

order to help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should reference OMB Control Number 1240–0038. The OMB is particularly interested in comments that:

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

*Agency:* Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP).

*Title of Collection:* Miner's Claim for Benefits Under the Black Lung Benefits Act and Employment History.

*OMB Control Number:* 1240–0038.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Total Estimated Number of Respondents:* 9500.

*Total Estimated Number of Responses:* 9500.

*Total Estimated Annual Burden Hours:* 6667.

*Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden:* \$1771.

Dated: September 26, 2011.

**Michel Smyth,**

*Departmental Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2011–25121 Filed 9–28–11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510–CK–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### **Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Representative Payee Report, Representative Payee Report, Short Form, Physician's/Medical Officer's Statement**

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor (DOL) is submitting the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) sponsored information

collection request (ICR) titled, "Representative Payee Report, Representative Payee Report, Short Form, Physician's/Medical Officer's Statement," to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval for continued use in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before October 31, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of this ICR with applicable supporting documentation; including a description of the likely respondents, proposed frequency of response, and estimated total burden may be obtained from the *RegInfo.gov* Web site, <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>, on the day following publication of this notice or by contacting Michel Smyth by telephone at 202–693–4129 (this is not a toll-free number) or sending an e-mail to [DOL\\_PRA\\_PUBLIC@dol.gov](mailto:DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov).

Submit comments about this request to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for the Department of Labor, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP), Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, *Telephone:* 202–395–6929/*Fax:* 202–395–6881 (these are not toll-free numbers), e-mail: [OIRA\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michel Smyth by telephone at 202–693–4129 (this is not a toll-free number) or by e-mail at [DOL\\_PRA\\_PUBLIC@dol.gov](mailto:DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Representative Payee Report (Form CM–623) and Representative Payee Report, Short Form (Form CM–623S) are used to ensure that benefits paid to a representative payee are being used for the beneficiary's well-being. The Physician's/Medical Officer's Statement (Form CM–787) is used to determine the beneficiary's capability to manage monthly Black Lung benefits.

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 it is approved by the OMB under the PRA 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 if the collection of information does not display a valid OMB Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6. The

DOL obtains OMB approval for this information collection under OMB Control Number 1240–0020. The current OMB approval is scheduled to expire on September 30, 2011; however, it should be noted that existing information collection requirements submitted to the OMB receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review. For additional information, see the related notice published in the **Federal Register** on May 3, 2011 (76 FR 24919).

Interested parties are encouraged to send comments to the OMB, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section within 30 days of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. In order to help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should reference OMB Control Number 1240–0020. The OMB is particularly interested in comments that:

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

*Agency:* Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP).

*Title of Collection:* Representative Payee Report, Representative Payee Report, Short Form, Physician's/Medical Officer's Statement.

*OMB Control Number:* 1240–0020.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households and private sector—businesses or other for-profits and not-for-profit institutions.

*Total Estimated Number of Respondents:* 2100.

*Total Estimated Number of Responses:* 2100.

*Total Estimated Annual Burden Hours:* 1642.

*Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden:* \$0.

Dated: September 26, 2011.

**Michel Smyth,**

*Departmental Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2011-25094 Filed 9-28-11; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment and Training Administration

#### Comment Request for Information Collection; Apprenticeship Programs, Labor Standards for Registration; Extension With Revisions

**AGENCY:** Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor (Department), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. 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. Currently, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is soliciting comments concerning the collection of data about Title 20 CFR part 29, Apprenticeship Programs, Labor Standards for Registration with an expiration date of January 31, 2012.

A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addresses section of this notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before November 28, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments to John V. Ladd, Administrator, Office of Apprenticeship, Room N-5311 Employment and Training Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. Telephone No.: 202-693-2796 (this is not a toll-free number). Fax: 202-693-3799. E-mail: [ladd.john@dol.gov](mailto:ladd.john@dol.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

The National Apprenticeship Act of 1937 (the Act), Section 50 (29 U.S.C.

50), authorizes and directs the Secretary of Labor “to formulate and promote the furtherance of labor standards necessary to safeguard the welfare of apprentices, to extend the application of such standards by encouraging the inclusion thereof in contracts of apprenticeship, to bring together employers and labor for the formulation of programs of apprenticeship, to cooperate with State agencies engaged in the formulation and promotion of standards of apprenticeship, and to cooperate with the Secretary of Education in accordance with Section 17 of Title 20.” Section 50a of the Act authorizes the Secretary of Labor to “publish information relating to existing and proposed labor standards of apprenticeship,” and to “appoint national advisory committees \* \* \*” (29 U.S.C. 50a). On October 29, 2008, ETA issued a final rule in the **Federal Register** that updated Title 29, CFR part 29. The regulations were revised for the first time since 1977. The rule became effective on December 29, 2008 and implemented changes to Title 29 CFR part 29 that will increase flexibility, enhance program quality and accountability, and promote apprenticeship opportunity in the 21st century, while continuing to safeguard the welfare of apprentices. The approved Office of Management and Budget (OMB) collection instrument, ETA Program Registration (Section I), and Apprentice Registration (Section II), expires January 31, 2012. Both sections are available electronically to facilitate the registration of programs and apprentices.

The changes to the currently approved Section I (ETA Program Registration) consist of the following:

- Instruction Method was revised to include electronic media (technology-based instruction and distance learning).
- Occupation Training Approach now includes the Hybrid Approach.
- The Competency-Based and Hybrid Approaches are explained in more detail. This includes the use of Interim Credentials—certificates that provide portable recognition of an apprentice’s accomplishments after certain milestones are achieved during the training. A program sponsor who chooses to use interim credentials must identify and demonstrate how these credentials link to the components of the apprenticeable occupation, and establish a process for assessing an apprentice’s competency. Interim Credentials are voluntarily chosen by the program sponsor and are based on standards applicable only to Competency-Based or Hybrid

Occupations. The certificates are issued by the Registration Agency upon the program sponsor’s request.

- Probation Length in hours clarifies that the probation period cannot exceed 25 percent of the length of the program or one year, whichever is shorter.

- Number of periods in the wage schedule is now based on the program sponsor’s Training Occupation Approach. The Program Registration Date was revised.

- Provisional Registration, which is a one-year initial provisional approval for a new program, is provided to programs that meet the required standards for program registration. Programs may continue to be provisionally approved through the first training cycle until permanent registration is granted. Additionally, a five-year review must be conducted of the program to maintain its permanent registration.

Section II (Apprentice Registration) was revised to be aligned with the changes in Section I. These changes included the Occupation Training Approach, the Term of the Apprenticeship, Probationary Period, Term Remaining, and the Wage Schedule.

##### II. Review Focus

The Department 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;
- 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;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through 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

Recordkeeping and data collection activities regarding registered apprenticeship are by-products of the registration system. Organizations which apply for apprenticeship sponsorship enter into an agreement with the Federal government or cognizant State government to operate their proposed programs consistent with