

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

[Docket No: SSA–2020–0006]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Request and Comment Request

The Social Security Administration (SSA) publishes a list of information collection packages requiring clearance by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with Public Law 104–13, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, effective October 1, 1995. This notice includes revisions of OMB-approved information collections, and one new collection.

SSA is soliciting comments on the accuracy of the agency’s burden estimate; the need for the information; its practical utility; ways to enhance its quality, utility, and clarity; and ways to minimize burden on respondents, including the use of automated

collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Mail, email, or fax your comments and recommendations on the information collection(s) to the OMB Desk Officer and SSA Reports Clearance Officer at the following addresses or fax numbers. (OMB) Office of Management and Budget, Attn: Desk Officer for SSA, Fax: 202–395–6974, Email address: *OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov*. (SSA) Social Security Administration, OLCA, Attn: Reports Clearance Director, 3100 West High Rise, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, Fax: 410–966–2830, Email address: *OR.Reports.Clearance@ssa.gov*.

Or you may submit your comments online through *www.regulations.gov*, referencing Docket ID Number [SSA–2020–0006].

I. The information collections below are pending at SSA. SSA will submit them to OMB within 60 days from the

date of this notice. To be sure we consider your comments, we must receive them no later than April 27, 2020. Individuals can obtain copies of the collection instruments by writing to the above email address.

1. Agreement to Sell Property—20 CFR 416.1240–1245—0960–0127.

Individuals or couples who are otherwise eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments, but whose resources exceed the allowable limit, may receive conditional payments if they agree to dispose of the excess non-liquid resources and make repayments. SSA uses Form SSA–8060–U3 to document this agreement, and to ensure the individuals understand their obligations. Respondents are applicants for, and recipients of, SSI payments who will be disposing of excess non-liquid resources.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) **
SSA–8060–U3	20,000	1	10	3,333	* 10.22	** 34,063

* We based this figure on average DI payments, as reported in SSA’s disability insurance payment data.

** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

2. Supported Employment Demonstration (SED)—0960–0806. Sponsored by SSA, the SED builds on the success of the intervention designed for the Mental Health Treatment Study (MHTS) previously funded by SSA. The MHTS provides integrated mental health and vocational services to disability beneficiaries with mental illness. The SED offers the same services to individuals with mental illness who SSA denied Social Security disability benefits. SSA seeks to determine whether offering this evidence-based package of integrated vocational and mental health services to denied disability applicants fosters employment that leads to self-sufficiency, improved mental health and quality of life, and reduced demand for disability benefits. The SED uses a randomized controlled trial to compare the outcomes of two treatment groups, and a control group. Study participation spans 36 months beginning on the day following the date of randomization to one of the three study groups. The SED study population consists of individuals aged 18 to 50 who apply for disability benefits alleging a mental illness and the initial decision is a denial of

benefits in the past 60 days. The SED will enroll up to 1,000 participants in each of the three study arms for a total of 3,000 participants: 40 participants in each of three study arms for the 20 urban sites equaling an *n* of 2,400 urban site participants; and 20 participants in each of three arms for the 10 rural sites equaling an *n* of 600 rural site participants. We randomly select and assign each enrolled participant to one of three study arms:

- *Full-Service Treatment (n = 1,000).* The multi-component service model from the MHTS comprises the Full-Service Treatment. At its core are an Individual Placement and Support (IPS) supported employment specialist and behavioral health specialist providing IPS supported employment services integrated with behavioral health care. Participants in the full-service treatment group will also receive the services of a Nurse Care Coordinator who coordinates Systematic Medication Management services, as well assistance with: Out-of-pocket expenses associated with prescription behavioral health medications; work-related expenses; and services and treatment not covered by the participant’s health insurance.

- *Basic-Service Treatment (n = 1,000).* The Basic-Service Treatment model leaves intact IPS supported employment integrated with behavioral health services as the centerpiece of the intervention arm. The Basic-Service Treatment is essentially the Full-Service model without the services of the Nurse Care Coordinator, Systematic Medication Management, and the funds associated with out-of-pocket expenses for prescription behavioral health medications.

- *Usual Services (n = 1,000).* This study arm represents a control group against which the two treatment groups we can compare. Participants assigned to this group seek services as they normally would (or would not) in their community. However, at the time of randomization, each Usual Service participant will receive a comprehensive manual describing mental health and vocational services in their locale, along with state and national resources.

This study will test the two treatment conditions against each other and against the control group on multiple outcomes of policy interest to SSA. The key outcomes of interest include: (1) Employment; (2) earnings; (3) income;

(4) mental status; (5) quality of life; (6) health services utilization; and (7) SSA disability benefit receipt and amount. SSA is also interested in the study take up rate (participation), knowing who enrolls (and who does not), and fidelity to evidence-based treatments, among other aspects of implementation. Data collection for the evaluation of the SED will consist of the following activities: Baseline in-person participant interviews; quarterly participant telephone interviews; receipt of SSA administrative record data; and

collection of site-level program data. Evaluation team members will also conduct site visits involving: (1) Pre-visit environmental scans in order to understand the local context in which SED services are embedded; (2) independent fidelity assessments in conjunction with those carried out by state Mental Health/Vocational Rehabilitation staff; (3) key informant interviews with the IPS specialist, the nurse care coordinator, the case manager, and facility director; (4) focus groups with participants in the Full-

Service and Basic-Service Treatment groups; and (5) ethnographic data collection consisting of observations in the natural environment and person-centered interviews with participants and non-participants. The respondents are study participants and non-participants, family members, IPS specialists, nurse care coordinators, case managers, and facility directors.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Number of responses	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars)*	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars)**
Competency and CIDI Screener	1,878	1	1,878	75	2,348	* 7.50	** 17,610
Baseline Interview	3,000	1	3,000	45	2,250	* 7.50	** 16,875
Quarterly Interview (Quarters 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, and 11) ..	3,000	9	27,000	20	9,000	* 7.50	** 67,500
Annual Interview (Quarters 4, 8, and 11)	3,000	3	9,000	30	4,500	* 7.50	** 33,750
Fidelity Assessment Participant Interview	180	4	720	60	720	* 7.50	** 5,400
Key Informant Interview	120	4	480	60	480	* 17.22	** 8,266
Participant Focus Groups	600	2	1,200	60	1,200	* 7.50	** 9,000
Person-Centered Interview	180	4	720	60	720	* 7.50	** 5,400
Totals	11,958	.....	43,998	.....	21,218	.....	** 163,801

* We based this figure on average hourly wage for disabled and social and human service workers, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data.
 ** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

II. SSA submitted the information collections below to OMB for clearance. Your comments regarding these information collections would be most useful if OMB and SSA receive them 30 days from the date of this publication. To be sure we consider your comments, we must receive them no later than March 26, 2020. Individuals can obtain copies of the OMB clearance packages by writing to *OR.Reports.Clearance@ssa.gov*.

1. Statement Regarding the Inferred Death of an Individual by Reason of

Continued and Unexplained Absence—20 CFR 404.720 & 404.721—0960-NEW. Section 202(d)–(i) of the Social Security Act (Act) provides for the payment of various monthly survivor benefits, and a lump sum death payment, to certain survivors upon the death of an individual who dies while fully or currently insured. In cases where insured wage earners have been absent from their homes for at least seven years, and there is no evidence these individuals are alive, SSA may presume

they are deceased and pay their survivors the appropriate benefits. SSA uses the information from Form SSA–723 to determine if we may presume a missing wage earner is deceased, and, if so, establish a date of presumed death. The respondents are relatives, friends, neighbors, or acquaintances of the presumed deceased wage earner, or the person who is filing for survivors benefits.

Type of Request: Request for a new information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars)*	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars)**
SSA–723	3,000	1	30	1,500	* 22.50	** 33,750

* We based this figure on average U.S. citizen's hourly salary, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data.
 ** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

2. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)—Quality Review Case Analysis—0960-0133. To assess the SSI program and ensure the accuracy of its payments, SSA conducts legally mandated periodic SSI case analysis quality reviews. SSA uses Form SSA–8508–BK,

and the electronic Excel application version, e8505, to conduct these reviews, collecting information on operating efficiency; the quality of underlying policies; and the effect of incorrect payments. SSA also uses the data to determine SSI program payment

accuracy rate, which is a performance measure for the agency's service delivery goals. Respondents are the recipients of SSI payments which SSA randomly selects for quality reviews.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars)*	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars)**
SSA-8508-BK (paper interview)	230	1	60	230	* 10.22	** 2,351
e8508 (electronic interview)	4,370	1	60	4,370	* 10.22	** 44,661
Totals	4,600	.....	.....	4,600	.....	** 47,012

*We based this figure on average DI payments, as reported in SSA's disability insurance payment data.

** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

Dated: February 19, 2020.

Naomi Sipple,

Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.

[FR Doc. 2020-03669 Filed 2-24-20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191-02-P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

[Docket No. SSA-2017-0046]

Rescission of Social Security Acquiescence Ruling 86-3(5)

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.

ACTION: Notice of Rescission of Social Security Acquiescence Ruling 86-3(5)—*Martinez v. Heckler*, 735 F.2d 795 (5th Cir. 1984)—Disability Program—Individuals Who Are Illiterate and Unable To Communicate in English—Titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act.

SUMMARY: In accordance with 20 CFR 402.35(b)(2), 404.985(e)(4) and 416.1485(e)(4), the Commissioner of Social Security gives notice of the rescission of Social Security Acquiescence Ruling (AR) 86-3(5).

DATES: We will apply this rescission notice on April 27, 2020.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan O'Brien, Office of Disability Policy, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21235-6401, (410) 597-1632. For information on eligibility or filing for benefits, call our national toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213, or TTY 1-800-325-0778, or visit our internet site, Social Security Online, at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We use ARs in accordance with 20 CFR 402.35(b)(2), 404.985(a), (b), and 416.1485(a), (b) to explain how we apply a holding in a United States Court of Appeals decision that we determine conflicts with our interpretation of a provision of the Social Security Act (Act) or regulations when the Government has decided not to seek further review of that decision or is

unsuccessful on further review. As provided by 20 CFR 404.985(e)(4) and 416.1485(e)(4), we may rescind an AR as obsolete and apply our interpretation of the Act or regulations if we subsequently clarify, modify or revoke the regulation or ruling that was the subject of a circuit court holding that we determined conflicts with our interpretation of the Social Security Act or regulations.

In 1984, in *Martinez v. Heckler*, the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit considered the issue of whether the vocational rules¹ applicable to those individuals who were illiterate or unable to communicate in English were applicable to individuals who were illiterate and unable to communicate in English.

The court concluded that because Mr. Martinez was both illiterate and unable to communicate in English, he did not fall within the criteria set forth in Rule 201.23 (sedentary, younger individual aged 18-44, illiterate or unable to communicate in English, unskilled or no work). The implication of the decision was that the rule did not apply to individuals who were both illiterate and unable to communicate in English.

In response to the decision, we issued AR 86-3(5).² In the ruling, we explained that we must make a finding on illiteracy and inability to communicate in English when both are alleged or appear to be in question for an individual residing in Texas, Mississippi, or Louisiana and seeking disability benefits or continuation of disability benefits under Title II or Title XVI. We clarified that if an individual aged 18 to 44 is limited to sedentary work with unskilled or no work history is found to be both illiterate and unable to communicate in English, we cannot apply the Rule 201.23 under the holding of the *Martinez* decision. We instructed adjudicators to use the vocational rules

¹ See 20 CFR part 404 Subpart P Appendix 2.

² AR 86-3(5) applied only to cases in which the individual resided in Texas, Mississippi or Louisiana at the time of the determination or decision at any level of administrative review.

only as guidance for decisionmaking in such cases. We also issued the same guidance for Rule 202.16 (light, younger individual aged 18-44, illiterate or unable to communicate in English, unskilled or no work) in the ruling.

We are revising our rules to remove the education category inability to communicate in English on February 25, 2020. The revision will become effective on April 27, 2020. Because we are eliminating the education category "inability to communicate in English," the instructions contained in AR 86-3(5) will be obsolete as of that date. Consequently, we are rescinding AR 86-3(5) effective on April 27, 2020.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, Programs Nos. 96.001, Social Security—Disability Insurance; 96.002, Social Security—Retirement Insurance; 96.004, Social Security—Survivors Insurance; 96.006—Supplemental Security Income.)

Dated: January 30, 2020.

Andrew Saul,

Commissioner of Social Security.

[FR Doc. 2020-03201 Filed 2-24-20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 11033]

30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Request for Determination of Possible Loss of United States Citizenship

ACTION: Notice of request for public comment and submission to OMB of proposed collection of information.

SUMMARY: The Department of State has submitted the information collection described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 we are requesting comments on this collection from all interested individuals and organizations. The purpose of this Notice is to allow 30 days for public comment.