DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Agency Information Collection Activities: Passenger List/Crew List


ACTION: 30-Day notice and request for comments; extension of an existing collection of information.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). The information collection is published in the Federal Register to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted (no later than December 14, 2018 to be assured of consideration).

ADDRESS: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on this proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to the OMB Desk Officer for Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, and sent via electronic mail to dhsdeskofficer@omb.eop.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional PRA information should be directed to Seth D. Renkema, Chief, Economic Impact Analysis Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Trade, Regulations and Rulings, 90 K Street NE, 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20229–1177, telephone number (202) 325–0056 or via email CBP_PRA@cbp.dhs.gov. Please note that the contact information provided here is solely for questions regarding this notice. Individuals seeking information about other CBP programs should contact the CBP National Customer Service Center at 877–227–5511, (TTY) 1–800–877–8339, or CBP website at https://www.cbp.gov/.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: CBP invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on the proposed and/or continuing information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). This proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register (Volume 83 FR Page 34856) on July 23, 2018, allowing for a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.8. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points: (1) 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; (2) 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; (3) suggestions to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) suggestions 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, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. The comments that are submitted will be summarized and included in the request for approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Overview of this Information Collection:

Title: Passenger List/Crew List.

OMB Number: 1651–0103.

Form Number: Form I–775.

Current Actions: CBP proposes to extend the expiration date of this information collection with an increase to the estimated burden hours. There is no change to the information collected.

Type of Review: Extension (without change).

Abstract: Section 223 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) (8 U.S.C. 1223(a)(i)) provides for the necessity of a transportation contract. The statute provides that the Attorney General may enter into contracts with transportation lines for the inspection and administration of aliens coming into the United States from a foreign territory or from adjacent islands. No such transportation line shall be allowed to land any such alien in the United States until and unless it has entered into any such contracts which may be required by the Attorney General. Pursuant to the Homeland Security Act of 2002, this authority was transferred to the Secretary of Homeland Security.

The Visa Waiver Program Carrier Agreement (CBP Form I–775) is used by carriers to request acceptance by CBP into the Visa Waiver Program (VWP). This form is an agreement whereby carriers agree to the terms of the VWP as delineated in Section 217(e) of the INA (8 U.S.C. 1187(e)). Once participation is granted, CBP Form I–775 serves to hold carriers liable for the transportation costs, to ensure the completion of required forms, and to share passenger data. Regulations are promulgated at 8 CFR part 217.6, Carrier Agreements. A copy of CBP Form I–775 is accessible at: http://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/publications/forms?title=i-775.

Affected Public: Businesses.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 98.

Estimated Number of Total Annual Responses: 98.

Estimated Time per Response: 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 49.

Dated: November 8, 2018.

Seth D. Renkema,
Branch Chief, Economic Impact Analysis Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

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Background

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has broad authority to control alien travel and to inspect aliens under various provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, as amended (INA).1 In addition, numerous federal statutes require DHS to create an integrated, automated biometric entry and exit system that records the arrival and departure of aliens, compares the biometric data of aliens to verify their identity, and authenticates travel documents presented by such aliens through the comparison of biometrics.2

The federal statutes requiring DHS to create a biometric entry and exit system to record the arrival and departure of aliens include, but are not limited to:

- Section 2(a) of the Immigration and Naturalization Service Data Management Improvement Act of 2000 (DMIA), Public Law 106–215, 114 Stat. 337;
- Section 414 of the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (USA PATRIOT Act), Public Law 107–56, 115 Stat. 272, 353;
- Section 7208 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (IRTPA), Public Law 108–458, 114 Stat. 3638, 3817;
- Section 802 of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015, Public Law 114–125, 130 Stat. 122, 199 (6 U.S.C. 211(c)(10)).

Additionally, on March 6, 2017, the President signed Executive Order 13780, Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States (published in the Federal Register on March 9, 2017: 82 FR 13209). Section 8 of this Order requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to expedite the completion and implementation of a biometric entry-exit tracking system for “in-scope travelers”3 to the United States.

Pursuant to various authorities under Titles 8 and 19 of the U.S. Code, and other authorities CBP enforces on behalf of third party agencies at the border, CBP routinely collects biographic data from travelers entering and departing the United States. See, e.g., 8 U.S.C. 1181, 1185, 1221; and 19 U.S.C. 1433. Additionally, DHS regulations authorize DHS to collect biometric data from certain aliens seeking admission to the United States and to collect biometrics from aliens upon departure from the United States under pilot programs at land ports and up to 15 air and seaports. See Sections 215.8 and 235.1(f)(1)(i) of Title 8 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (6 CFR 215.8 and 235.1(f)(1)(i)).

Since 2004, DHS, through CBP, has been collecting biometric data from aliens arriving in the United States. However, there is no comprehensive system in place to collect biometrics from aliens departing the country. Collecting biometrics at both arrival and departure will enable CBP and DHS to know with better accuracy whether aliens are departing the country when they are required to depart, reduce visa or travel document fraud, and improve CBP’s ability to identify criminals and known or suspected terrorists before they depart the United States.

CBP has been testing various options to collect biometrics at departure in the land and air environments. For example, from February to May 2016, CBP conducted a pilot program to test facial and iris scanning technology for pedestrian travelers departing through the Otay Mesa, California, land border port of entry.5 CBP is also conducting

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1 DHS may require aliens to provide biometrics and other relevant identifying information upon entry to, or departure from, the United States. Specifically, DHS may control alien entry and departure and inspect aliens under sections 215(a) and 235 of the INA (8 U.S.C. 1185, 1225). Aliens may be required to provide fingerprints, photographs, or other biometrics upon arrival in, or departure from the United States, and select classes of aliens may be required to provide information at any time. See, e.g., INA 214a, 215(a), 235, 262(a), 283(a), 283(c), 318(a), 8 U.S.C. 1184, 1185(a), 1225, 1322(a), 1324a(1), 1304d(a), 1304c, 1304d(b), 8 U.S.C. 1363b.

2 As used in this notice, “biometrics” means a physical characteristic or other physical attribute unique to a person that can be collected, stored, and used to verify the identity of a person who chooses to participate in the test by using the testing lanes, as defined in the “Test Procedures” section below. To verify a person’s identity, a similar physical characteristic or attribute is collected and compared against the previously collected identifier.

3 Although the term “in-scope travelers” is not defined in the Executive Order, DHS interprets this to mean those travelers who are currently required to provide biometric information upon entry to the United States.

4 Certain categories of aliens are exempt from the collection of biometrics upon entering or departing the United States. See 8 CFR 235.1(f)(1)(i), (iv); 8 CFR 215.8(a)(1), (2).

5 See 80 FR 70241 (Nov. 31, 2015).