

representatives from private car owners and car manufacturers. The members of the Board are *ex officio* (non-voting) members of the NGCC, and the Vice Chairman of the Board is designated as Co-Chairman of the NGCC.

The NGCC meets at least annually, and meetings are open to the public, consistent with the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94-409 (1976).

Further information about the NGCC is available on the Board's website ([https://www.stb.gov/stb/rail/graincar\\_council.html](https://www.stb.gov/stb/rail/graincar_council.html)) and at the General Services Administration's FACA database (<https://facadatabase.gov/>).

Decided: September 20, 2019.

By the Board, Allison C. Davis, Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Kenyatta Clay,**  
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2019-20786 Filed 9-24-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0586]

### Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Department of Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Clause 852.211-72, Technical Industry Standards

**AGENCY:** Office of Acquisition and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Office of Acquisition and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before October 25, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov), or to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attn: VA Desk Officer; 725 17th St. NW, Washington, DC 20503 or send through electronic mail to [oir\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oir_submission@omb.eop.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0586" in any correspondence.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Danny S. Green, Office of Quality, Performance and Risk (OQPR), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 421-1354 or email [danny.green2@va.gov](mailto:danny.green2@va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0586" in any correspondence.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Authority:** 44 U.S.C. 3501-21.  
**Title:** Department of Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Clause 852.211-72, Technical Industry Standards.

**OMB Control Number:** 2900-0586.

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

**Abstract:** This Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) submission seeks renewal with changes of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval No. 2900-0586 as follows: Due to the decreased number of respondents, the total annual burden hours decreased by 666, from 1,225 to 559. However, the average burden time per response has not changed.

VAAR clause 852.211-72, Technical Industry Standards, requires that items offered for sale to VA under the solicitation conform to certain technical industry standards, such as United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) or the USDA Institutional Meat Purchase Specifications (IMPS) and that the contractor furnish evidence to VA that the items meet that requirement. The evidence is normally in the form of a tag or seal affixed to the item, such as a label on beef product. In most cases, this requires no additional effort on the part of the contractor, as the items come from the factory with the tags already in place, as part of the manufacturer's standard manufacturing operation. Occasionally, for items not already meeting standards or for items not previously tested, a contractor will have to furnish a certificate from an acceptable laboratory certifying that the items furnished have been tested in accordance with, and conform to, the specified standards. Only firms whose products have not previously been tested to ensure the products meet the industry standards required under the solicitation and contract will be required to submit a separate certificate. The information will be used to ensure that the items being purchased meet minimum safety standards and to protect VA employees, VA beneficiaries, and the public.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information

unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at 84 FR 29285 on June 21, 2019.

**Affected Public:** Business or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions.

**Estimated Annual Burden:** 559

**Burden Hours.**

**Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:** 30 Minutes.

**Frequency of Response:** One per bid or offer received.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 1,118.

By direction of the Secretary:

**Danny S. Green,**

*Interim VA Clearance Officer, Office of Quality, Performance and Risk, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2019-20722 Filed 9-24-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Loan Guaranty: Assistance to Eligible Individuals in Acquiring Specially Adapted Housing; Cost-of-Construction Index

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** VA announces that the aggregate amounts of assistance available under the Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) grant program will increase by 5.51 percent for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020.

**DATES:** The increases in aggregate amounts are effective October 1, 2019.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jason Latona, Chief, Specially Adapted Housing, Loan Guaranty Service (262C), Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 461-9201. (This is not a toll-free number.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with 38 United States Code (U.S.C) 2102(e), 38 U.S.C. 2102A(b)(2), 38 U.S.C. 2102B(b)(2), and 38 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 36.4411, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs announces for FY 2020 the aggregate amounts of assistance available to veterans and Servicemembers eligible for SAH program grants.

Section 2102(e)(2) authorizes the Secretary to increase the aggregate amounts of SAH assistance annually based on a residential home cost-of-construction index. Per 38 CFR 36.4411(a), the Secretary uses the

Turner Building Cost Index for this purpose.

In the most recent quarter for which the Turner Building Cost Index is available, 2nd Quarter 2019, the index showed an increase of 5.51 percent over the index value listed by 2nd Quarter 2018. Turner Construction Company, Cost Index, <http://www.turnerconstruction.com/cost-index> (last visited Aug. 7, 2019). Pursuant to 38 CFR 36.4411(a), therefore, the aggregate amounts of assistance for SAH grants made pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 2101(a) and 2101(b) will increase by 5.51 percent for FY 2020.

Sections 2102A(b)(2) and 2102B(b)(2) require the Secretary to apply the same percentage calculated pursuant to section 2102(e) to grants authorized pursuant to sections 2102A and 2102B. As such, the maximum amount of assistance available under these grants will also increase by 5.51 percent for FY 2020.

The increases are effective as of October 1, 2019. 38 U.S.C. 2102(e), 2102A(b)(2), and 38 U.S.C. 2102B(b)(2).

### **Specially Adapted Housing: Aggregate Amounts of Assistance Available During Fiscal Year 2020**

#### *Section 2101(a) Grants and Temporary Residence Adaptation (TRA) Grants*

Effective October 1, 2019, the aggregate amount of assistance available for SAH grants made pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 2101(a) will be \$90,364 during FY 2020. The maximum TRA grant made to an individual who satisfies the eligibility criteria under 38 U.S.C. 2101(a) and 2102A will be \$39,669 during FY 2020.

#### *Section 2101(b) Grants and TRA Grants*

Effective as of October 1, 2019, the aggregate amount of assistance available for SAH grants made pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 2101(b) will be \$18,074 during FY 2020. The maximum TRA grant made to an individual who satisfies the eligibility criteria under 38 U.S.C. 2101(b) and 2102A will be \$7,083 during FY 2020.

#### *Section 2102B Grants*

Effective as of October 1, 2019, the amount of assistance available for SAH grants made pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 2102B will be \$90,364 during FY 2020; however, the Secretary may waive this limitation for a veteran if the Secretary determines a waiver is necessary for the rehabilitation program of the veteran.

#### Signing Authority

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs approved this document and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Pamela Powers, Chief of Staff, Department of Veterans Affairs, approved this document on September 17, 2019, for publication.

Dated: September 19, 2019.

**Jeffrey M. Martin,**

*Assistant Director, Office of Regulation Policy & Management, Office of the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2019-20728 Filed 9-24-19; 8:45 am]

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