

(2) A volunteer leader enrolled in the Peace Corps under section 2505 of title 22; and

(3) An applicant for enrollment as a volunteer or volunteer leader during a period of training under section 2507(a) of title 22 before enrollment.

Entitlement to disability compensation payments does not commence until the day after the date of termination of service as a volunteer. 5 U.S.C. 8142(b).

Farr-Castle directs the Secretary of the Department of Labor to authorize the Director of the Peace Corps to furnish medical benefits to a volunteer, who is injured during the volunteer's period of service, for a period of 120 days following the termination of such service if the Director certifies that the volunteer's injury probably meets the requirements set forth in 5 U.S.C. 8142(c)(3).

To this end, the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) and the Peace Corps have collaborated to initiate a new form, the CA-15, Peace Corps Volunteer Authorization for Examination and/or Treatment, that will authorize medical treatment for recently terminated Peace Corps volunteers who require medical treatment for injuries/exposure sustained in the performance of their volunteer service. Issuance of this form will solely be at the discretion of the Peace Corps, and will bridge a gap between the occurrence of an initial injury and/or disease exposure and the actual adjudication of a claim by OWCP by helping ensure that recently terminated volunteers receive prompt medical care, without delay, for a period of 120 days following separation from service.

*II. Review Focus:* The Department of Labor 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:* The Department of Labor seeks approval of this new information in order to carry out its responsibility to meet the statutory requirements of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act as amended by the Sam Farr and Nick Castle Peace Corps Reform Act of 2018 (Farr-Castle).

*Type of Review:* New Collection.

*Agency:* Office of Workers' Compensation Programs.

*Title:* Peace Corps Volunteer Authorization for Examination and/or Treatment.

*OMB Number:* 1240-0NEW.

*Agency Number:* CA-15Affected

*Public:* Individuals or Households.

*Total Respondents:* 252.

*Total Annual Responses:* 252.

*Average Time per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 63.

*Frequency:* Once.

*Total Burden Cost (capital/startup):* \$0.

*Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance):* \$146.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

**Vincent Alvarez**

*Agency Clearance Officer, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs US Department of Labor.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Office of Workers' Compensation Programs**

**Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Department of Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, 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). 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 Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is soliciting comments concerning the proposed collection: Attorney Fee Approval Request (LS-4), Application for Special Fund Relief (LS-5), Commutation Application (LS-6), Request for Intervention (LS-7), Settlement Approval Request 8(i) (LS-8) and Stipulation Approval Request (LS-9). A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the address section of this Notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before October 7, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by mail, delivery service, or by hand to Ms. Anjanette Suggs, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Room S-3323, Washington, DC 20210; by fax, (202) 354-9660 or email to [suggs.anjanette@dol.gov](mailto:suggs.anjanette@dol.gov). Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail/delivery, fax, or email). Please note that comments submitted after comment period will not be considered.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

The Department of Labor (DOL) is requesting an approval of a new information collection. This information collection is essential to the mission of DOL and the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA or Act). The Act provides benefits to workers injured in maritime employment on the navigable waters of the United States or in an adjoining area customarily used by an employer in loading, unloading, repairing, or building a vessel. In addition, several acts extend the LHWCA's coverage to certain other employee groups. LHWCA section 39(a) generally authorizes the Secretary of Labor to prescribe rules and regulations to implement the Act. See 33 U.S.C. 939(a).

Title 20 CFR 702.132 empowers the District Directors to award or deny attorney fees for services rendered on behalf of a claimant. In addition, 20 CFR 702.134 establishes certain guidelines for determining an attorney fee when the employer or carrier declines to pay compensation. The attorney representing a claimant must file an

itemized fee petition for services performed at the Office of Workers' Compensation (OWCP). Form (LS-4) has been designated for this purpose.

The implementing regulations at 20 CFR 702.321 require that pursuant to section 8(f) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. 908(f), if the work injury resulted in additional disability or impairment when combined with a pre-existing condition, the employer is liable for the first 104 weeks of compensation and the Special Fund is liable thereafter. Hearing loss claims are different in that the Special Fund pays for the pre-existing hearing loss and the employer for the added hearing loss. Request for relief must be submitted by the employer/carrier to OWCP and relief may be granted by the District Director or an Administrative Law Judge. To identify and timely respond to the requests from the employers and carriers, OWCP is requiring Form LS-5 Application for Special Fund Relief be submitted. The regulatory provisions are codified at 20 CFR 702.321. Because the Form LS-5 is of a statutory and regulatory nature, it should be formalized in a uniform manner and in a clear writing.

The implementing regulations at 20 CFR 702.142 require that pursuant to section 9(g) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. 909(g), compensation paid to aliens not residents, or about to become nonresidents, of the United States or Canada shall be in the same amount as provided for residents except that dependents in any foreign country shall be limited to surviving spouse and child or children, or if there be no surviving spouse or child or children, to surviving father or mother whom the employee has supported, either wholly or in part, for the period of 1 year prior to the date of injury. The Director, OWCP, may, at his or her option, or upon the application of the employer or insurance carrier, shall commute all future installments of compensation to be paid to such aliens by paying or causing to be paid to them one-half of the commuted amount of such future installments of compensation as determined by the Director. [See LHWCA 33 U.S.C. 909(g)].

In response to its stakeholders and to facilitate the commutation of payments to injured workers, and the beneficiaries

of deceased workers, OWCP is requiring Form LS-6 Commutation Request with the Public Burden Statement and Privacy Act Statement. The regulatory provisions are codified at CFR 702.142. Because the Form LS-6 is of a statutory and regulatory nature, it should be formalized in a uniform manner and in a clear writing.

Title 20 CFR 702.311 empowers the District Directors to resolve disputes with respect to claims in a manner designed to protect the rights of the parties and to resolve such disputes at the earliest practicable date. In some cases, the best resolution method is an informal conference. See also 33 U.S.C. 923(a) (same); 20 CFR 702.301 (“[B]y § 702.311 *et seq.*, the district directors are empowered to amicably and promptly resolve such problems by informal procedures.”) In addition, 20 CFR 702.312–702.316 establish certain guidelines for conducting informal conferences. Usually one of the parties requests an intervention or informal conference to assist with dispute resolution. Prior to scheduling an informal conference, the issues in dispute must be established and the District Director, or designee, will determine if the type of intervention requested is the most effective means for resolving the disputed issues. The Form LS-7, Request for Intervention, will be used for that purpose.

Title 20, CFR 702.242 pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 908(i) allow the parties to settle claims for compensation and/or medical benefits. A Settlement Approval Request is a time sensitive request because once the parties submit a settlement, the District Director within thirty days must determine if the settlement is adequate, whether it was procured under duress and issue a Compensation Order in response. To facilitate prompt processing of settlement approval requests, OWCP is requiring the parties to use Form LS-8 as a cover page. The parties must also attach a signed settlement document that outlines the terms of the settlement.

Title 20 CFR 702.315(a) requires the District Directors to issue formal compensation orders, “Following an informal conference at which agreement is reached on all issues, the deputy commissioner shall (within 10 days

after conclusion of the conference), embody the agreement in a memorandum or within 30 days issue a formal compensation order. The District Director may also issue an Order Approving Stipulations signed by all parties. Form LS-9 Stipulation Approval Request will be submitted together with the parties’ stipulated agreement.

**II. Review Focus**

The Department of Labor 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**

The Department of Labor seeks the extension of approval of this information collection in order to carry out its responsibility to meet the statutory requirements to provide compensation or death benefits under the Act to workers covered by the Act.

*Type of Review:* New Collection (Request for New OMB control Number).

*Agency:* Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs.

*Title:* Request for Intervention, Longshore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act.

*OMB Number:* 1240-0NEW.

*Agency Number:* LS-007.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit.

Form No.	Estimated response time in minutes	Estimated number of responses	Burden in hours	Annualized burden cost
LS-4 .....	15	486	122	\$2,303.36
LS-5 .....	20	577	192	3,624.96
LS-6 .....	10	40	7	132.16
LS-7 .....	10	5,390	898	16,954.24
LS-8 .....	20	5,400	1,800	33,984.00

Form No.	Estimated re- sponse time in minutes	Estimated number of responses	Burden in hours	Annualized burden cost
LS-9 .....	20	521	174	3,285.12
Total .....	95	12,414	3,193	60,283.84

*Total Respondents:* 12,414.

*Total Annual Responses:* 12,414.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 3,193 hours.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: August 1, 2019.

**Anjanette C. Suggs,**

*Agency Clearance Officer, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, U.S. Department of Labor.*

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**BILLING CODE P**

## NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

[NARA-19-0010; NARA-2019-033]

### Records Schedules; Availability and Request for Comments

**AGENCY:** National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of proposed records schedules; request for comments

**SUMMARY:** The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) publishes notice of certain Federal agency requests for records disposition authority (records schedules). We publish notice in the **Federal Register** and on [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) for records schedules in which agencies propose to dispose of records they no longer need to conduct agency business. We invite public comments on such records schedules.

**DATES:** NARA must receive comments by September 23, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by either of the following methods. You must cite the control number, which appears on the records schedule in parentheses after the name of the agency that submitted the schedule.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>.

- *Mail:* Records Appraisal and Agency Assistance (ACR); National

Archives and Records Administration; 8601 Adelphi Road; College Park, MD 20740-6001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Records Management Operations by email at [request.schedule@nara.gov](mailto:request.schedule@nara.gov), by mail at the address above, or by phone at 301-837-1799.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Public Comment Procedures**

We are publishing notice of records schedules in which agencies propose to dispose of records they no longer need to conduct agency business. We invite public comments on these records schedules, as required by 44 U.S.C. 3303a(a), and list the schedules at the end of this notice by agency and subdivision requesting disposition authority.

In addition, this notice lists the organizational unit(s) accumulating the records or states that the schedule has agency-wide applicability. It also provides the control number assigned to each schedule, which you will need if you submit comments on that schedule. We have uploaded the records schedules and accompanying appraisal memoranda to the [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) docket for this notice as "other" documents. Each records schedule contains a full description of the records at the file unit level as well as their proposed disposition. The appraisal memorandum for the schedule includes information about the records.

We will post comments, including any personal information and attachments, to the public docket unchanged. Because comments are public, you are responsible for ensuring that you do not include any confidential or other information that you or a third party may not wish to be publicly posted. If you want to submit a comment with confidential information or cannot otherwise use the [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) portal, you may contact [request.schedule@nara.gov](mailto:request.schedule@nara.gov) for instructions on submitting your comment.

We will consider all comments submitted by the posted deadline and consult as needed with the Federal agency seeking the disposition authority. After considering comments, we will post on [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) a "Consolidated Reply" summarizing the

comments, responding to them, and noting any changes we have made to the proposed records schedule. We will then send the schedule for final approval by the Archivist of the United States. You may elect at [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) to receive updates on the docket, including an alert when we post the Consolidated Reply, whether or not you submit a comment. You may request additional information about the disposition process through the contact information listed above.

We will post schedules on our website in the Records Control Schedule (RCS) Repository, at <https://www.archives.gov/records-mgmt/rcs>, after the Archivist approves them. The RCS contains all schedules approved since 1973.

### Background

Each year, Federal agencies create billions of records. To control this accumulation, agency records managers prepare schedules proposing retention periods for records and submit these schedules for NARA's approval. Once approved by NARA, records schedules provide mandatory instructions on what happens to records when no longer needed for current Government business. The records schedules authorize agencies to preserve records of continuing value in the National Archives or to destroy, after a specified period, records lacking continuing administrative, legal, research, or other value. Some schedules are comprehensive and cover all the records of an agency or one of its major subdivisions. Most schedules, however, cover records of only one office or program or a few series of records. Many of these update previously approved schedules, and some include records proposed as permanent.

Agencies may not destroy Federal records without the approval of the Archivist of the United States. The Archivist grants this approval only after thorough consideration of the records' administrative use by the agency of origin, the rights of the Government and of private people directly affected by the Government's activities, and whether or not the records have historical or other value. Public review and comment on these records schedules is part of the Archivist's consideration process.