

By direction of the Secretary.

**Cynthia Harvey-Pryor,**

*Department Clearance Officer, Office of Quality, Privacy and Risk, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0073]

### Agency Information Collection Activity: Enrollment Certification

**AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits

Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before February 5, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov) or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M33), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420 or email to [nancy.kessinger@va.gov](mailto:nancy.kessinger@va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0073" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through the FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cynthia Harvey-Pryor at (202) 461-5870.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act. With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether

the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

**Authority:** 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3241, 3323, 3680; and 3684, 10 U.S.C. 16136, and 16166, 38 CFR 21.4203, 21.5200(d), 21.7152, 21.7652, 21.9720 and Section 3506(c)(2)(A).

**Title:** Enrollment Agreement, VA Form 22-1999.

**OMB Control Number:** 2900-0073.

**Type of Review:** Extension of a currently approved collection.

**Abstract:** VA uses the information collected on VA Form 22-1999 to determine the amount of educational benefits payable to the trainee during the period of enrollment or training. Additionally, VA also uses these forms to determine whether the trainee has requested an advance payment or accelerated payment of benefits. Without this information, VA would not have a basis upon which to make payment or to know if a person was requesting an advance or accelerated payment.

**Affected Public:** Individuals and Households.

**Burden:** 851,394 hours.

**Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:** 15 min.

**Frequency of Response:** Twice Annually.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 1,702,788.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Cynthia Harvey-Pryor,**

*Department Clearance Officer, Office of Quality, Privacy and Risk, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Allowance for Private Purchase of an Outer Burial Receptacle in Lieu of a Government-Furnished Graveliner for a Grave in a VA National Cemetery

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is updating the monetary allowance payable for qualifying interments that occur during calendar year 2018, which applies toward the

private purchase of an outer burial receptacle (or "graveliner") for use in a VA national cemetery. The allowance is equal to the average cost of Government-furnished graveliners less any administrative costs to VA. The purpose of this Notice is to notify interested parties of the average cost of Government-furnished graveliners, administrative costs that relate to processing and paying the allowance and the amount of the allowance payable for qualifying interments that occur during calendar year 2018.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William Carter, Chief of Budget Execution Division, National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420. Telephone: 202-461-9764 (this is not a toll-free number).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 2306(e)(3) and (4) of title 38, United States Code (U.S.C.) authorizes VA to provide a monetary allowance for the private purchase of an outer burial receptacle for use in a VA national cemetery where its use is authorized. The allowance for qualified interments that occur during calendar year 2018 is the average cost of Government-furnished graveliners in fiscal year 2017, less the administrative costs incurred by VA in processing and paying the allowance in lieu of the Government-furnished graveliner.

The average cost of Government-furnished graveliners is determined by taking VA's total cost during a fiscal year for single-depth graveliners that were procured for placement at the time of interment and dividing it by the total number of such graveliners procured by VA during that fiscal year. The calculation excludes both graveliners procured and pre-placed in gravesites as part of cemetery gravesite development projects and all double-depth graveliners. Using this method of computation, the average cost was determined to be \$315.00 for fiscal year 2017.

The administrative costs incurred by VA consist of those costs that relate to processing and paying an allowance in lieu of the Government-furnished graveliner. These costs have been determined to be \$9.00 for calendar year 2018.

The allowance payable for qualifying interments occurring during calendar year 2018, therefore, is \$306.00.

#### Signing Authority

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or designee, approved this document and authorized the undersigned to sign and