Comments

Summary: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) is forwarding an Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Our ICR describes the information we seek to collect from the public. Review and approval by OIRA ensures that we impose appropriate paperwork burdens.

The RRB invites comments on the proposed collection of information to determine (1) the practical utility of the collection; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden of the collection; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information that is the subject of collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of collections on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments to the RRB or OIRA must contain the OMB control number of the ICR. For proper consideration of your comments, it is best if the RRB and OIRA receive them within 30 days of the publication date.

Title and purpose of information collection: Student Beneficiary Monitoring: OMB 3220–0123. Under provisions of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA), there are two types of benefit payments that are based on the status of a child being in full-time elementary or secondary school attendance at age 18–19: (1) A survivor child’s annuity benefit under Section 2(d)(1)(iii) and (2) an increase in the employee retirement annuity under the Special Guaranty computation as prescribed in section 3(f)(2) and 20 CFR 229.

The survivor student annuity is usually paid by direct deposit to a financial institution either into the student’s checking or savings account or into a joint bank account with a parent. The requirements for eligibility as a student are prescribed in 20 CFR 216.74, and include students in independent study and home schooling.

To help determine if a child is entitled to student benefits, the RRB requires evidence of full-time school attendance. This evidence is acquired through the RRB’s student monitoring program, which utilizes the following forms. Form G–315, Student Questionnaire, obtains certification of a student’s full-time school attendance as well as information on the student’s marital status, social security benefits, and employment, which are needed to determine entitlement or continued entitlement to benefits under the RRA. Form G–315A, Statement of School Official, is used to obtain, from a school, verification of a student’s full-time attendance when the student fails to return a monitoring Form G–315. Form G–315A.1, School Official’s Notice of Cessation of Full-Time School Attendance, is used by a school to notify the RRB that a student has ceased full-time school attendance.

Previous Requests for Comments: The RRB has already published the initial 60-day notice (82 FR 55426 on November 21, 2017) required by 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2). That request elicited no comments.

Information Collection Request (ICR)

Title: Student Beneficiary Monitoring.

OMB Control Number: 3220–0123.

Form(s) submitted: G–315, G–315a, G–315a.1.

Type of request: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Affected public: Individuals or Households.

Abstract: Under the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA), a student benefit is not payable if the student ceases full-time school attendance, marries, works in the railroad industry, has excessive earnings or attains the upper age limit under the RRA. The report obtains information to be used to determine if benefits should cease or be reduced.

Changes proposed: The RRB proposes no changes to the forms in this collection.

The burden estimate for the ICR is as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Form No.</th>
<th>Annual responses</th>
<th>Time (minutes)</th>
<th>Burden (hours)</th>
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<td>215</td>
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<td>G–315a</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td></td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Information or Comments: Copies of the forms and supporting documents can be obtained from Dana Hickman at (312) 751–4981 or Dana.Hickman@RRB.GOV. Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Brian Foster, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611–1275 or Brian.Foster@rrb.gov and to the OMB Desk Officer for the RRB,
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Performance Review Board Membership

AGENCY: Office of Science and Technology Policy.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of Science and Technology Policy publishes the names of the members selected to serve on its SES Performance Review Board (PRB).

DATES: Membership is applicable on January 22, 2018.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 4314(c) of Title 5, U.S.C. requires each agency to establish, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management, one or more PRBs. The purpose of this PRB is to review and make recommendations concerning proposed performance appraisals, ratings, bonuses, pay adjustments, and other appropriate personnel actions for incumbents of the SES positions. The Board shall consist of at least three members and more than half of the members shall consist of career appointees. The names and titles of the PRB members are as follows:

- Martha M. Gagné, Deputy Associate Director, Management and Administration, Office of National Drug Control Policy
- Jon E. Rice, Associate Director, Office of Policy, Research, and Budget, Office of National Drug Control Policy
- Barbara A. Menard, Chief, Health, Education, Veterans and Social Programs, Office of Management and Budget
- Fred L. Ames, Assistant United States Trade Representative for Administration, United States Trade Representative

Applicability Date: Membership is applicable on the date of this notice.

Tedd Wackler,
Deputy Chief of Staff and Assistant Director.
FR Doc. 2018–01383 Filed 1–25–18; 8:45 am
BILLING CODE 3782–F8–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Options Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Modify OCC’s Rules Regarding the Exercise Procedures for Certain Options on Futures


Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),1 and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,2 notice is hereby given that on January 11, 2018, The Options Clearing Corporation (“OCC”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which have been prepared by OCC. OCC filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)3 of the Act and Rule 19b–4(f)(4)(iii)4 thereunder so that the proposal was effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Clearing Agency’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

This proposed rule change by OCC concerns modifications to OCC’s Rules governing the exercise procedures for certain options on futures in order to conform to changes proposed by Nasdaq Futures, Inc. (“NFX”), a futures market for which OCC clears such contracts. The proposed changes to OCC’s Rules can be found in Exhibit 5 to the filing. All terms with initial capitalization that are not otherwise defined herein have the same meaning as set forth in the By-Laws and Rules.5

II. Clearing Agency’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, OCC included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. OCC has prepared summaries, set forth in sections (A), (B), and (C) below, of the most significant aspects of these statements.

(A) Clearing Agency’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1 Purpose

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to amend OCC’s Rules to permit a futures market that lists certain options on futures to instruct OCC to: (1) Eliminate a Clearing Member’s ability to provide contrary instructions with respect to such futures options, and (2) permit automatic exercise of futures options that are call options and that settle at exactly the strike price for the option (i.e., an “at-the-money” futures option). These amendments to OCC’s Rules would accommodate certain corresponding amendments to the rules of NFX, for which OCC clears relevant futures option contracts, and would not apply to any options on security futures to the extent OCC clears such products in the future.6

Contrary Instructions

NFX has proposed to eliminate the ability of the holders of certain futures options contracts to provide “contrary instructions” or “contrary exercises” to the futures markets with respect to such contracts.7 NFX has advised OCC that the New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. (“NYMEX”) has already made comparable changes to its rules for certain comparable options contracts traded on NYMEX based on market feedback.8 NFX would like to replicate these changes for the comparable options contracts traded on NFX, none of which are options on security futures.

A contrary instruction allows an option holder to exercise an “out-of-the-money” option to receive the underlying futures contract or to abandon an “in-the-money” option. Existing OCC Rule 1305 governs the exercise procedures for American and European-styled options on futures cleared by OCC that settle into the underlying futures contract. Subparagraph (c) of Rule 1305 provides

footnotes:
5 OCC’s By-Laws and Rules can be found on OCC’s public website: http://optionsclearing.com/about/publications/bylaws.jsp.
6 Options on security futures currently do not trade on the exchange for which OCC clears security futures. The proposed rule change would not apply to any securities, but rather futures products (i.e., options on futures that are not security futures) that are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”). See infra note 16.
7 See SR–NFX–2017–56, filed December 15, 2017 with the CFTC.
8 See NYMEX Submission No. 17–272 filed July 21, 2017 with the CFTC. The filing also amended the rules of the Commodity Exchange, Inc. (“COMEX”) to make comparable changes for certain options traded on COMEX.