

Technology center	Average months from docketing notice to board decision
1600	32.5
1700	24.9
2100	31.6
2400	31.2
2600	31.2
2800	27.0
2900	26.2
3600	31.7
3700	30.1

Ex parte reexamination proceedings, including any appeal to the Board, are conducted with special dispatch within the USPTO. See 35 U.S.C. 305. The current average pendency of appeals in *ex parte* reexaminations, for those appeals decided this fiscal year, is 6.0 months. The USPTO is not making the Streamlined, Expedited Patent Appeal Pilot for Small Entities applicable to appeals in *ex parte* reexaminations as these appeals already are handled with special dispatch, and the petition evaluation process only would delay the Board decision in an appeal in an *ex parte* reexamination.

The Streamlined, Expedited Patent Appeal Pilot for Small Entities is being adopted on a temporary basis until two thousand (2,000) appeals have been accorded special status under the pilot, or until September 16, 2016, whichever occurs earlier. The USPTO may extend the Streamlined, Expedited Patent Appeal Pilot for Small Entities (with or without modification) on either a temporary or permanent basis, or may discontinue the pilot after September 16, 2016, depending upon the results. Additional information concerning the Streamlined, Expedited Patent Appeal Pilot for Small Entities, including statistical information and pendency of appeals before the Board, can be found on the USPTO Internet Web site at: <https://www.cms.uspto.gov/patents-application-process/patent-trial-and-appeal-board/expedited-patent-appeal-pilot>.

Dated: September 8, 2015.

Michelle K. Lee,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2015-23090 Filed 9-14-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

[Docket ID: USA-2015-0014]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by October 15, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Fred Licari, 571-372-0493.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title, Associated Form And OMB Number: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Instrument for Hurricane Evacuation Behavioral Survey; Generic Collection for OMB Control Number 0710-XXXX.

Type of Request: New.

Number of Respondents: 6000.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 6000.

Average Burden per Response: 15 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 1500.

Needs and Uses: USACE is preparing a Hurricane Evacuation Study to identify clearance times for the evacuations of coastal areas in advance of a hurricane or tropical storm threat. Part of the evacuation study is a behavioral assessment, which identifies the factors and decision points for individuals who are evacuation from areas vulnerable to the storm. The proposed behavioral assessment will use phone interviews to determine the likelihood of evacuation, the method of evacuation, and the number of vehicles and individuals that will be evacuated for all contacted individuals.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Frequency: Annual.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: Mr. Stuart Levenbach.

Comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be emailed to Mr. Stuart Levenbach, DoD Desk Officer, at Oira_submission@omb.eop.gov. Please identify the proposed information collection by DoD Desk Officer and the Docket ID number and title of the information collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Frequency: Annual.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: Mr. Stuart Levenbach.

Comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be emailed to Mr. Stuart Levenbach, DoD Desk Officer, at Oira_submission@omb.eop.gov. Please identify the proposed information collection by DoD Desk Officer and the Docket ID number and title of the information collection.

You may also submit comments and recommendations, identified by Docket ID number and title, by the following method:

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

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, Docket ID 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.

DOD Clearance Officer: Mr. Frederick Licari.

Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Licari at WHS/ESD Directives Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, East Tower, Suite 02G09, Alexandria, VA 22350-3100.

Dated: September 9, 2015.

Aaron Siegel,

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

[FR Doc. 2015-23069 Filed 9-14-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

[Docket ID: USA-2015-0005]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by October 15, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Fred Licari, 571-372-0493.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title, Associated Form and OMB Number: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Flood Risk Management Surveys; Generic Collection for OMB Control Number 0710-XXXX.

Type of Request: New.

Number of Respondents: 7,000.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 7,000.

Average Burden per Response: 43 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 5,000.

Needs and Uses: The Corps of Engineers uses public surveys for collecting data for planning, formulation, and evaluation of projects. Floodplain residents, property owners, businesses, and nonprofit organizations, who are flood victims, are interviewed along with state and local officials and other affected individuals.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households, Business or Other For-Profit, Not-For-Profit Institutions, Farms, State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Frequency: Annual.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: Mr. Stuart Levenbach.

Comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be emailed to Mr. Stuart Levenbach, DoD Desk Officer, at Oira_submission@omb.eop.gov. Please identify the proposed information collection by DoD Desk Officer and the Docket ID number and title of the information collection.

You may also submit comments and recommendations, identified by Docket ID number and title, by the following method:

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

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, Docket ID 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.

DOD Clearance Officer: Mr. Frederick Licari.

Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Licari at WHS/ESD Directives Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, East Tower, Suite 02G09, Alexandria, VA 22350-3100.

Dated: September 9, 2015.

Aaron Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2015-23091 Filed 9-14-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Annual Notice of Interest Rates of Federal Student Loans Made Under the Federal Family Education Loan Program Prior to July 1, 2010

AGENCY: Federal Student Aid, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.032.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 427A of the Higher Education Act of

1965, as amended, the Chief Operating Officer for Federal Student Aid announces the interest rates for the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, for certain loans made under the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program prior to July 1, 2010. The Chief Operating Officer takes this action to give notice of FFEL Program loan interest rates to the public.

DATES: This notice is effective September 15, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ian Foss, U.S. Department of Education, 830 First Street NE., Room 114I1, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 377-3681 or by email: ian.foss@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 427A of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) (20 U.S.C. 1077a), provides formulas for determining the interest rates charged to borrowers on loans made under the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program, including Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans, Federal PLUS Loans, and Federal Consolidation Loans.

The FFEL Program includes loans with variable interest rates and loans with fixed interest rates. Most loans made under the FFEL Program before July 1, 2006, have variable interest rates that change each year. In most cases, the variable interest rate formula that applies to a particular loan usually depends on the date of the first disbursement of the loan. The variable rates are determined annually and are effective for each 12-month period beginning July 1 of one year and ending June 30 of the following year.

Under section 427A(k) of the HEA, FFEL Program loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2006, have a fixed interest rate.

In the case of some Federal Consolidation Loans, the interest rate is determined by the date on which the Federal Consolidation Loan application was received. Federal Consolidation Loans for which the application was received on or after October 1, 1998, have a fixed interest rate. This fixed rate is based on the weighted average of the loans that are consolidated, rounded up

to the nearest higher 1/8 of one percent up to a maximum rate of 8.25 percent.

FFEL variable interest rates are based on formulas that use the bond equivalent rate of the 91-day Treasury bills auctioned at the final auction held before June 1 of each year plus a statutorily established add-on. These formulas apply to: All Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans first disbursed before October 1, 1992, that have been converted to variable rate loans; all Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans first disbursed on or after October 1, 1992, and before July 1, 2006; Federal PLUS Loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 1998, and before July 1, 2006; and Federal Consolidation Loans for which the Federal Consolidation Loan application was received on or after November 13, 1997, and before October 1, 1998. In each case, the calculated rate is capped by a maximum interest rate. The bond equivalent rate of the 91-day Treasury bills auctioned on May 26, 2015, which is used to calculate the interest rates on these loans, is 0.02 percent.

For Federal PLUS loans first disbursed before July 1, 1998, the interest rate is based on the weekly average of the one-year constant maturity Treasury yield, as published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System on the last day of the calendar week ending on or before June 26 of each year, plus a statutory add-on percentage. The calculated rate is capped by a maximum interest rate. The weekly average of the one-year constant maturity Treasury yield published on June 29, 2015, which is used to calculate the interest rate on these loans, is 0.29 percent.

This notice includes five charts containing specific information on the calculation of interest rates for loans made under the FFEL Program:

Chart 1 contains information on the interest rates for Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans that were made as fixed-rate loans, but were subsequently converted to variable-rate loans.

Chart 2 contains information on the interest rates for variable-rate Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans.

Chart 3 contains information on the interest rates for variable-rate Federal PLUS Loans.

Chart 4 contains information on the interest rates for fixed-rate Federal Consolidation Loans.

Chart 5 contains information on the interest rates for fixed-rate Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford and PLUS Loans.