

I. Abstract

Public Law 100–107 (The Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Improvement Act of 1987), which established the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program and its Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award (MBNQA), stipulates that organizational applicants for the award (see OMB Control #0693–0006) receive “an intensive evaluation by a competent board of examiners which shall review the evidence submitted by the organization and, through a site visit, verify the accuracy of the quality improvements claimed.”

Per the statute, “the Director of the National Bureau of Standards shall rely upon” these examiners, as they are in essence the external workforce of the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program. Baldrige Program staff members *manage and improve* the award and all of its processes, but the examiners actually do the objective review of MBNQA applicants.

The Team Leader Consensus and Site Visit Surveys will be one key way that Baldrige staff members can communicate with and seek feedback from the external workforce (Baldrige Examiners). To manage these voluntary examiners (some private citizens, some government and military personnel), the Baldrige Program needs the ability to ask them of their preferences for the sector in which they will do their application review (*e.g.*, do they want to review a health care applicant, manufacturing applicant), their availability to conduct reviews, their ability to travel on a site visit and about all of their logistical needs (*e.g.*, dietary restrictions, cannot review an organization from a certain state due to conflicts in that state), their ability to perform particular MBNQA roles such as technical editor or team leader, their conflicts with a particular organization, etc. The Baldrige Program also needs to survey them to obtain qualitative information on performance, as being a Baldrige Examiner is a very competitive selection.

The Baldrige Program could not perform the intensive evaluation called for in the law without surveying its own workforce about their unique needs in relation to the MBNQA process (and its subprocesses). In fact, these volunteer examiners expect to be asked their preferences, as well as given the ability to give their feedback to improve processes.

II. Method of Collection

Surveys are typically conducted via email or through a secure NIST file-sharing system if any MBNQA

organization-specific information needs to be shared. Surveys can also be conducted over the phone if the number of examiners who need to be asked about a particular role or need is less than about 20. Often, a personal phone call is the best way to survey a subset of examiners, as maintaining positive relationships with examiners is very important to the program.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0693–0079.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Extension and revision of a current information collection.

Affected Public: Individuals, including private citizens. All must be U.S. citizens (proof of citizenship is required prior to Baldrige Examiner training).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 350 per year.

Estimated Time per Response: 15 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 88 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

IV. Request for Comments

NIST invites comments on: (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (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.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental Lead PRA Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

BroadbandUSA Webinar Series

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of open meetings—Monthly webinars.

SUMMARY: The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), as part of its BroadbandUSA program, promotes innovation and economic growth by supporting efforts to expand broadband access and meaningful use across America. BroadbandUSA serves local and state governments, industry and nonprofits that seek to expand broadband connectivity and promote digital inclusion. BroadbandUSA will host a series of webinars on a monthly basis to engage the public and stakeholders with information to accelerate broadband connectivity, improve digital inclusion, strengthen policies and support local priorities. The Practical Broadband Conversations webinar series will provide an ongoing source of information on a range of topics and issues being addressed by BroadbandUSA, including but not limited to best practices for improving broadband deployment, digital inclusion, workforce skills, smart communities, and economic development.

DATES: BroadbandUSA will hold the webinars from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern Time on the third Wednesday of every month, beginning October 16, 2019 and continuing through September 16, 2020, with the exception of December 2019 and August 2020.

ADDRESSES: This is a virtual meeting. NTIA will post the registration information on its BroadbandUSA website, <https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov> under Events.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elaine Sloan, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4872, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–8231; email: BroadbandUSAwebinars@ntia.gov. Please direct media inquiries to NTIA’s Office of Public Affairs, (202) 482–7002; email press@ntia.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NTIA’s BroadbandUSA program serves as a trusted and neutral strategic advisor,

collaborating with federal, state and local government, and industry leaders working to advance smart city and broadband initiatives designed to attract new employers, create quality jobs, improve educational opportunities, increase health outcomes and advance public safety.

BroadbandUSA convenes workshops on a regular basis to bring stakeholders together to discuss ways to improve broadband policies, share best practices, and connect state and local stakeholders to other federal agencies and funding sources for the purpose of expanding broadband infrastructure and adoption throughout America. Experts from NTIA's BroadbandUSA program are available to provide technical assistance and to connect stakeholders with additional resources, such as best practices, guides and program models.

NTIA's BroadbandUSA team convenes events around the country to bring together government, industry and non-profit personnel working to expand broadband connectivity and improve digital inclusion and workforce skills. These webinars are among the events BroadbandUSA uses to share broadband information with the public, broadband stakeholders, tribal, local and state governments and federal programs.

Details on specific webinar topics and webinar registration information will be posted on the BroadbandUSA website, <https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov> under Events. These webinars are subject to change. Webinar time changes will be posted on the BroadbandUSA website, <https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov> under Events, at least thirty days in advance of the webinar. Any webinar cancellation will also be posted on the same website. Any date changes will be published in a new **Federal Register** notice and posted on the website. The presentation, transcript, and recording of each webinar will be posted on the BroadbandUSA website within 7 days following the live webinar.

The public is invited to participate in these webinars. General questions and comments are welcome at any time during webinars via email to BroadbandUSAwebinars@ntia.gov. The webinars are open to the public and press. Pre-registration is recommended. NTIA asks each registrant to provide their first and last name, city, state, zip code, job title, organization and email address for both registration purposes and to receive any updates on the BroadbandUSA program via email at BroadbandUSA@ntia.gov. Information on webinar content and how to register for one or more webinars will be available on NTIA's website at <https://>

broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov under Events. Individuals requiring accommodations, such as sign language interpretation or other ancillary aids, are asked to notify the NTIA contact listed above at least seven (7) business days before the meeting.

Dated: August 2, 2019.

Kathy Smith,

Chief Counsel, National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Multistakeholder Process on Promoting Software Component Transparency

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) will convene a meeting of a multistakeholder process on promoting software component transparency on September 5, 2019.

DATES: The meeting will be held on September 5, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the American Institute of Architects, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Allan Friedman, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 4725, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-4281; email: afriedman@ntia.doc.gov. Please direct media inquiries to NTIA's Office of Public Affairs: (202) 482-7002; email: press@ntia.doc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: This National Telecommunications and Information Administration cybersecurity multistakeholder process focuses on promoting software component transparency. Most modern software is not written completely from scratch, but includes existing components, modules, and libraries from the open source and commercial software world. Modern development practices such as code reuse, and a dynamic IT marketplace with acquisitions and mergers, make it challenging to track the use of software

components. The Internet of Things compounds this phenomenon, as new organizations, enterprises, and innovators take on the role of software developer to add "smart" features or connectivity to their products. While the majority of libraries and components do not have known vulnerabilities, many do, and the sheer quantity of software means that some software products ship with vulnerable or out-of-date components.

The first meeting of this multistakeholder process was held on July 19, 2018, in Washington, DC.¹ Stakeholders presented multiple perspectives, and identified several inter-related work streams: Understanding the Problem, Use Cases and State of Practice, Standards and Formats, and Healthcare Proof of Concept. Since then, stakeholders have been discussing key issues and developing products such as guidance documents. NTIA acts as the convener, but stakeholders drive the outcomes. Success of the process will be evaluated by the extent to which broader findings on software component transparency are implemented across the ecosystem.

The main objectives of the September 5, 2019, meeting are to review drafts provided by the working groups, discuss how they complement each other, and hear feedback from the broader stakeholder community. Stakeholders will also identify next steps in this effort, how progress can be made on extending the basic model, collecting tooling, and promoting awareness and adoption of stakeholder work. More information about stakeholders' work is available at: <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/SoftwareTransparency>.

Time and Date: NTIA will convene the next meeting of the multistakeholder process on Software Component Transparency on September 5, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Please refer to NTIA's website, <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/SoftwareTransparency>, for the most current information.

Place: The meeting will be held at the American Institute of Architects, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006. The location of the meeting is subject to change. Please refer to NTIA's website, <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/SoftwareTransparency>, for the most current information.

Other Information: The meeting is open to the public and the press on a first-come, first-served basis. Space is limited.

¹Notes, presentations, and a video recording of the July 19, 2018, kickoff meeting are available at: <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/SoftwareTransparency>.