

Both the Bank Act and FHFA's regulations state that a Bank's capital plan must require its members to maintain a minimum investment in the Bank's capital stock, but both permit each Bank to determine for itself what that minimum investment is and how each member's required minimum investment is to be calculated.<sup>3</sup> Although each Bank's capital plan establishes a slightly different method for calculating the required minimum stock investment for its members, each Bank's method is tied to some degree to both the level of assets held by the member institution (typically referred to as a "membership stock purchase requirement") and the amount of advances or other business engaged in between the member and the Bank (typically referred to as an "activity-based stock purchase requirement").

A Bank must collect information from its members to determine the minimum capital stock investment each member is required to maintain at any point in time. Although the information needed to calculate a member's required minimum investment and the precise method through which it is collected differ somewhat from Bank to Bank, the Banks typically collect two types of information. First, in order to calculate and monitor compliance with its membership stock purchase requirement, a Bank typically requires each member to provide and/or confirm a quarterly report on the amount and types of assets held by that institution. Second, each time a Bank engages in a business transaction with a member, the Bank typically confirms with the member the amount of additional Bank capital stock, if any, the member must acquire in order to satisfy the Bank's activity-based stock purchase requirement and the method through which the member will acquire that stock.

The OMB number for the information collection is 2590-0002, which is due to expire on December 31, 2016. The likely respondents include current and former Bank members and institutions applying for Bank membership.

## B. Burden Estimate

FHFA has analyzed the time burden imposed on respondents by the two collections under this control number and estimates that the average total annual hour burden imposed on all respondents over the next three years will be 33,818 hours. The estimate for each collection was calculated as follows:

### I. Membership Stock Purchase Requirement Submissions

FHFA estimates that the average annual number of current and former members and applicants for membership required to report information needed to calculate a membership stock purchase requirement will be 7,320, and that each institution will submit 4 quarterly reports per year, resulting in an estimated total of 29,280 submissions annually. The estimate for the average time required to prepare, review, and submit each report is 0.71 hours. Accordingly, the estimate for the annual hour burden associated with membership stock purchase requirement submissions is  $(29,280 \text{ reports} \times 0.71 \text{ hours per report}) = 20,789 \text{ hours}$ .

### II. Activity-Based Stock Purchase Requirement Submissions

FHFA estimates that the average number of daily transactions between Banks and members that will require the exchange of information to confirm the member's activity-based stock purchase requirement will be 312, and that there will be an average of 261 working days per year, resulting in an estimated 81,432 submissions annually. The estimate for the average preparation time per submission is 0.16 hours. Accordingly, the estimate for the annual hour burden associated with activity-based stock purchase requirement submissions is  $(81,432 \text{ submissions} \times 0.16 \text{ hours per submission}) = 13,029 \text{ hours}$ .

## C. Comment Request

FHFA requests written comments on the following: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FHFA functions, including whether the information has practical utility; (2) The accuracy of FHFA's estimates of the burdens of the collection of information; (3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (4) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on survey respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: September 30, 2016.

**Kevin Winkler,**

*Chief Information Officer, Federal Housing Finance Agency.*

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**BILLING CODE 8070-01-P**

## FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

[No. 2016-N-10]

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Federal Housing Finance Agency.

**ACTION:** 60-Day notice of submission of information collection for approval from Office of Management and Budget.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA or the Agency) is seeking public comments concerning the currently-approved information collection known as "Members of the Banks," which has been assigned control number 2590-0003 by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). FHFA intends to submit the information collection to OMB for review and approval of a three-year extension of the control number, which is due to expire on December 31, 2016.

**DATES:** Interested persons may submit comments on or before December 6, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments to FHFA, identified by "Proposed Collection; Comment Request: 'Members of the Banks, (No. 2016-N-10)'" by any of the following methods:

- *Agency Web site:* [www.fhfa.gov/open-for-comment-or-input](http://www.fhfa.gov/open-for-comment-or-input).
- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. If you submit your comment to the *Federal eRulemaking Portal*, please also send it by email to FHFA at [RegComments@fhfa.gov](mailto:RegComments@fhfa.gov) to ensure timely receipt by the agency.
- *Mail/Hand Delivery:* Federal Housing Finance Agency, Eighth Floor, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20219, ATTENTION: Proposed Collection; Comment Request: "Members of the Banks, (No. 2016-N-10)".

We will post all public comments we receive without change, including any personal information you provide, such as your name and address, email address, and telephone number, on the FHFA Web site at <http://www.fhfa.gov>. In addition, copies of all comments received will be available for examination by the public on business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., at the Federal Housing Finance Agency, Eighth Floor, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20219. To make an appointment to inspect comments, please call the Office of General Counsel at (202) 649-3804.

<sup>3</sup> 12 U.S.C. 1426(c)(1); 12 CFR 1277.22, 1277.28(a).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jonathan F. Curtis, Financial Analyst, Division of Federal Home Loan Bank Regulation, by email at [Jonathan.Curtisj@fhfa.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Curtisj@fhfa.gov) or by telephone at (202) 649-3321; or Eric Raudenbush, Associate General Counsel, by email at [Eric.Raudenbush@fhfa.gov](mailto:Eric.Raudenbush@fhfa.gov) or by telephone at (202) 649-3084, (these are not toll-free numbers), Federal Housing Finance Agency, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20219. The Telecommunications Device for the Hearing Impaired is (800) 877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****A. Need for and Use of the Information Collection**

The Federal Home Loan Bank System consists of eleven regional Federal Home Loan Banks (Banks) and the Office of Finance (a joint office that issues and services the Banks' debt securities). The Banks are wholesale financial institutions, organized under authority of the Federal Home Loan Bank Act (Bank Act) to serve the public interest by enhancing the availability of residential housing finance and community lending credit through their member institutions and, to a limited extent, through certain eligible nonmembers. Each Bank is structured as a regional cooperative that is owned and controlled by member institutions located within its district, which are also its primary customers. The Banks carry out their public policy functions primarily by providing low cost loans, known as advances, to their members. With limited exceptions, an institution may obtain advances and access other products and services provided by a Bank only if it is member of that Bank.

The Bank Act limits membership in any Bank to specific types of financial institutions located within the Bank's district that meet specific eligibility requirements. Section 4 of the Bank Act specifies the types of institutions that may be eligible for membership and establishes eligibility requirements that each type of applicant must meet in order to become a Bank member.<sup>1</sup> That provision also specifies that (with limited exceptions) an eligible institution may become a member only of the Bank of the district in which the institution's "principal place of business" is located.<sup>2</sup> With respect to the termination of Bank membership, section 6(d) of the Bank Act sets forth requirements pursuant to which an institution may voluntarily withdraw from membership or a Bank may

terminate an institution's membership for cause.<sup>3</sup>

FHFA's regulation entitled "Members of the Banks," located at 12 CFR part 1263, implements those statutory provisions and otherwise establishes substantive and procedural requirements relating to the initiation and termination of Bank membership. Many of the provisions in the membership regulation require that an institution submit information to a Bank or to FHFA, in most cases to demonstrate compliance with statutory or regulatory requirements or to request action by the Bank or Agency.

In total, there are four types of information collections that may occur under part 1263. First, the regulation provides that (with limited exceptions) no institution may become a member of a Bank unless it has submitted to that Bank an application that documents the applicant's compliance with the statutory and regulatory membership eligibility requirements and that otherwise includes all required information and materials.<sup>4</sup> Second, the regulation provides applicants that have been denied membership by a Bank the option of appealing the decision to FHFA. To file such an appeal, an applicant must submit to FHFA a copy of the Bank's decision resolution denying its membership application and a statement of the basis for the appeal containing sufficient facts, information, and analysis to support the applicant's position.<sup>5</sup> Third, the regulation provides that, in order to initiate a voluntary withdrawal from Bank membership, a member submit to its Bank a written notice of intent to withdraw.<sup>6</sup> Fourth, under certain circumstances, the regulation permits a member of one Bank to transfer its membership to a second Bank "automatically" without either initiating a voluntary withdrawal from the first Bank or submitting a membership application to the second Bank. Despite the regulatory reference to such a transfer as being "automatic," a member meeting the criteria for an automatic transfer must initiate the transfer process by filing a request with its current Bank, which will then arrange the details of the transfer with the second Bank.<sup>7</sup>

The Banks use most of the information collected under part 1263 to determine whether an applicant satisfies the statutory and regulatory

requirements for Bank membership and should be approved as a Bank member. The Banks may use some of the information collected under part 1263 as a means of learning that a member wishes to withdraw or to transfer its membership to a different Bank so that the Bank can begin to process those requests. In rare cases, FHFA may use the collected information to determine whether an institution that has been denied membership by a Bank should be permitted to become a member of that Bank.

The OMB control number for this information collection is 2590-0003, which is due to expire on December 31, 2016. The likely respondents are financial institutions that are, or are applying to become, Bank members.

**B. Burden Estimate**

FHFA has analyzed the time burden imposed on respondents by the four collections under this control number and estimates that the average annual burden imposed on all respondents by those collections over the next three years will be 2,193 hours. This estimate is derived from the following calculations:

*I. Membership Applications*

FHFA estimates that the average number of applications for Bank membership submitted annually will be 151 and that the average time to prepare and submit an application and supporting materials will be 11.7 hours. Accordingly, the estimate for the annual hour burden associated with preparation and submission of applications for Bank membership is (151 applications × 11.7 hours per application) = 1,767 hours.

*II. Appeals of Membership Denial*

FHFA estimates that the average number of applicants that have been denied membership by a Bank that will appeal such a denial to FHFA will be 1 and that the average time to prepare and submit an application for appeal will be 10 hours. Accordingly, the estimate for the annual hour burden associated with the preparation and submission of membership appeals is (1 appellants × 10 hours per application) = 10 hours.

*III. Notices of Intent To Withdraw From Membership*

FHFA estimates that the average number of Bank members submitting a notice of intent to withdraw from membership annually will be 276 and that the average time to prepare and submit a notice will be 1.5 hours. Accordingly, the estimate for the annual hour burden associated with

<sup>3</sup> 12 U.S.C. 1426(d).

<sup>4</sup> 12 CFR 1263.2(a), 1263.6-1263.9, 1263.11-1263.18.

<sup>5</sup> 12 CFR 1263.5.

<sup>6</sup> 12 CFR 1263.26.

<sup>7</sup> 12 CFR 1263.4(b), 1263.18(d), (e).

<sup>1</sup> 12 U.S.C. 1424(a).

<sup>2</sup> 12 U.S.C. 1424(b).

preparation and submission of notices of intent to withdraw is (276 withdrawing members × 1.5 hours per application) = 414 hours.

#### *IV. Requests for Automatic Transfer of Membership*

FHFA estimates that the average number of Bank members submitting a request for automatic transfer to another Bank will be 1 and that the average time to prepare and submit a request will be 1.5 hours. Accordingly, the estimate for the annual hour burden associated with preparation and submission of requests for automatic transfer is (1 transferring member × 1.5 hours per request) = 1.5 hours.

#### **C. Comment Request**

FHFA requests written comments on the following: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FHFA functions, including whether the information has practical utility; (2) The accuracy of FHFA's estimates of the burdens of the collection of information; (3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (4) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on survey respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: September 30, 2016.

**Kevin Winkler,**

*Chief Information Officer, Federal Housing Finance Agency.*

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#### **GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**

[Notice-MA-2016-07; Docket No. 2016-0002; Sequence No. 7]

#### **Interagency Per Diem Working Group Meeting Concerning Boundaries To Set Continental United States Lodging and Meals and Incidental Per Diem Reimbursement Rates**

**AGENCY:** Office of Government-wide Policy (OGP), General Services Administration (GSA).

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Interagency Per Diem Working Group (IPDWG) is meeting to discuss studying the process of setting continental United States (CONUS) Non-Standard Area (NSA) boundaries for lodging maximum reimbursement rates and meals and incidental expense (M&IE) per diem reimbursement rates. The purpose of the study would be to

recommend whether the NSA boundary-setting process should be replaced, changed, or maintained as is. Interested parties are invited to attend and provide comments.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday, October 27, 2016, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, ending no later than 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the GSA Auditorium, located at the GSA Central Office, 1800 F Street NW., Washington, DC, 20405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Cy Greenidge, Office of Government-wide Policy, Office of Asset and Transportation Management, at 202-219-2349, or by email at [travelpolicy@gsa.gov](mailto:travelpolicy@gsa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5702, the Administrator of General Services (GSA) sets the maximum lodging allowance and M&IE reimbursement rates for CONUS locations. Each year, GSA sets a standard maximum lodging allowance and M&IE reimbursement rates to cover the majority of CONUS. GSA also sets individual rates for each established NSA. The current methodology for setting rates was established by an independent Federal Advisory Committee in 2006. Another Federal Advisory Committee, chartered in 2013, validated the existing methodology. The latter Committee had a full briefing and discussed the overall per diem methodology, but did not specifically evaluate setting NSA boundaries.

Under the current methodology, NSA boundaries are set as a single county unless an exception is made. As of FY2017, 68 of the 346 CONUS NSAs, or approximately 20 percent, have an exception for one of three reasons: (1) Historically the boundary was set that way, (2) an agency requested that a one-county boundary be adjusted to meet official needs, or (3) the survey methodology required inclusion of multiple counties to have sufficient data to establish a rate.

*Authority:* 5 U.S.C. 5707.

*Meeting Access:* The meeting is open to the public. Those wishing to attend must do so in person. Teleconferencing will not be available.

*Registration:* Interested parties must register by October 21, 2016 via email at [travelpolicy@gsa.gov](mailto:travelpolicy@gsa.gov). Please provide your full name to expedite entrance into the building. To gain entry into the Federal building where the meeting is being held, public attendees who are Federal employees should bring their Federal employee identification cards, and members of the general public

should bring their driver's license or a government-issued photo identification card. Seating will be capped at 275 people on a first-come, first-served basis.

*Procedures for Providing Comments:* Written comments will be accepted until November 4, 2016, for consideration. Please email comments to [travelpolicy@gsa.gov](mailto:travelpolicy@gsa.gov) with attachments being no more than three pages. Any registrant who wishes to comment orally at the meeting will be limited to 10 minutes. All comments from the public, including attachments and other supporting materials received, are subject to public disclosure.

Dated: October 3, 2016.

**Troy Cribb,**

*Associate Administrator, Office of Government-wide Policy.*

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

#### **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

#### **National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) DNA Specimens: Guidelines for Proposals To Use Specimens and Cost Schedule**

**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 reopening of the National Center for Health Statistics' (NCHS) National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) DNA Specimen Repository for research proposals. Blood samples for DNA purification were collected from study participants during NHANES III, NHANES 1999-2000, NHANES 2001-02, NHANES 2007-08, and NHANES 2009-10 (Office of Management and Budget Control Numbers 0920-0237/0920-0950). Samples from these DNA Specimens are being made available to the research community for genetic testing. The information gained from research using these samples can be combined with the extensive amount of information available in NHANES which describes the prevalence/trends of disease, nutrition, risk behaviors, and environmental exposures in the US population. A more complete description of this program follows.