

for subsistence purposes, and the required mitigation and monitoring measures, NMFS has determined that there will not be an unmitigable adverse impact on subsistence uses from CBY's planned.

Endangered Species Act

Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires that each Federal agency ensures that any action it authorizes, funds, or carries out is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. To ensure ESA compliance for the issuance of incidental take authorizations, NMFS consults internally whenever we propose to authorize take for ESA-listed species, in this case with the Alaska Regional Office.

The NMFS Alaska Regional Office Protected Resources Division issued a Biological Opinion on December 19, 2025 under section 7 of the ESA, on the issuance of an IHA to CBY under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA by the NMFS Permits and Conservation Division. The Biological Opinion concluded that this action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of western DPS Steller sea lions (*Eumetopias jubatus*), Mexico DPS humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), or Western North Pacific DPS humpback whale and is not likely to destroy or adversely modify western DPS Steller sea lion, Mexico DPS humpback whale or Western North Pacific DPS humpback whale critical habitats.

National Environmental Policy Act

To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216-6A, NMFS must review our proposed action (*i.e.*, the issuance of an IHA) with respect to potential impacts on the human environment.

This action is consistent with categories of activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B4 (IHAs with no anticipated serious injury or mortality) of the Companion Manual for NAO 216-6A, which do not individually or cumulatively have the potential for significant impacts on the quality of the human environment and for which we have not identified any extraordinary circumstances that would preclude this categorical exclusion. Accordingly, NMFS has determined that the issuance of the IHA qualifies to be categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Authorization

NMFS has issued an IHA to CBY for the potential harassment of small numbers of 9 marine mammal species incidental to the Yakutat Small Boat Harbor Replacement Project in Yakutat, Alaska, that includes the previously explained mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements.

Dated: January 7, 2026.

Kimberly Damon-Randall,
Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2026-00284 Filed 1-8-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DOD-2025-OS-0903]

Science and Technology Reinvention Laboratory Personnel Demonstration Project Program

AGENCY: Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USD(R&E)), Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: This notice provides new authorities to all Science and Technology Reinvention Laboratory (STRL) Personnel Demonstration (Demo) Projects.

SUMMARY: STRLs will implement Senior Business Technical Manager (SBTM) positions, which are defined as senior business and technical positions comparable to positions classified above the General Schedule (GS)-15 level. SBTMs are senior business and operations leaders within the STRL, serving as primary advisors to the STRL's Commanding Officers and/or members of the Senior Executive Service (SES). SBTMs oversee and operationalize the STRL's business operations, administration, and technology functions. SBTM positions may only be established at authorized STRLs with personnel demonstration projects.

DATES: This proposal may not be implemented until a 30-day comment period is provided, comments addressed, and a final **Federal Register** notice published. To be considered, written comments must be submitted on or before February 9, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Mail: Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and

Management, Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Department of Defense:

- Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, Science and Technology Foundations: Dr. Jagadeesh Pamulapati, 571-372-6372, Jagadeesh.Pamulapati.civ@mail.mil.

Defense Health Agency:

- Defense Health Agency Research and Development: Ms. Lyn Krout, 301-619-7276, linda.j.krout.civ@health.mil.

Department of the Air Force:

- Air Force Research Laboratory: Ms. Rosalyn Jones-Byrd, 937-656-9747, Rosalyn.Jones-Byrd@us.af.mil.
- Joint Warfare Analysis Center: Ms. Amy Balmaz, 540-653-8598, Amy.T.Balmaz.civ@mail.mil.

Department of the Army:

- Transformation and Training Command: Ms. Marlowe Richmond, 571-588-1219, Marlowe.Richmond.civ@army.mil.

- Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences: Dr. Scott Shadrack, 254-288-3800, Scottie.B.Shadrack.civ@army.mil.

- Combat Capabilities Development Command Armaments Center: Ms. Pota Kripotos, 973-724-9165, Pota.Kripotos.civ@army.mil.

- Combat Capabilities Development Command Army Research Laboratory: Mr. Christopher Tahaney, 410-845-7834, Christopher.S.Tahaney.civ@army.mil.

- Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation and Missile Center: Mr. Justin Page, justin.d.page4.civ@army.mil.

- Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center: Ms. Patricia Knuckey, 410-417-2343, Patricia.L.Knuckey.civ@army.mil.

- Combat Capabilities Development Command—Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Center: Mr. Gregory Peck, gregory.a.peck16.civ@army.mil.

- Combat Capabilities Development Command Ground Vehicle Systems Center: Ms. Erin Stein, *Erin.m.stein.civ@army.mil*.

- Combat Capabilities Development Command Soldier Center: Ms. Sarah Palmer, 508–206–3421, *Sarah.B.Palmer.civ@army.mil*.

- Communications—Electronics Command Software Engineering Center: Ms. Teresa Manganaro, 443–861–8149, *Teresa.A.Manganaro.civ@army.mil*.

- Engineer Research and Development Center: Dr. Lucy Priddy, 601–634–2282, *Lucy.P.Priddy@usace.army.mil*.

- Medical Research and Development Command: Ms. Linda Krout, 301–619–7276, *Linda.J.Krout.civ@health.mil*.

- Technical Center, Space and Missile Defense Command: Dr. Chad Marshall, 256–955–5697, *Chad.J.Marshall.civ@army.mil*.

Department of the Navy:

- Marine Corp Tactical Systems Support Activity: Ms. Lissa Henriksen, 760–587–6893, *Lissa.Lalonde@usmc.mil*.

- Naval Air Warfare Center, Weapons Division and Aircraft Division: Mr. Dustin Kirby, 760–608–9248, *Dustin.k.kirby.civ@us.navy.mil*.

- Naval Facilities Engineering Command Engineering and Expeditionary Warfare Center: Ms. Kelly Mitchell, 564–226–0476, *Kelly.L.Mitchell16.civ@us.navy.mil*.

- Naval Information Warfare Centers:
 - Naval Information Warfare Center Atlantic: Ms. Alissa Lopez, 843–218–3871, *Alissa.m.lopez4.civ@us.navy.mil*.

- Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific: Ms. Sharmeka Speights, 619–553–6282, *Sharmeka.m.speights.civ@us.navy.mil*.

- Naval Medical Research Center: Dr. Jill Phan, 301–319–7645, *Jill.C.Phan.civ@mail.mil*.

- Naval Research Laboratory: Ms. Jennifer Hartman, 771–216–7567, *jennifer.l.hartman4.civ@us.navy.mil*.

- Naval Sea Systems Command Warfare Centers: Ms. Emily Grauwlir, 301–312–1185, *emily.r.grauwlir.civ@us.navy.mil*.

- Office of Naval Research: Mr. Damien Raphael, 703–696–0383, *urlins.d.raaphael.civ@us.navy.mil*.

Marine Corps:

- Marine Corp Tactical Systems Support Activity: Ms. Lissa Henriksen, 760–587–6893, *lissa.lalonde@usmc.mil*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background

Through the USD(R&E), the Secretary of Defense exercises the authorities granted to the Office of Personnel Management under title 5 of United

States Code (U.S.C.) section 4703 to conduct personnel demonstration projects at DoD laboratories designated as STRLs. All STRLs authorized pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 4121(a) and (b) may use the provisions described in this FRN. STRLs implementing these flexibilities must have an approved personnel demonstration project plan published in an FRN. Each STRL will establish internal operating procedures (IOPs) as appropriate.

The 24 current STRLs are:

- Defense Health Agency Research and Development
- Air Force Research Laboratory
- Joint Warfare Analysis Center
- Transformation and Training Command
- Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Combat Capabilities Development Command Armaments Center
- Combat Capabilities Development Command Army Research Laboratory
- Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation and Missile Center
- Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center
- Combat Capabilities Development Command—Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Center
- Combat Capabilities Development Command Ground Vehicle Systems Center
- Combat Capabilities Development Command Soldier Center
- Communications—Electronics Command Software Engineering Center
- Engineer Research and Development Center
- Medical Research and Development Command
- Technical Center, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command
- Marine Corp Tactical Systems Support Activity
- Naval Air Systems Command Warfare Centers
- Naval Facilities Engineering Command Engineering and Expeditionary Warfare Center
- Naval Information Warfare Centers, Atlantic and Pacific
- Naval Medical Research Center
- Naval Research Laboratory
- Naval Sea Systems Command Warfare Centers
- Office of Naval Research

2. Overview

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

This FRN grants a new authority to establish SBTM positions, above the

GS–15 level, for STRL senior business administration, operations, and technology functions that support and enable the laboratories' research and development missions. A strong business and operations support framework and staff are essential to ensuring the STRLs are prepared and able to advance military technology and capability in accordance with the National Defense Strategy.

The SBTM category encompasses positions that would exceed the GS–15 classification criteria of the General Schedule and contain characteristics of SES and Senior Leader (SL).

The SL classification designation would not be appropriate because SBTM positions may direct the work of an organizational unit; be held accountable for the success of one or more specific programs; monitor the progress toward organizational goals and objectives and periodically evaluate and make appropriate adjustments to such goals; supervise the work of employees other than personal assistants; or otherwise exercise important policy-development and implementation, or other executive level functions. SES classification designation would also not be appropriate because SBTMs do not exercise the full scope of managerial authority and impact required of SES positions. The SBTMs establish a separate pay band level or career track. This notice implements the SBTM authority.

B. Required Waivers to Law and Regulation

Waivers and adaptations of certain 5 U.S.C. and title 5, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) provisions are required only to the extent that these statutory and regulatory provisions limit or are inconsistent with the actions authorized under this demonstration project.

Appendix A lists waivers needed to enact authorities described in this FRN. Nothing in this plan is intended to preclude the demonstration project from adopting or incorporating any law or regulation enacted, adopted, or amended after the effective date of this FRN.

C. Expected Benefits

The SBTM authority is expected to:

(1) Allow proper classification of positions that are engaged in operationalizing laboratory management functions, recognizing the exceptionally high level of expertise required to oversee enterprise-wide business and technical operations, such as financial management, information technology and information assurance, contract

management, facilities and infrastructure management, and human capital management.

(2) Attract, retain, and appropriately compensate highly qualified business and technology professionals with significant experience and expertise managing the supporting business elements of highly complex and technology-focused organizations.

(3) Provide the opportunity for career development and expand the pool of experienced, prominent business and technical candidates meeting the levels of proficiency and leadership essential for enabling the operation of world-class DoD laboratories.

II. Personnel System Changes

All current STRL demonstration project plans are hereby amended to add the following:

A. Description and Implementation of SBTM Positions

1. Authorized Positions

The number of authorized SBTM positions in each STRL shall not exceed one percent of the number of civilian and military positions employed at such laboratory, inclusive of positions both within and outside the STRL's personnel demonstration project, which are filled as of the close of the preceding fiscal year. If one percent of authorized positions does not equate to a whole number, the STRL shall round down to the next lower number; however, each STRL shall be authorized at least one SBTM position regardless of the number of positions employed at such laboratory. Though the authorized number of SBTM positions may increase or decrease as the overall civilian and military workforce increases or decreases, no SBTM employee will have their classification as a SBTM changed or their pay reduced, because the size of the STRL's civilian and military workforce has decreased. In such circumstances, an STRL may temporarily exceed its new SBTM authorized number until attrition occurs.

2. Position Classification

(a) Position Requirements

At a minimum, all SBTM positions require senior manager up to executive level knowledge, skills, and abilities in competencies related to STRL business and operations of highly complex technical organizations or business units. SBTMs have a crucial role in driving strategic direction, supporting research and development in defense planning, ensuring operational excellence, and fostering a culture of

integrity and innovation to achieve sustainable success. Incumbents will typically possess extensive knowledge and experience in one or more business or technical requirements below or another area determined by the STRL director:

- Implementing and managing major policies and programs and advising senior officials on programs such as human capital, contracting, financial management, operations, facility management, or environmental policy and their impact on research programs.
- Managing defense acquisition policy and familiarity with policies concerning contracting for services.
- Managing information technology, including policy formulation and technical expertise across all aspects of information management at the STRL, with a special focus on creating visionary plans for future mission and business information systems.
- Managing defense cyber competencies that support science and technology initiatives to contribute to the development of cyber resilient transformation and readiness technologies.

Examples of other requirements may include strategic and operational leadership, configuration management, quality assurance, stakeholder engagement, laboratory governance, leadership development, strategic partnership, regulatory compliance, crisis management, and innovation and adaption.

SBTMs typically report to an SES or an SES equivalent-level position. Since all SBTM positions will typically be administrative supervisors, they may be eligible for a supervisory pay differential at the discretion of the STRL director.

(b) Pay Bands/Career Track

This FRN authorizes STRLs to either establish a separate or modify an existing pay band or career track level(s) to accommodate the SBTM category. Specific details regarding SBTM pay band or career track levels will be included in STRL IOPs.

3. Designated Classification Officials for SBTM Positions

STRL directors, or their designees, are designated as the classification officials for SBTM positions. Each STRL's IOP will provide specific details on each STRL's classification process, control, and management of these positions.

4. Staffing and Recruitment

(a) Positions may be filled on a temporary, flexible term, or permanent basis utilizing appropriate internal or

external competitive recruitment procedures, direct hire authority, or through accretion-of-duties promotions. Positions may also be filled temporarily using noncompetitive procedures (e.g., detail and temporary promotions).

(b) In addition to permanent appointments, the following appointment types may be used:

(1) Flexible-Length and Renewable Term Appointments

This appointment authority may be used to fill SBTM positions for a period of more than one year but not more than five years. The flexible term appointment may be made for a period up to five years, and the STRL director may extend the appointment in up to five-year increments. Prior to extending a term appointment, management will determine if the work or services continue to be temporary in nature, or if they should be made permanent. Candidates selected from outside the Federal government may be hired using the flexible term appointment authority and may be eligible for extension or conversion to career or career-conditional appointment if services are deemed permanent. To be converted, the employee must: (1) have been notified in writing at the time of the initial appointment of the possibility for conversion to a permanent SBTM position at a later date; (2) served a minimum of one year of continuous service; and (3) have at least a fully successful or equivalent SBTM performance rating applicable to the STRLs demonstration project. Additionally, to be eligible for conversion, when positions being filled using the flexible term appointment authority are announced, whether via competitive or merit promotion procedures, the vacancy announcement must contain a statement notifying applicants that the position may be eligible for extension or conversion to a permanent appointment. The probationary or trial period specified in each STRL's FRN in Appendix B will apply to individuals appointed under the Flexible Term Appointment. Personnel appointed under the Flexible-Length and Renewable Term authority described in this section shall be provided with benefits comparable to those provided to status or permanent employees at the STRL concerned, including professional development opportunities, eligibility for all awards programs, and designation as "status applicants" for the purposes of eligibility for positions in the Federal service.

(2) Flexible Temporary Promotions

STRLs may use flexible temporary promotions to SBTM positions for not more than five years, with the ability to extend in five-year increments for candidates who are current Federal employees. Prior to extending a temporary promotion, management will determine if the work or services continue to be temporary in nature or should be made permanent. If not extended or made permanent, the employee will return to a position for which they are qualified that is the same grade as previously held before the assignment. Upon termination of temporary promotion, pay will be set in accordance with the STRLs' IOPs. Candidates may be eligible for conversion to a permanent SBTM position if the position requirements are deemed permanent by the STRL director. To be converted, the employee must: (1) have been notified in writing at the time of the initial action of the possibility for conversion to permanent SBTM position at a later date; (2) served a minimum of one year of continuous service in the temporary assignment; and (3) have at least a fully successful or equivalent SBTM performance rating applicable to the STRLs demonstration project.

(c) STRL directors have the discretion to select the recruitment and staffing method most appropriate based on the specialized position requirements and available candidate pool. Each STRL will further describe recruitment and staffing methodologies in their respective IOPs.

STRLs must establish recruitment and staffing methodologies that include:

- (1) An internal process that incorporates an impartial, rigorous, and demanding assessment of candidates to evaluate the breadth of their expertise;
- (2) an external recruitment process which incorporates an impartial, rigorous, and demanding assessment of candidates to evaluate the breadth of their expertise; or
- (3) creation of panels to assist in filling positions or other comparable recruitment or staffing mechanisms.

5. Basic Pay Range

The minimum basic pay for SBTM positions is 115 percent of the minimum rate of basic pay for GS-15. Maximum SBTM basic pay with locality pay is limited to Executive Level III (EX-III), and maximum salary without locality pay may not exceed EX-IV.

6. Performance Management

Each STRL will determine the appropriate performance or contribution management system, non-SES/SL/ST or SES/SL/ST program, to be used to evaluate an SBTM employee's performance or contribution. The selected method will be documented in each STRL's IOPs.

7. Pay Retention

Pay retention may be provided to SBTM members under criteria established by each STRL if they are impacted by a reduction in force, work realignment, or other planned management action that would necessitate moving the incumbent to a position in a lower pay band within the STRL. Pay retention may also be provided under criteria established by each STRL when an SES/ST/SL employee is placed in a SBTM position as a result of a reduction in force or other management action. Grade retention is not authorized for SBTM positions.

8. SBTM Supervisory Pay Differential

A supervisory pay differential may be used by STRL directors to provide an incentive to appropriately compensate SBTM personnel. This pay differential is a pay incentive that may range up to 5 percent of basic pay (excludes locality pay) for SBTM personnel. It is paid on a pay period basis and must be reviewed annually. This pay differential is not included as part of basic pay for any purpose. Criteria to be considered in determining the amount of the pay differential are:

- (a) needs of the organization;
- (b) budgetary constraints;
- (c) years and quality of related experience;
- (d) relevant training;

(e) performance appraisals;

(f) experience as a supervisor or manager;

(g) organizational level of the position; and

(h) impact on the organization.

The pay differential may be terminated or reduced at the discretion of the STRL director based on legitimate business reasons; however, the pay differential must be terminated if the employee is removed from a position for which a pay differential is approved, regardless of cause. Each STRL will document in their IOPs the method used for determining payment, reduction, or discontinuation of the pay differential. All personnel actions involving a supervisory pay differential will require a statement signed by the employee acknowledging that the pay differential may be terminated or reduced at the discretion of the STRL director or his or her designee. The termination or reduction of the pay differential is not an adverse action and is not subject to appeal. The total pay (including locality pay) may not exceed the midpoint between the maximum rate of basic pay of EX-III and the maximum rate of basic pay of EX-II, (e.g., \$213,000; (calculation is rounded up to the next thousand) for calendar year 2024). SBTM employees are subject to the aggregate limitation on pay pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5307 and 5 CFR subpart 530.203.

9. SBTM Program Oversight

The program shall be managed and administered by the STRL director or their designee in compliance with the provisions of this FRN and IOPs developed by each STRL.

10. Evaluation

Procedures for evaluating this authority will be incorporated into the STRL personnel demonstration project evaluation process conducted by the STRLs in conjunction with the USD(R&E) Defense Research Enterprise Office.

Appendix A: Required Waivers to Laws and Regulations

Title 5, United States Code	Title 5, Code of Federal Regulations
5 U.S.C. 3104—Employment of Specially Qualified Scientific and Professional Personnel. Waive to allow scientific or professional positions for this authority. 5 U.S.C. 3324—Appointments to Positions Classified Above GS–15; Waived in entirety. 5 U.S.C. 3304 & 3304a—Waived to the extent necessary to allow flexible term appointments as described in this Federal Register Notice. 5 U.S.C. 5301—Policy; 5 U.S.C. 5302(8) and (9)—Definitions; 5 U.S.C. 5303—Annual Adjustments to Pay Schedules; 5 U.S.C. 5304—Locality-based Comparability Payments; and 5 U.S.C. 5306—Pay Fixed by Administrative Action. Waived to the extent necessary to allow SBTM employees to be treated as GS employees and basic rates of pay under the demonstration project to be treated as scheduled rates of basic pay and to permit SBTM pay not to exceed EX–IV and locality adjusted SBTM rates not to exceed EX–III. 5 U.S.C. 5363—Waived to the extent necessary to allow SBTMs to receive pay retention as described in this Federal Register Notice. 5 U.S.C. 5755—Waived to the extent necessary to allow SBTMs to receive supervisory pay differentials as described in this Federal Register Notice.	5 CFR part 316—Waived to the extent necessary to allow flexible term appointments as described in this Federal Register Notice. 5 CFR part 330, section 330.707(h): Exceptions to Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan (ICTAP) selection priority.—Waived to the extent necessary to allow conversion to permanent positions without clearing ICTAP. 5 CFR 335.102(f) Agency authority to promote, demote, or reassign—Waived to the extent necessary to allow temporary promotions as described in this Federal Register Notice. 5 CFR 359.705—Waived to allow demonstration project rules governing pay retention to apply to a former SES placed on an SBTM position. 5 CFR part 531, subpart F Locality-based Comparability Payments.—Waived to the extent necessary to allow SBTM employees to be treated as GS employees and basic rates of pay under the SBTM to be treated as scheduled annual rates of pay. 5 CFR 536.306(a)—Waived to the extent necessary to allow SBTMs to receive pay retention as described in this Federal Register Notice. 5 CFR part 575, subpart D—Waived to the extent necessary to allow SBTMs to receive supervisory pay differentials as described in this Federal Register Notice.

Appendix B: Authorized STRLs and Federal Register Notices

STRL	Federal Register notice
Air Force Research Laboratory	61 FR 60400 amended by 75 FR 53076.
Joint Warfare Analysis Center	85 FR 29414.
Transformation and Training Command	89 FR 13548.
Army Research Institute for Behavioral and Social Sciences	85 FR 76038.
Combat Capabilities Development Command Armaments Center	76 FR 3744.
Combat Capabilities Development Command Army Research Laboratory.	63 FR 10680.
Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation and Missile Center.	62 FR 34906 and 62 FR 34876 amended by 65 FR 53142 (Aviation Research, Development, and Engineering Center and Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center merged).
Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center.	74 FR 68936.
Combat Capabilities Development Command—Command, Control, Communications, Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Center.	66 FR 54872.
Combat Capabilities Development Command Ground Vehicle Systems Center.	76 FR 12508.
Combat Capabilities Development Command Soldier Center	74 FR 68448.
Engineer Research and Development Center	63 FR 14580 amended by 65 FR 32135.
Medical Research and Development Command	63 FR 10440.
Technical Center, US Army Space and Missile Defense Command	85 FR 3339.
Naval Air Systems Command Warfare Centers	76 FR 8530.
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Engineering and Expeditionary Warfare Center.	86 FR 14084.
Naval Information Warfare Centers, Atlantic and Pacific	76 FR 1924.
Naval Research Laboratory	64 FR 33970.
Naval Sea Systems Command Warfare Centers	62 FR 64050.
Office of Naval Research	75 FR 77380.

Dated: January 7, 2026.

Stephanie J. Bost,

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison
Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2026-00277 Filed 1-8-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001-FR-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2025-SCC-0481]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Annual State Application Under Part B of the Individuals With Disabilities Act as Amended in 2004

AGENCY: Office of Special Education and
Rehabilitative Services (OSERS),
Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the
Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of
1995, the Department is proposing a
revision of a currently approved
information collection request (ICR).

DATES: Interested persons are invited to
submit comments on or before February
9, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and
recommendations for proposed
information collection requests should
be submitted within 30 days of
publication of this notice. Click on this
link [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain)
PRAMain to access the site. Find this
information collection request (ICR) by
selecting "Department of Education"
under "Currently Under Review," then
check the "Only Show ICR for Public
Comment" checkbox. *Reginfo.gov*
provides two links to view documents
related to this information collection
request. Information collection forms
and instructions may be found by
clicking on the "View Information
Collection (IC) List" link. Supporting
statements and other supporting
documentation may be found by
clicking on the "View Supporting
Statement and Other Documents" link.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For
specific questions related to collection
activities, please contact Jennifer
Simpson, 202-245-6348.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The
Department is especially interested in
public comment addressing the
following issues: (1) is this collection
necessary to the proper functions of the
Department; (2) will this information be
processed and used in a timely manner;
(3) is the estimate of burden accurate;
(4) how might the Department enhance
the quality, utility, and clarity of the

information to be collected; and (5) how
might the Department minimize the
burden of this collection on the
respondents, including through the use
of information technology. Please note
that written comments received in
response to this notice will be
considered public records.

Title of Collection: Annual State
Application Under Part B of the
Individuals with Disabilities Act as
Amended in 2004.

OMB Control Number: 1820-0030.

Type of Review: A revision of a
currently approved ICR.

Respondents/Affected Public: State,
Local, and Tribal Governments.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual
Responses:* 60.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual
Burden Hours:* 840.

Abstract: The Individuals with
Disabilities Education Act (IDEA),
signed on December 3, 2004, became
Public Law 108-446. In accordance with
20 U.S.C. 1412(a), a State is eligible for
assistance under Part B for a fiscal year
if the State submits a plan that provides
assurances to the Secretary that the
State has in effect policies and
procedures to ensure that the State
meets each of the conditions found in
20 U.S.C. 1412. Information Collection
1820-0030 is being revised to remove
the Significant Disproportionality data
collection under IDEA section 618(d)
and 34 CFR 300.646 and 300.647 from
Section V of the Annual State
Application under Part B of the IDEA.
The Department believes that removal of
the data collection related to Significant
Disproportionality will reduce the
burden on respondents when
completing the Annual State
Application under Part B of IDEA.

The remaining sections of the Annual
State Application under Part B of IDEA
are being extended so that States can
provide assurances that they either have
or do not have in effect policies and
procedures to meet the eligibility
requirements of Part B of the Act as
found in Public Law 108-446.
Information Collection 1820-0030
corresponds with 34 CFR 300.100-176;
300.199; 300.640-645; and 300.705.
These sections include the requirement
that the Secretary and local educational
agencies located in the State be notified
of any State-imposed rule, regulation, or
policy that is not required by this title
and Federal regulations.

Brian Fu,

*Program and Management Analyst, Office of
the Chief Data Officer, Office of Planning,
Evaluation and Policy Development.*

[FR Doc. 2026-00286 Filed 1-8-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site- Specific Advisory Board, Oak Ridge

AGENCY: Office of Environmental
Management, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces an in-
person/virtual meeting of the
Environmental Management Site-
Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB),
Oak Ridge. The Federal Advisory
Committee Act requires that public
notice of this meeting be announced in
the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Wednesday, February 11, 2026;
6-8 p.m. EST.

ADDRESSES: The Department of Energy
(DOE) Information Center, Office of
Science and Technical Information, 1
Science.gov Way, Oak Ridge, Tennessee
37831. This meeting will be held in-
person at the DOE Information Center
and virtually. To receive the virtual
access information, please send an
email to: orssab@orem.doe.gov at least
two days prior to the meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Melyssa P. Noe, Deputy Designated
Federal Officer, U.S. Department of
Energy, Oak Ridge Office of
Environmental Management (OREM),
P.O. Box 4067, EM-94, Oak Ridge, TN
37831; Phone (865) 241-3315; or Email:
Melyssa.Noe@orem.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board: The purpose of
the Board is to provide advice and
recommendations concerning the
following EM site-specific issues: clean-
up activities and environmental
restoration; waste and nuclear materials
management and disposition; excess
facilities; future land use and long-term
stewardship. The Board may also be
asked to provide advice and
recommendations on other EM program
components. The Board also provides
an avenue to fulfill public participation
requirements outlined in the National
Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the
Comprehensive Environmental
Response, Compensation, and Liability
Act (CERLA), the Resource Conservation
and Recovery Act (RCRA), Federal
Facility Agreements, Consent Orders,
Consent Decrees and Settlement
Agreements.

Tentative Agenda: (agenda topics are
subject to change; please email orssab@orem.doe.gov for the most current
agenda).

- OREM Presentation to the Board
- Discussion
- Public Comment Period
- Board Business