DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employee Benefits Security Administration

191st Meeting of the Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the authority contained in Section 512 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), 29 U.S.C. 1142, the 191st meeting of the Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans (also known as the ERISA Advisory Council) will be held on June 19–21, 2018.

The three-day meeting will take place at the U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210 in C5521 Room 4. The meeting will run from 9:00 a.m. to approximately 5:30 p.m. on June 19–20 with a one hour break for lunch each day, and from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on June 21. The purpose of the open meeting is for Advisory Council members to hear testimony from invited witnesses and to receive an update from the Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA). The EBSA update is scheduled for the morning of June 21, subject to change.

The Advisory Council will study the following topics: (1) Lifetime Income Products as a Qualified Default Investment Option (QDIA)—Focus on Decumulation and Rollovers and (2) Evaluating the Department’s Regulations and Guidance on ERISA Bonding Requirements and Exploring Reform Considerations. The Council will hear testimony on June 19 on the first topic and on June 20 on the second topic. It will continue with discussions of its topics on June 21. Descriptions of these topics are available on the Advisory Council page of the EBSA website at https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa/about-ebsa/about-us/erisa-advisory-council.

Organizations or members of the public wishing to submit a written statement may do so by submitting 35 copies on or before June 12, 2018, to Larry Good, Executive Secretary, ERISA Advisory Council, U.S. Department of Labor, Suite N–5623, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210. Statements also may be submitted as email attachments in word processing or pdf format transmitted to good.larry@dol.gov. It is requested that statements not be included in the body of the email. Statements deemed relevant by the Advisory Council and received on or before June 12 will be included in the record of the meeting and made available through the EBSA Public Disclosure Room, along with witness statements. Do not include any personally identifiable information (such as name, address, or other contact information) or confidential business information that you do not want publicly disclosed. Written statements submitted by invited witnesses will be posted on the Advisory Council page of the EBSA website, without change, and can be retrieved by most internet search engines.

Individuals or representatives of organizations wishing to address the Advisory Council should forward their requests to the Executive Secretary or telephone (202) 693–8668. Oral presentations will be limited to 10 minutes, time permitting, but an extended statement may be submitted for the record. Individuals with disabilities who need special accommodations should contact the Executive Secretary by June 12.

Signed at Washington, DC this 22nd day of May, 2018.

Preston Rutledge, Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration.

[FR Doc. 2018–11359 Filed 5–25–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4410–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) 2018 Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL)

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Title I of WIOA (Pub. L. 113–128) requires the U.S. Secretary of Labor (Secretary) to update and publish the LLSIL tables annually, for uses described in the law (including determining eligibility for youth). WIOA defines the term “low income individual” as one whose total family income does not exceed the higher level of the poverty line or 70 percent of the LLSIL. This issuance provides the Secretary’s annual LLSIL for 2018 and references the current 2018 Health and Human Services “Poverty Guidelines.”

DATES: This notice is applicable May 29, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT OR QUESTIONS ON LLSIL: Please contact Samuel Wright, Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room C–4526, Washington, DC 20210; Telephone: 202–693–2870; Fax: 202–693–3015 (these are not toll-free numbers); Email address: wright.samuel.e@dol.gov.

Individuals with hearing or speech impairments may access the telephone number above via Text Telephone (TTY/TDD) by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 1–877–889–5627. (TTY/TDD).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT OR QUESTIONS ON FEDERAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS: Please contact Jennifer Kemp, Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room N–4464, Washington, DC 20210; Telephone: 202–693–3377; Fax: 202–693–3113 (these are not toll-free numbers); Email: kemp.jennifer.n@dol.gov.

Individuals with hearing or speech impairments may access the telephone number above via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 1–877–889–5627 (TTY/TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of WIOA is to provide workforce investment activities through statewide and local workforce investment systems that increase the employment, retention, and earnings of participants. WIOA programs are intended to increase the occupational skill attainment by participants and the quality of the workforce, thereby reducing welfare dependency and enhancing the productivity and competitiveness of the Nation.

LLSIL is used for several purposes under the WIOA. Specifically, WIOA section 3(36) defines the term “low income individual” as one whose total family income does not exceed the higher level of the poverty line or 70 percent of the LLSIL. This issuance provides the Secretary’s annual LLSIL for 2018 and references the current 2018 Health and Human Services “Poverty Guidelines.”
workforce development boards (WDs) use the LLSIL for determining eligibility for youth and adults for certain services. ETA encourages governors and State/local boards to consult the WIOA operating guidance, and after its publication, the WIOA Final Rule, for more specific guidance in applying LLSIL to program requirements. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published the most current poverty-level guidelines in the Federal Register on January 18, 2018 (Volume 83, Number 12), pp. 2642–2644. The HHS 2018 Poverty guidelines may also be found on the internet at https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines. ETA plans to have the 2018 LLSIL available on its website at http://www.doleta.gov/llsil.

WIOA Section 3(36)(B) defines LLSIL as “that income level (adjusted for regional, metropolitan, urban and rural differences and family size) determined annually by the Secretary[ of Labor] based on the most recent lower living family budget issued by the Secretary.” The most recent lower living family budget was issued by the Secretary in fall 1981. The four-person urban family budget estimates, previously published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), provided the basis for the Secretary to determine the LLSIL. BLS terminated the four-person family budget series in 1982, after publication of the fall 1981 estimates. Currently, BLS provides data to ETA, which ETA then uses to develop the LLSIL tables, as provided in the Appendices to this Federal Register notice.

ETA published the 2017 updates to the LLSIL in the Federal Register of May 23, 2017, at Vol. 82, No. 98 pp. 23595–23601. This notice again updates the LLSIL to reflect cost of living increases for 2017, by calculating the percentage change in the most recent 2017 Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI–U) for an area to the 2017 CPI–U, and then applying this calculation to each of the May 23, 2017 LLSIL figures for the 2018 LLSIL.

The updated figures for a four-person family are listed in Appendix A, Table 1, by region for both metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas. Numbers in all of the Appendix tables are rounded up to the nearest dollar. Since program eligibility for “low-income individuals”, “disadvantaged adults” and “disadvantaged youth” may be determined by family income at 70 percent of the LLSIL, pursuant to WIOA Section 3(36)(A)(ii) and Section 3(36)(B), respectively, those figures are listed as well.

I. Jurisdictions

Jurisdictions included in the various regions, based generally on the Census Regions of the U.S. Department of Commerce, are as follows:

A. Northeast
Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Vermont
Virgin Islands

B. Midwest
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
Ohio
South Dakota
Wisconsin

C. South
Alabama
American Samoa
Arkansas
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Northern Marianas
Oklahoma
Palau
Puerto Rico
South Carolina
Kentucky
Louisiana
Marshall Islands
Maryland
Micronesia
Mississippi
North Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia
West Virginia

D. West
Arizona
California
Colorado
Idaho
Montana
Nevada
New Mexico
Oregon
Utah
Washington
Wyoming

II. Use of These Data

Governors should designate the appropriate LLSILs for use within the State from Appendices A, B, and C, containing Tables 1 through 3. Appendices D and E, which contain Tables 4 and 5, which adjust a family of four figure for larger and smaller families, may be used with any LLSIL designated area. The governor’s designation may be provided by disseminating information on MSAs and metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas within the state or it may involve further calculations. For example, the State of New Jersey may have four or more LLSIL figures for Northeast metropolitan, Northeast non-metropolitan, portions of the state in the New York City MSA, and those in the Philadelphia MSA. If a workforce investment area includes areas that would be covered by more than one LLSIL figure, the governor may determine which is to be used.

A state’s policies and measures for the workforce investment system shall be accepted by the Secretary to the extent

Additionally, separate figures have been provided for Alaska, Hawaii, and Guam as indicated in Appendix B, Table 2.

Data on 23 selected Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) are also available. These are based on annual CPI–U changes for a 12-month period ending in December 2017. The updated LLSIL figures for these MSAs and 70 percent of LLSIL are reported in Appendix C, Table 3.

Appendix D, Table 4 lists each of the various figures at 70 percent of the updated 2017 LLSIL for family sizes of one to six persons. Because Tables 1–3 only list the LLSIL for a family of four, Table 4 can be used to separately determine the LLSIL for families of between one and six persons. For families larger than six persons, an amount equal to the difference between the six-person and the five-person family income levels should be added to the six-person family income level for each additional person in the family. Where the poverty level for a particular family size is greater than the corresponding 70 percent of the LLSIL figure, the figure is shaded. A modified Microsoft Excel version of Appendix D, Table 4, with the area names, will be available on the ETA LLSIL website at http://www.doleta.gov/llsil. Appendix E, Table 5, indicates 100 percent of LLSIL for family sizes of one to six, and is used to determine self-sufficiency as noted at Section 3(36)(a)(ii) and Section 3(36)(B),(C)(iii) in WIOA.

III. Use of These Data

 Jurisdictions included in the various regions, based generally on the Census Regions of the U.S. Department of Commerce, are as follows:

A. Northeast
Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Vermont
Virgin Islands

B. Midwest
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
Ohio
South Dakota
Wisconsin

C. South
Alabama
American Samoa
Arkansas
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Northern Marianas
Oklahoma
Palau
Puerto Rico
South Carolina
Kentucky
Louisiana
Marshall Islands
Maryland
Micronesia
Mississippi
North Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia
West Virginia

D. West
Arizona
California
Colorado
Idaho
Montana
Nevada
New Mexico
Oregon
Utah
Washington
Wyoming

Additionally, separate figures have been provided for Alaska, Hawaii, and Guam as indicated in Appendix B, Table 2.

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Jurisdictions included in the various regions, based generally on the Census Regions of the U.S. Department of Commerce, are as follows:

A. Northeast
Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Vermont
Virgin Islands

B. Midwest
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
Ohio
South Dakota
Wisconsin

C. South
Alabama
American Samoa
Arkansas
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Northern Marianas
Oklahoma
Palau
Puerto Rico
South Carolina
Kentucky
Louisiana
Marshall Islands
Maryland
Micronesia
Mississippi
North Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia
West Virginia

D. West
Arizona
California
Colorado
Idaho
Montana
Nevada
New Mexico
Oregon
Utah
Washington
Wyoming

Additionally, separate figures have been provided for Alaska, Hawaii, and Guam as indicated in Appendix B, Table 2.

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A state’s policies and measures for the workforce investment system shall be accepted by the Secretary to the extent
that they are consistent with WIOA and WIOA regulations.

III. Disclaimer on Statistical Uses

It should be noted that publication of these figures is only for the purpose of meeting the requirements specified by WIOA as defined in the law and regulations. BLS has not revised the lower living family budget since 1981, and has no plans to do so. The four-person urban family budget estimates series has been terminated. The CPI-U adjustments used to update LLSIL for this publication are not precisely comparable, most notably because certain tax items were included in the 1981 LLSIL, but are not in the CPI-U. Thus, these figures should not be used for any statistical purposes, and are valid only for those purposes under WIOA as defined in the law and regulations.

Appendix A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region 1</th>
<th>2018 adjusted LLSIL</th>
<th>70 percent LLSIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeast 2:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Metro 3</td>
<td>$43,738</td>
<td>$30,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Metro</td>
<td>38,320</td>
<td>26,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Metro</td>
<td>36,784</td>
<td>25,764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Metro 4</td>
<td>$43,252</td>
<td>30,277</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 For ease of use, these figures are rounded.
2 Metropolitan area measures were calculated from the weighted average CPI–U’s for city size classes A and B/C. Non-metropolitan area measures were calculated from the CPI–U’s for city size class D.
3 Non-metropolitan area percent changes for the Northeast region are no longer available. The Non-metropolitan percent change was calculated using the U.S. average CPI–U for city size class D.
4 Non-metropolitan area percent changes for the West region are based on unpublished BLS data.

Appendix B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region 1</th>
<th>2018 adjusted LLSIL</th>
<th>70 percent LLSIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Metro 2</td>
<td>$49,485</td>
<td>$34,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii, Guam:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Metro 2</td>
<td>55,194</td>
<td>38,636</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 For ease of use, these figures are rounded.
2 Non-Metropolitan percent changes for Alaska, Hawaii and Guam were calculated from the CPI–U’s for all urban consumers for city size class D in the Western Region. Generally the non-metro areas LLSIL is lower than the LLSIL in metro areas. This year the non-metro area LLSIL incomes were larger because the change in CPI–U was smaller in the metro areas compared to the change in CPI–U in the non-metro areas of Alaska, Hawaii and Guam.

Appendix C

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) 1</th>
<th>2018 adjusted LLSIL</th>
<th>70 percent LLSIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anchorage, AK 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA/NH/ME/CT</td>
<td>$49,359</td>
<td>$34,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL/IN/WI</td>
<td>36,107</td>
<td>25,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH/KY/IN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland-Akron, OH</td>
<td>38,320</td>
<td>26,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX</td>
<td>$35,520</td>
<td>24,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver-Boulder-Greeley, CO</td>
<td>41,362</td>
<td>28,954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI 2</td>
<td>36,114</td>
<td>25,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honolulu, HI</td>
<td>55,968</td>
<td>39,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX</td>
<td>36,114</td>
<td>25,280</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Appendix D

**Table 4: 70 Percent of Updated 2018 Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL), by Family Size**

To use the 70 percent LLSIL value, where it is stipulated for the WIOA programs, begin by locating the region or metropolitan area where the program applicant resides. These are listed in Tables 1, 2 and 3. After locating the appropriate region or metropolitan statistical area, find the 70 percent LLSIL amount for that location. The 70 percent LLSIL figures are listed in the last column to the right on each of the three tables. These figures apply to a family of four. Larger and smaller family eligibility is based on a percentage of the family of four. To determine eligibility for other size families consult Table 4 and the instructions below.

To use Table 4, locate the 70 percent LLSIL value that applies to the individual’s region or metropolitan area from Tables 1, 2 or 3. Find the same number in the “family of four” column of Table 4. Move left or right across that row to the size that corresponds to the individual’s family unit. That figure is the maximum household income the individual is permitted in order to qualify as economically disadvantaged under the WIOA.

Where the HHS poverty level for a particular family size is greater than the corresponding LLSIL figure, the LLSIL figure appears in a shaded block. Individuals from these size families may consult the 2017 HHS poverty guidelines found on the Health and Human Services website at [https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines](https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines) to find the higher eligibility standard. Individuals from Alaska and Hawaii should consult the HHS guidelines for the generally higher poverty levels that apply in their States.

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**TABLE 3—LOWER LIVING STANDARD INCOME LEVEL (FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR PERSONS), FOR 23 SELECTED MSAS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)</th>
<th>2018 adjusted LLSIL</th>
<th>70 percent LLSIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA</td>
<td>44,149</td>
<td>30,904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee-Racine, WI</td>
<td>37,664</td>
<td>26,365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN/WI</td>
<td>38,359</td>
<td>26,851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York-Northern NJ-Long Island, NY/NJ/CT/PA</td>
<td>46,413</td>
<td>32,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA/NJ/DE/MD</td>
<td>41,635</td>
<td>29,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>46,664</td>
<td>32,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Louis, MO/IL</td>
<td>35,426</td>
<td>24,798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
<td>49,287</td>
<td>34,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA</td>
<td>48,246</td>
<td>33,772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA</td>
<td>47,434</td>
<td>33,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington-Baltimore, DC/MD/VA/WV</td>
<td>46,697</td>
<td>32,688</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 For ease of use, these figures are rounded to the next dollar.
2 Calculated as a single metropolitan statistical area.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family of One</th>
<th>Family of Two</th>
<th>Family of Three</th>
<th>Family of Four</th>
<th>Family of Five</th>
<th>Family of Six</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>8,934</td>
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<td>24,798</td>
<td>29,266</td>
<td>34,223</td>
</tr>
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<td>8,956</td>
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<tr>
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<td>25,275</td>
<td>29,829</td>
<td>34,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9,100</td>
<td>14,915</td>
<td>20,481</td>
<td>25,275</td>
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<td>9,101</td>
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<td>34,891</td>
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<td>9,205</td>
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<td>30,151</td>
<td>35,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9,205</td>
<td>15,081</td>
<td>20,708</td>
<td>25,561</td>
<td>30,164</td>
<td>35,273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9,278</td>
<td>15,192</td>
<td>20,859</td>
<td>25,749</td>
<td>30,392</td>
<td>35,542</td>
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<td>21,162</td>
<td>26,126</td>
<td>30,835</td>
<td>36,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9,452</td>
<td>15,493</td>
<td>21,269</td>
<td>26,250</td>
<td>30,979</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9,491</td>
<td>15,558</td>
<td>21,358</td>
<td>26,365</td>
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**BILLING CODE 4510–FT–C**

**Appendix E**

Table 5: Updated 2018 LLSIL (100 Percent), by Family Size

To use the LLSIL to determine the minimum level for establishing self-sufficiency criteria at the State or local level, begin by locating the metropolitan area or region from Table 1, 2 or 3. Then locate the appropriate region or metropolitan statistical area and then find the 2015 adjusted LLSIL amount for that location. These figures apply to a family of four. Locate the corresponding number in the family of four in the column below. Move left or right across that row to the size that corresponds to the individual’s family unit. That figure is the minimum figure that States must set for determining whether employment leads to self-sufficiency under WIOA programs.
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Employment and Training Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Pre-Apprenticeship—Pathways to Success

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA), is soliciting comments concerning a proposed extension for the authority to conduct the information collection request (ICR) titled, “Pre-Apprenticeship—Pathways to Success.” This comment request is part of continuing Departmental efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA).

DATES: Consideration will be given to all written comments received by July 30, 2018.

ADDRESSES: A copy of this ICR with applicable supporting documentation; including a description of the likely respondents, proposed frequency of response, and estimated total burden may be obtained free by contacting Amy Firestone by telephone at 202–693–3998; TTY at 1–877–889–5627; (these are not toll-free numbers) or by email at firestone.amy@dol.gov. Submit written comments about, or requests for a copy of, this ICR by mail or courier to U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Apprenticeship, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room C–5321, Washington, DC 20210; or by email: firestone.amy@dol.gov; or by Fax 202–693–3799.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Amy Firestone by telephone at 202–693–3998 (this is not a toll-free number) or by email at firestone.amy@dol.gov.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DOL, as part of continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information before submitting them to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for final approval. This program helps to ensure 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 can be properly assessed.

I. Background

Through a variety of approaches, pre-apprenticeship programs can be adapted to meet the needs to train different populations, the various employers and other sponsors they serve, and the specific opportunities available in the local labor market. The online database of quality pre-apprenticeship programs provides a valuable tool for job seekers, apprenticeship programs, and American Job Centers’ front line staff. A dedicated database provides a way for job seekers and apprenticeship programs to access pre-apprenticeship programs that meet the requirements outlined in Training and Employment Notice (TEN) 13–12: “Defining a Quality Pre-Apprenticeship Program and Related Tools and Resources.” The “Pre-apprenticeship—Pathways to Success” database enables ETA to identify pre-apprenticeship programs that meet the “quality pre-apprenticeship” definition and the quality framework criteria. Even more importantly, a national database of pre-apprenticeship programs facilitates connections between pre-apprenticeship program participants and apprenticeship programs, resulting in expanded opportunities. This voluntary data is collected using an online form.

The public seeking information about pre-apprenticeship programs goes to a map on a website, chooses a state, and views information about the location of pre-apprenticeship programs, including general descriptions of the services and training they provide. ETA is proposing an extension for the authority to conduct the information collection “Pre-Apprenticeship—Pathways to Success,” to continue to utilize the database and make updates to the online form. During the past several years, ETA has worked to expand pre-apprenticeships and apprenticeships with new companies in high demand industries. The collection instrument is adding several questions to reflect the expansion of the apprenticeship system as outlined in the 2017 Presidential Executive Order “Expanding Apprenticeships in America” https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/3245/, particularly incorporating secondary and post-secondary institutions as potential providers of pre-apprenticeship programs.

The current online form does not contain questions on new types of programs and their employer and educational institution partners. This data is instrumental in helping expand the functionality and usage of the database.

The National Apprenticeship Act of 1937, (subsequently referred to as “the Act”) Section 50 (29 U.S.C. 50), authorizes and directs the Secretary of Labor “to formulate and promote the furtherance of labor standards necessary to safeguard the welfare of apprentices, to extend the application of such standards by encouraging the inclusion thereof in contracts of apprenticeship, to bring together employers and labor for formulating programs of apprenticeship, to cooperate with State Apprenticeship Agencies (SAAs) engaged in formulating and promoting standards of apprenticeship, and to cooperate with the Secretary of Education in accordance with Section 17 of Title 20. Section 50a of the Act authorizes the Secretary of Labor to “publish information relating to existing and proposed labor standards of apprenticeship,” and to “appoint national advisory committees . . .” (29 U.S.C. 50a). The administration of the system is guided by Title 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), part 29, regulations that were updated in 2008 to address the 21st century workforce needs as well as enhance accountability of the recognized SAAs.

The DOL authorizes this information collection. This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless it is approved by the OMB under the PRA and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6.

Interested parties are encouraged to provide comments to the contact shown in the ADDRESSES section. Comments must be written to receive consideration, and they will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval of the final ICR. In order to help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should mention OMB control number 1205–0520.

Submitted comments will also be a matter of public record for this ICR and posted on the internet, without redaction. The DOL encourages