

Type of Information Collection: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Type of Review Request: Regular.

Respondents: Current executive branch employees (and/or their representatives) seeking to accept payments for legal expenses from a legal expense fund or the provision of pro bono legal services for matters arising in connection with the employee's past or current official position, the employee's prior position on a campaign of a candidate for President or Vice President, or the employee's prior position on a Presidential Transition Team; legal expense fund trustees.

Estimated Average Annual Number of Responses: 133.

Total Estimated Time per Response: 5 minutes to 20 hours (see table below for detailed explanation).

Estimated Average Total Annual Burden: 109.2 hours.

OMB Control Number: 3209–0012.

Abstract: On May 25, 2023, OGE published a final rule establishing a framework to govern an executive branch employee's acceptance of payments for legal expenses through a Legal Expense Fund (LEF) for matters arising in connection with the employee's official position, the employee's prior position on a campaign of a candidate for President or Vice President, or the employee's prior position on a Presidential Transition Team. The requirements for establishing and maintaining an LEF are found in 5 CFR part 2635, subpart J (LEF regulation).

The LEF regulation requires that employees who wish to establish a legal expense fund do so through a trust with a single, named employee beneficiary and a trustee. It also requires an employee beneficiary to file quarterly reports that include information (1)

regarding members of the public who make financial donations to help pay for the employee beneficiary's legal expenses (donors) and (2) members of the public who receive payments from a legal expense fund (payees). The employee beneficiary must also file a termination report upon the termination of the trust and/or executive branch employment. The trust documents, quarterly reports, and termination reports will be posted directly on OGE's website in accordance with 5 CFR 2635.1007(g). Together, this information collection (IC) is titled "OGE Legal Expense Fund Information Collection." The IC was approved by OMB and assigned OMB Control Number 3209–0012 on July 21, 2023.

The following table estimates the total annual burden resulting from the OGE Legal Expense Fund Information Collection.

Instrument	Time per response	Number of annual responses	Total burden (hours)
Trust Document	20 hours	3	60
Quarterly and Termination Reports (beneficiary burden)	2 hours	20	40
Quarterly and Termination Reports (donor and payee burden)	5 minutes	110	9.2
Total			109.2

OGE estimates that there will be approximately three new legal expense funds filed each year. It is anticipated that there may be an average of five legal expense fund trusts in existence each year. Each trust is anticipated to have approximately 20 donors, whose reporting requirements are tied to the frequency with which they donate, and approximately two payees, who will submit information each time they receive a distribution. The burden for collecting this information from donors and payees is on the trustees. These estimates are based in part on OGE's knowledge of several legal expense funds that have been established for Executive branch employees, as well as OGE's consultation with the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate regarding the legal expense funds that they oversee.

Based on the above, OGE estimates an average annual time burden during the next three years of 109.2 hours. Using an estimated rate of \$340 per hour for the services of a professional trustee or private representative, the estimated annual cost burden is \$37,128.

Under OMB's implementing regulations for the Paperwork Reduction Act, any recordkeeping, reporting, or disclosure requirement contained in a

rule of general applicability is deemed to involve ten or more persons. See 5 CFR 1320.3(c)(4)(i).

OGE plans to submit the instruments described above to OMB for a three-year extension of approval without modification, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35.

Request for Comments: Agency and public comments are invited specifically on the need for and practical utility of this information collection, on the accuracy of OGE's burden estimate, on the enhancement of quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected, and on minimizing the burden to the public. Comments received in response to this notice will be summarized for, and may be included with, the OGE request for extension of OMB approval. The comments will also become a matter of public record.

Specifically, OGE seeks public comment on the following:

1. What problems do you have using the form?
2. Are there sections of the form or instructions that are unclear?
3. Is there information provided that is confusing?
4. What additional information would be helpful?

5. Is it clear from the form that the filing requirement begins once a Legal Expense Fund is approved under Subpart J of 5 CFR part 2635, regardless of whether a reportable contribution or distribution is made during a reporting period?

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A); 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1); 5 CFR part 2635, subpart J.

Approved: December 15, 2025.

Shelley K. Finlayson,

Chief of Staff and Chief Counsel, Office of Government Ethics.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Solicitation of Nominations for Appointment to the Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control

AGENCY: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is soliciting nominations for membership on the Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (BSC, NCIPC). The BSC, NCIPC consists of 18 experts in fields associated with surveillance, basic epidemiologic research, intervention research, and implementation, dissemination, and evaluation of promising and evidence-based strategies for the prevention of injury and violence.

DATES: Nominations for membership on the BSC, NCIPC must be received no later than February 28, 2026. Packages received after this time will not be considered for the current membership cycle.

ADDRESSES: All nominations should be emailed (recommended) to ncipcbsc@cdc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Christopher R. Harper, Ph.D., Designated Federal Officer, Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 4770 Buford Highway NE, Mailstop S-1069, Atlanta, GA 30341, Telephone (404) 718-8330. Email address: ncipcbsc@cdc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Nominations are being sought for individuals who have expertise and qualifications necessary to contribute to the accomplishments of the Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (BSC, NCIPC) objectives. Nominees will be selected based on expertise in the fields of pertinent disciplines involved in injury and violence prevention, including, but not limited to, epidemiology, statistics, trauma surgery, rehabilitation medicine, behavioral science/psychology, health economics, program evaluation, political science, law, criminology, informatics and other aspects of injury management. Federal employees will not be considered for membership. Members may be invited to serve for up to four-year terms. Selection of members is based on candidates' qualifications to contribute to the accomplishment of BSC, NCIPC objectives <https://www.cdc.gov/injury/bsc/>.

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) policy stipulates that committee membership be balanced in terms of points of view represented and the committee's function. Appointments shall be made without discrimination

on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Nominees must be U.S. citizens and cannot be full-time employees of the U.S. Government. Current participation on Federal workgroups or prior experience serving on a Federal advisory committee does not disqualify a candidate; however, HHS policy is to avoid excessive individual service on advisory committees and multiple committee memberships. Committee members are Special Government Employees, requiring the filing of financial disclosure reports at the beginning and annually during their terms. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reviews potential candidates for BSC, NCIPC membership each year and provides a slate of nominees for consideration to the Secretary of HHS for final selection. HHS notifies selected candidates of their appointment near the start of the term in September, or as soon as the HHS selection process is completed. Note that the need for different expertise varies from year to year and a candidate who is not selected in one year may be reconsidered in a subsequent year. Candidates should submit the following items:

- Current curriculum vitae, including complete contact information (telephone numbers, mailing address, email address).
- At least one letter of recommendation from person(s) not employed by HHS. Candidates may submit letter(s) from current HHS employees if they wish, but at least one letter must be submitted by a person not employed by an HHS agency (e.g., CDC, National Institutes of Health, Food and Drug Administration).

Nominations may be submitted by the candidate or by the person/organization recommending the candidate.

The Director, Office of Strategic Business Initiatives, Office of the Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has been delegated the authority to sign **Federal Register** notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Kalwant Smagh,

Director, Office of Strategic Business Initiatives, Office of the Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Notice of Award of a Single Source Unsolicited Grant To Fund University of Southern Denmark (SDU)

AGENCY: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), located within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), announces the award of approximately \$1,600,000 over a five-year period, in response to an unsolicited proposal that has been submitted by University of Southern Denmark (SDU). The award will support a comparable study of the optimal timing and delivery of monovalent Hepatitis B vaccinations on newborns in Guinea-Bissau. Activities will include conducting a randomized controlled trial to assess the effects of neonatal Hepatitis B vaccination on early-life mortality, morbidity, and long-term developmental outcomes. The award is in response to an unsolicited proposal.

DATES: The period for this award will be January 5, 2026, through January 4, 2031.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sam Beyda, Office of the Director, Office of the Chief of Staff, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 4770 Buford Highway NE, Atlanta, GA 30341, Telephone: (404) 404-639-7000, E-Mail: DirectorsIncoming@cdc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed work being funded will support a single-blind, multi-center, phase IV randomized controlled trial enrolling over 14,000 neonates in Guinea-Bissau to evaluate the impact of neonatal monovalent Hepatitis B vaccination (HBV0) on all-cause mortality, severe morbidity, and long-term developmental outcomes. The study will also assess potential sex-differential effects of the vaccine. While the World Health Organization (WHO) recommends three vaccines at birth in low-income settings—Bacille Calmette Guérin (BCG), oral polio vaccine (OPV0), and HBV0—there is limited evidence on the broader health effects of HBV0. This study aims to fill that gap by rigorously evaluating the overall health impact of HBV0 in early life.

CDC performed an objective review of the proposed work and determined, in accordance with its process for reviewing unsolicited proposals that the