

CFR section	Respondent universe	Total annual responses (A)	Average time per response (B)	Total annual burden hours (C = A * B)	Wage rate	Total cost equivalent U.S.D (D = C * wage rates)
240.303—Annual unannounced operating rules compliance test.	53,000 candidates	53,000 testing records retained.	1 minute	883.33	85.93	75,904.83
240.305(c)—Engineer’s notice of non-qualification to RR.	53,000 engineers or candidates.	100 notifications	5 minutes	8.33	63.07	525.37
—(d)—Relaying certification denial or revocation status to other certifying railroad.	1,060 engineers	2 letters	15 minutes	0.50	63.07	31.54
240.307(a–b)—Revocation of certification—notice to engineer of disqualification.	784 railroads	550 + 550 letters	1 + 1 hour	1,100.0	85.93	81,950.00
—(b)(4)—RR provision to employee of copy of written information and list of witnesses that it will present at hearing.	784 railroads	690 copies/list	5 minutes	57.50	85.93	4,940.98
—(b)(5)—RR determination on hearing record whether person no longer meets certification requirements of this part.	784 railroads	690 hearing determinations.	1 hour	690.00	85.93	59,291.70
—(b)(7)—RR creates/retains hearing records	784 railroads	690 hearings/records ..	4 hours	2,760.00	85.93	237,166.80
—(c)(11)(i)(ii)—RR written decision after close of hearing containing findings of fact and whether a revocable event occurred.	784 railroads	690 written decisions ..	30 minutes	345.00	85.93	29,645.85
—(c)(11)(iii)—RR service of written decision on employee and employee’s representative.	784 railroads	690 copies	5 minutes	57.50	85.93	4,940.98
—(f)—Waiver of right to hearing under this section.	784 railroads	750 written waivers	5 minutes	62.50	63.07	3,941.88
240.307(i)–(j)—RR decision not to revoke certification.	784 railroads	50 records of decision	10 minutes	8.33	85.93	715.80
240.309—Railroad oversight responsibilities—annual review.	55 railroads	55 reviews	3 hours	165.00	85.93	14,178.45
Total	784 railroads	224,023 responses	23,851	0.00	2,362,843

FRA informs all interested parties that it may not conduct or sponsor, and a respondent is not required to respond to, a collection of information that does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520.

Christopher S. Van Nostrand,

Acting Deputy Chief Counsel.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA–2023–0002–N–47]

Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) and its implementing regulations, this notice announces that FRA is forwarding the Information Collection Request (ICR) summarized below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the information collection and its

expected burden. On December 26, 2023, FRA published a notice providing a 60-day period for public comment on the ICR. FRA received no comments in response to the notice.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed ICR should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find the particular ICR by selecting “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Arlette Mussington, Information Collection Clearance Officer, at email: arlette.mussington@dot.gov or telephone: (571) 609–1285; or Ms. Joanne Swafford, Information Collection Clearance Officer, at email: joanne.swafford@dot.gov or telephone: (757) 897–9908.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520, and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR part 1320, require Federal agencies to issue two notices seeking public comment on information collection activities before OMB may approve paperwork packages. See 44 U.S.C. 3506, 3507; 5 CFR 1320.8 through 1320.12. On December 26, 2023, FRA published a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** soliciting public

comment on the ICR for which it is now seeking OMB approval. See 88 FR 89020. FRA has received no comments related to the proposed collection of information.

Before OMB decides whether to approve this proposed collection of information, it must provide 30 days’ notice for public comment. Federal law requires OMB to approve or disapprove paperwork packages between 30 and 60 days after the 30-day notice is published. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b)–(c); 5 CFR 1320.12(d); see also 60 FR 44978, 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. OMB believes the 30-day notice informs the regulated community to file relevant comments and affords the agency adequate time to digest public comments before it renders a decision. 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. Therefore, respondents should submit their respective comments to OMB within 30 days of publication to best ensure having their full effect.

Comments are invited on the following ICR regarding: (1) whether the information collection activities are necessary for FRA to properly execute its functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of FRA’s estimates of the burden of the information collection activities, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used to determine the estimates; (3) ways for FRA to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information being

collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of information collection activities on the public, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The summary below describes the ICR that FRA will submit for OMB clearance as the PRA requires:

Title: Training, Qualification, and Oversight for Safety-Related Railroad Employees.

OMB Control Number: 2130–0597.

Abstract: Regulations under 49 CFR part 243 set forth FRA’s minimum training and qualification requirements for each category and subcategory of safety-related railroad employee, regardless of whether the employee is employed by a railroad or a contractor of the railroad. In 2014, FRA published a final rule establishing minimum training standards for all safety-related railroad employees, as required by the Rail Safety Improvement Act (RSIA) of 2008.¹ The final rule required each railroad or contractor that employs one or more safety-related employees to develop and submit a training program to FRA for approval and to designate the minimum training qualifications for

each occupational category of employee. Additionally, the rule required most employers to conduct periodic oversight of their own employees and annual written reviews of their training programs to close performance gaps.²

FRA will use the information collected to ensure each employer—railroad or contractor—conducting operations subject to 49 CFR part 243 develops, adopts, submits, and complies with a training program for each category and subcategory of safety-related railroad employee. Each program must have training components identified so that FRA will understand how the program works when it reviews the program for approval. Additionally, FRA will review the required training programs to ensure they include initial, ongoing, and on-the-job training criteria; testing and skills evaluation measures designed to foster continual compliance with Federal standards; and the identification of critical safety defects and plans for immediate remedial actions to correct them.

On December 26, 2023, FRA published a 60-day **Federal Register** notice that reflected 66,565 total burden hours. See 88 FR 89020. Upon further

evaluation, FRA has determined that the training programs requirement under § 243.101(a)(2) has already been completed. As a result, the associated paperwork burden has been removed, and the information collection now correctly reflects the estimated paperwork burden of 16,549 hours for this submission. For additional transparency FRA is including the updated burden table for publication with this 30-day **Federal Register** Notice.

Type of Request: Extension without change (with changes in estimates) of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Businesses (railroads).

Form(s): N/A.

Respondent Universe: 1,155 railroads/contractors/training organizations/learning institutions.

Frequency of Submission: On occasion.

Total Estimated Annual Responses: 163,875.

Total Estimated Annual Burden: 16,549 hours.

Total Estimated Annual Burden Hour Dollar Cost Equivalent: \$1,429,526.

CFR	Respondent universe	Total annual responses (A)	Average time per response (B)	Total annual burden hours (C = A * B)	Wage rates	Total cost equivalent in U.S. dollars (D = C * wage rates)
243.101(a)(2)—Training program required for each employer not covered by (a)(1) and subject to this part by May 1, 2021.	<i>The PRA burden associated with this requirement has been completed.</i>					
—(b) Submission by new employers commencing operations after Jan. 1, 2020, not covered by (a)(2).	10 new railroads/contractors.	10 training programs ...	20 hours	200.00 hours	\$123.41	\$24,682.00
—(e) Contractor’s duty to validate approved program to a railroad (Revised requirement).	400 railroad contractors.	150 documents	15 minutes	37.50 hours	85.93	3,222.38
—(f) Railroad’s duty to retain copies of contractor’s validation documents (Revised requirement).	1,046 railroads/contractors.	1,046 copies	2 minutes ...	34.87 hours	85.93	2,996.38
243.103(d)—Training components identified in program; modifications to components of the training programs.	1,155 railroads/contractors.	10 modified training programs.	5 hours	50.00 hours	85.93	4,296.50
243.109(b)—Previously approved programs requiring an informational filing when modified.	155 railroads/contractors/learning institutions.	75 informational filings	8 hours	600.00 hours	85.93	51,558.00
—(c) New portions or substantial revisions to an approved training program.	10 railroads/contractors	10 revised training programs.	16 hours	160.00 hours	85.93	13,748.80
—(c) New portions or substantial revisions to an approved training program found non-conforming to this part by FRA—revisions required.	50 railroads/contractors	50 revised training programs.	8 hours	400.00 hours	85.93	34,372.00
—(d)(1)(i) Copy of additional submissions, resubmissions, and informational filings to labor organization presidents.	50 railroads/contractors	50 copies	10 minutes	8.33 hours	85.93	715.80
—(d)(1)(ii) Railroad statement affirming that a copy of submissions, resubmissions, or informational filings has been served to labor organization presidents.	228 railroads/contractors.	76 affirming statements	10 minutes	12.67 hours	85.93	1,088.73
—(d)(2) Labor comments on railroad training program submissions, resubmissions, or informational filings.	228 railroad labor organizations.	3 comments	30 minutes	1.50 hours	85.93	128.90

¹ Public Law 110–432, 122 Stat. 4883 (Oct. 16, 2008), codified at 49 U.S.C. 20162.

² 79 FR 66460.

CFR	Respondent universe	Total annual responses (A)	Average time per response (B)	Total annual burden hours (C = A * B)	Wage rates	Total cost equivalent in U.S. dollars (D = C * wage rates)
243.111(g)—Safety-related railroad employees instructed by training organizations or learning institutions—recordkeeping.	109 training organizations/learning institutions.	5,450 records	5 minutes ...	454.17 hours	85.93	39,026.83
—(h) Training organizations or learning institutions to provide student's training transcript or training record to any employer upon request by the student.	109 training organizations/learning institutions.	545 records	5 minutes ...	45.42 hours	85.93	3,902.94
243.201(b)—New employers operating after January 1, 2020, not covered by (a)(2), designation of safety-related employees by job category—lists.	10 new railroads/contractors.	10 designation lists	15 minutes	2.50 hours	85.93	214.83
243.201(c)—Training records of newly hired employees or those assigned new safety-related duties.	4,800 employees	4,800 records	15 minutes	1,200.00 hours ..	85.93	103,116.00
—(d)(1)(i) Requests for relevant qualification or training record from an entity other than current employer.	4,800 employees	250 record requests	5 minutes ...	20.83 hours	85.93	1,789.92
243.203(a)—(e)—Recordkeeping—Systems set up to meet FRA requirements—general requirements for qualification status records, accessibility.	10 railroads/contractors/training organizations/learning institutions.	10 record-keeping systems.	30 minutes	5.00 hours	85.93	429.65
—(f) Transfer of records to successor employer—If an employer ceases to do business and its assets will be transferred to a successor employer, it shall transfer to the successor employer all records required to be maintained under this part, and the successor employer shall retain them for the remainder of the period prescribed in this part.	1,155 railroads/contractors/training organizations/learning institutions.	3 railroads	30 minutes	1.50 hours	85.93	128.90
243.205(c)—Railroad identification of supervisory employees who conduct periodic oversight tests by category/subcategory.	746 railroads	100 identifications	5 minutes ...	8.33 hours	85.93	715.80
—(f) Notification by railroad of contractor employee non-compliance with federal laws/regulations/orders to employee and employee's employer.	300 contractors	360 (90 employee + 270 employer notices).	20 minutes (10 + 10).	60 hours (15.00 + 45).	85.93	5,155.80
—(i) and (j) Employer records of periodic oversight.	1,046 railroads/contractors.	150,000 records	5 minutes ...	12,500.00 hours	85.93	1,074,125.00
243.207(a)—Written annual review of safety data (Railroads with 400,000 annual employee work hours or more).	22 railroads	22 reviews	16 hours	352.00 hours	85.93	30,247.36
—(b) Railroad copy of written annual review at system headquarters.	22 railroads	22 review copies	5 minutes ...	1.83 hours	85.93	157.25
—(e) Railroad notification to contractor of relevant training program adjustments.	22 railroads	2 notifications	15 minutes	0.50 hour	85.93	42.97
243.209(a)—(b)—Railroad-maintained list of contractors utilized.	746 railroads	746 lists	30 minutes	373.00 hours	85.93	32,051.89
—(c) Railroad duty to update list of contractors utilized and retain record for at least 3 years showing if a contractor was utilized in last 3 years.	746 railroads	75 updated lists	15 minutes	18.75 hours	85.93	1,611.19
Total ³	1,155 railroads/contractors/training organizations/learning institutions.	163,875 responses	N/A	16,549 hours	1,429,526

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Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520.

Christopher S. Van Nostrand,

Acting Deputy Chief Counsel.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA–2024–0002]

Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) and its implementing regulations, this notice announces that FRA is forwarding the Information Collection Request (ICR) summarized below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the information collection and its expected burden. On January 25, 2024, FRA published a notice providing a 60-day period for public comment on the ICR.

³ Totals may not add up due to rounding.