

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jay Stewart, Senior Research Economist, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Telephone: 202-691-7376. This is not a toll-free number. Email: [BLSTAC@bls.gov](mailto:BLSTAC@bls.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The TAC provides advice to the Bureau of Labor Statistics on technical aspects of data collection and the formulation of economic measures and makes recommendations on areas of research. On some technical issues, there are differing views and receiving feedback at public meetings provides BLS with the opportunity to consider all viewpoints.

The Committee consists of approximately 16 members who serve as Special Government Employees. Members are appointed by the BLS and are approved by the Secretary of Labor. Committee members are experts in economics, statistics, data science, and survey design. They are prominent experts in their fields and recognized for their professional achievements and objectivity. The economic experts will have research experience with technical issues related to BLS data and will be familiar with employment and unemployment statistics, price index numbers, compensation measures, productivity measures, occupational and health statistics, or other topics relevant to BLS data series. The statistical experts will have experience with sample design, data analysis, computationally intensive statistical methods, non-sampling errors or other areas which are relevant to BLS work. The data science experts will have experience compiling, modeling, analyzing, and interpreting large sets of structured and unstructured data. The survey design experts will have experience with questionnaire design, usability, or other areas of survey development. Collectively, the members will provide a balance of expertise in all of these areas.

BLS invites persons interested in serving on the TAC to submit their names for consideration for committee membership. Typically, TAC members are appointed to three-year terms, and serve as Special Government Employees.

The Bureau often faces highly technical issues while developing and maintaining the accuracy and relevancy of its data on employment and unemployment, prices, productivity, and compensation and working conditions. These issues range from how to develop new measures to how to make sure that existing measures account for the ever-changing economy.

BLS presents issues and then draws on the specialized expertise of Committee members representing specialized fields within the academic disciplines of economics, statistics and data science, and survey design. Committee members are also invited to bring to the attention of BLS issues that have been identified in the academic literature or in their own research.

The TAC was established to provide advice to the Commissioner of Labor Statistics on technical topics selected by the BLS. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to providing comments on papers and presentations developed by BLS research and program staff, conducting research on issues identified by BLS on which an objective technical opinion or recommendation from outside of BLS would be valuable, recommending BLS conduct internal research projects to address technical problems with BLS statistics that have been identified in the academic literature, participating in discussions of areas where the types or coverage of economic statistics could be expanded or improved and areas where statistics are no longer relevant, and establishing working relationships with professional associations with an interest in BLS statistics, such as the American Statistical Association and the American Economic Association.

**Nominations:** BLS is looking for committed TAC members who have a strong interest in, and familiarity with, BLS data. The Agency is looking for nominees who use and have a comprehensive understanding of economic statistics. BLS is committed to bringing greater diversity of thought, perspective, and experience to its advisory committees. Nominees from all races, gender, age, and disabilities are encouraged to apply. Interested persons may nominate themselves or may submit the name of another person who they believe to be interested in and qualified to serve on the TAC. Nominations may also be submitted by organizations.

Nominations should include the name, address, and telephone number of the candidate. Each nomination should include a summary of the candidate's training or experience relating to BLS data specifically, or economic statistics more generally, and a curriculum vitae. In selecting TAC members, BLS will consider individuals nominated in response to this notice, as well as other qualified individuals. Candidates should not submit information they do not want publicly disclosed. BLS will conduct a basic background check on candidates before their appointment to the TAC. The background check will

involve accessing publicly available, internet-based sources. BLS will contact nominees for information on their status as registered lobbyists. Anyone currently subject to federal registration requirements as a lobbyist is not eligible for appointment to the TAC. Nominees should be aware of the time commitment for attending meetings and actively participating in the work of the TAC. Historically, this has meant a commitment of at least two days per year.

**Authority:** This notice was prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 15th day of December 2022.

**Eric Molina,**

*Acting Chief, Division of Management Systems.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Wage and Hour Division

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Inflation Reduction Act Wage Rates and Wage Determinations

**AGENCY:** Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor (Department) is soliciting comments concerning a proposed extension of the information collection request (ICR) titled "Inflation Reduction Act Wage Rates and Wage Determinations." 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). The Department proposes to extend the approval of this existing information collection without change to existing requirements. This program helps to ensure that 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 on respondents can be properly assessed. A copy of the proposed information request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this Notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the

**ADDRESSES** section below on or before February 21, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by Control Number 1235–0034, by either one of the following methods: *Email: WHDPRAComments@dol.gov; Mail, Hand Delivery, Courier:* Division of Regulations, Legislation, and Interpretation, Wage and Hour, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S–3502, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210.

*Instructions:* Please submit one copy of your comments by only one method. All submissions received must include the agency name and Control Number identified above for this information collection. Because we continue to experience delays in receiving mail in the Washington, DC area, commenters are strongly encouraged to transmit their comments electronically via email or to submit them by mail early. Comments, including any personal information provided, become a matter of public record. They will also be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval of the information collection request.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Amy DeBisschop, Division of Regulations, Legislation, and Interpretation, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S–3502, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210; telephone: (202) 693–0406 (this is not a toll-free number). Alternative formats are available upon request by calling 1–866–487–9243. If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7–1–1 to access telecommunications relay services.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

On August 16, 2022, President Biden signed H.R. 5376 (Pub. L. 117–169), a budget reconciliation measure commonly referred to as the “Inflation Reduction Act of 2022” (IRA). The IRA contains several sections that provide enhanced tax incentives to pay prevailing wages.

The increased credit and deduction amounts generally become effective for qualified facilities, projects, property, or equipment that begin construction (or begin installation under IRC 179D) 60 days after publication of guidance by the Secretary of the Treasury. The guidance states, in part:

To rely on the procedures to request a wage determination or wage rate, and to rely on the wage determination or rate provided in response to the request, the taxpayer must contact the Department of Labor, Wage and

Hour Division via email at *IRAPrevalingwage@dol.gov* and provide the Wage and Hour Division with the type of facility, facility location, proposed labor classifications, proposed prevailing wage rates, job descriptions and duties, and any rationale for the proposed classifications. After review, the Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division will notify the taxpayer as to the labor classifications and wage rates to be used for the type of work in question in the area in which the facility is located.

The IRA allows taxpayers to claim enhanced tax credit and deduction amounts in situations in which Davis-Bacon Act (DBA) prevailing wage rates are not required but are voluntarily paid as a condition of claiming the enhanced amount. The purpose of this ICR is to obtain approval to collect the data needed to issue wage rates for the universe of respondents who are not already included in the collection approved under 1235–0023 (those who are subject to the DBA and the Davis-Bacon Related Acts (DBRA)). This collection applies to those outside the scope of DBA/DBRA who will need an applicable wage determination or wage rates for classifications that are not in an applicable wage determination to satisfy prevailing wage requirements and thereby take the enhanced tax credit and deduction amounts under the IRA.

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 the OMB under the PRA approves it 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. The Department obtains OMB approval for this information collection under Control Number 1235–0034.

OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than 3 years without renewal, and the current approval for this collection will expire on May 31, 2023. The Department seeks to extend PRA authorization for this information collection for 3 more years, without any change to existing requirements. The Department notes that existing information collection requirements submitted to the OMB receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

Interested parties are encouraged to send comments to the Department at the address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section within 60 days of publication of this

notice in the **Federal Register**. To help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should mention OMB Control Number 1235–0034.

**II. Review Focus**

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate 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;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;
- Evaluate 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;
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submissions of responses.

**III. Current Actions**

The Department of Labor seeks approval for an extension of this information collection to ensure taxpayers may take advantage of the enhanced tax provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Agency:* Wage and Hour Division.

*Title:* Inflation Reduction Act Wage Rates and Wage Determinations.

*OMB Control Number:* 1235–0034.

*Affected Public:* Private Sector: Businesses or other for-profits; not-for-profit institutions.

*Total Respondents:* 1,727.

*Total Annual Responses:* 1,727.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 432.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 15 minutes per response.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Total Burden Costs:* \$22,943.

*Total Burden Costs (Operations/Maintenance):* \$0.

Dated: December 14, 2022.

**Amy DeBisschop,**

*Director, Division of Regulations, Legislation, and Interpretation.*

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