

Judges Panel is composed of twelve members, appointed by the Secretary of Commerce, chosen for their familiarity with quality improvement operations and competitiveness issues of manufacturing companies, service companies, small businesses, nonprofits, health care providers, and educational institutions. The primary purpose of this meeting is to assemble to discuss and review the role and responsibilities of the Judges Panel and information received from NIST in order to ensure the integrity of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award selection process. During the closed session on June 16, 2021 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. the Judges Panel will discuss lessons learned from the 2020 judging process and the 2021 Award process. The agenda may change to accommodate Judges Panel business. The final agenda will be posted on the NIST website at <https://www.nist.gov/baldrige/how-baldrige-works/baldrige-community/judges-panel>.

The open portion of the meeting from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time will include discussions on the Judges Panel roles and processes and Baldrige program updates and is open to the public. Individuals and representatives of organizations who would like to offer comments and suggestions related to the Panel's business are invited to request a place on the agenda. Approximately 30 minutes will be reserved for public comments and speaking times will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. The amount of time per speaker will be determined by the number of requests received but is likely to be about three minutes each. Questions from the public will not be considered during this period. Requests must be submitted by email to Robyn Verner at [robyn.verner@nist.gov](mailto:robyn.verner@nist.gov) and must be received by 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, June 9, 2021 to be considered. Speakers who wish to expand upon their oral statements, those who had wished to speak but could not be accommodated on the agenda, and those who were unable to participate are invited to submit written statements by email to [robyn.verner@nist.gov](mailto:robyn.verner@nist.gov) or 301-975-2361.

**Admittance instructions:** All participants will be attending via webinar. Please contact Ms. Verner by email at [robyn.verner@nist.gov](mailto:robyn.verner@nist.gov) or 301-975-2361 for detailed instructions on how to join the webinar. All requests must be received by 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Wednesday, June, 9, 2021.

The portion of the meeting from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time will include discussions on lessons learned from the 2020 judging process and on

the 2021 Award process, and is closed to the public in order to protect the proprietary data to be examined and discussed. The Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the Assistant General Counsel for Employment, Litigation and Information, formally determined, pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended by Section 5(c) of the Government in Sunshine Act, Public Law 94-409, that a portion of the meeting of the Judges Panel may be closed to the public in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4) because the meeting is likely to disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person which is privileged or confidential and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B) because for a government agency the meeting is likely to disclose information that could significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action. Portions of the meeting involve examination of prior year Award applicant data. Award applicant data are directly related to the commercial activities and confidential information of the applicants.

Pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.150(b), this **Federal Register** notice for this meeting is being published fewer than 15 calendar days prior to the meeting as exceptional circumstances exist due to COVID-19.

**Alicia Chambers,**

*NIST Executive Secretariat.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Defense Acquisition Regulations System

[Docket Number DARS-2021-0006; OMB Control Number 0704-0397]

#### Information Collection Requirement; Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Requests for Equitable Adjustment

**AGENCY:** Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Defense Acquisition Regulations System has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposed extension of a collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to comments received by July 6, 2021.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title and OMB Number:* Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS), Contract Modifications and related clause at DFARS 252.243-7002; OMB Control Number 0704-0397.

*Type of Request:* Revision and extension.

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

*Respondent's Obligation:* Required to obtain or retain benefits.

*Respondents:* 131.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 131.

*Hours per response:* 14.3, approximately.

*Estimated Hours:* 1,879.

*Reporting Frequency:* On occasion.

*Needs and Uses:* The information collection required by the clause at DFARS 252.243-7002, Requests for Equitable Adjustment, implements 10 U.S.C. 2410(a). The clause requires contractors to certify that requests for equitable adjustment exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold are made in good faith and that the supporting data are accurate and complete. The clause also requires contractors to fully disclose all facts relevant to the requests for equitable adjustment. DoD contracting officers and auditors use this information to evaluate contractor requests for equitable adjustments to contracts.

Comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Ms. Susan Minson, DoD Desk Officer, at [Oira\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Oira_submission@omb.eop.gov). Please identify the proposed information collection by DoD Desk Officer and the Docket ID number and title of the information collection.

You may also submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by the following method: *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

*DoD Clearance Officer:* Ms. Angela Duncan. Requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Ms. Duncan at [whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil](mailto:whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil).

**Jennifer D. Johnson,**

*Regulatory Control Officer, Defense Acquisition Regulations System.*

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