

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0682]

Agency Information Collection Activity: Advertising, Sales, Enrollment Materials, and Candidate Handbooks**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 revision 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 April 15, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at 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. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0682” in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 1717 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 266–4688 or email maribel.aponte@va.gov. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0682” in any correspondence.

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 Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

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 CFR 21.4252(h).

Title: Advertising, Sales, Enrollment Materials, and Candidate Handbooks.

OMB Control Number: 2900–0682.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: This notice is replacing the previous 60-Day Notice, Vol. 86 No. 239 that was published on January 16, 2021. A Correction Notice was published in Vol. 87 No. 1 on January 3, 2022. The statute prohibits approval of the enrollment of a Veteran in a course if the educational institution uses advertising, sales, or enrollment practices that are erroneous, deceptive, or misleading either by actual statement, omission, or intimation. The advertising, sales and enrollment materials are reviewed to determine if the institution is in compliance with guidelines for approval. VA received two public comments which questions the 15-minute length of burden time needed to gather the information required for VA review upon compliance for this ICR. After careful assessment, VA agrees with the comments, and have therefore adjusted the time burden from 15 minutes to 60 minutes accordingly, and as result have updated the Supporting Statement to reflect the change.

Affected Public: Individuals and Households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 5,525 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 60 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,525.

By direction of the Secretary.

Maribel Aponte,

VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Enterprise and Integration/Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2022–03032 Filed 2–11–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**Change of Publication Manner for Notice of Invention Licenses****AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: Currently, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) publishes notices of prospective exclusive, co-exclusive or partially exclusive domestic or foreign licenses of Government-owned inventions at the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer (FLC) business website (<https://federallabs.org/licenses-list/all>). VA must provide notice of its intent to license VA inventive subject matter in order to provide the public an opportunity to file written objections to the proposed license within at least a 15-day notice period. VA is announcing that, 15 days from the publication of this Notice, it will begin using the TechLink website (<https://techlinkcenter.org>) as its primary publication forum for providing notice. TechLink is a non-profit center of Montana State University. The TechLink website will serve as VA’s primary forum for publishing notices of prospective exclusive, co-exclusive or partially exclusive domestic or foreign licenses licensing opportunities. However, if VA is unable to use the TechLink website due to technical problems or other unforeseen circumstances, VA will publish such notices at the FLC business website.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. John J. Kaplan, Ph.D., J.D., Director, VA Technology Transfer Program (14RDTT), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420; at John.Kaplan@va.gov or 202–632–7271. This is not a toll-free number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i), an exclusive, co-exclusive or partially exclusive domestic license, and, pursuant to 37 CFR 404.7(b)(1)(i), an exclusive, co-exclusive or partially exclusive foreign license, may be granted on Government-owned inventions only if notice of a prospective license has been published in the **Federal Register** or other appropriate manner, providing opportunity for filing written objections within at least a 15-day period. VA provides notice that, 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice, it will begin publishing notices of prospective exclusive, co-exclusive or partially exclusive domestic or foreign licenses at the TechLink website, providing opportunity for filing written objections within a 15-day period. If VA is unable to use the TechLink website due to technical problems or other unforeseen circumstances, VA will publish such notices at the FLC business website.

Signing Authority

Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, approved this

document on February 8, 2022 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.

Luvenia Potts,

Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy & Management, Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2022-03124 Filed 2-11-22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Department of Veterans Affairs' Tribal Representation Expansion Project

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice of Tribal consultation.

SUMMARY: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is seeking Tribal consultation on "The Tribal Representation Expansion Project (T. REP)", a project through which VA strives to ensure that Native American Veterans have access to responsible, qualified representation in the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of their benefit claims before VA. VA is seeking comments on whether Tribal communities currently have access to representation for VA benefit claims and, for those Tribes that are being underserved in terms of representation, whether the Tribal governments may be interested in collaborating with VA to designate an individual within the community as authorized to prepare, present, and prosecute VA benefit claims. In addition, VA is seeking comments and recommendations on any issues, concerns, or processes the Tribes believe should be addressed in T. REP to better ensure that the project is successful in helping to expand access to representation for Native American Veterans on their benefit claims before VA.

DATES: VA will hold the virtual tribal consultation session on March 23, 2022, from 3:00–5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time). Written comments may also be submitted to VA on or before March 30, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Participants can access the virtual consultation session by registering through the following link: <https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/onstage/g.php?MTID=eaa07b769b5f8a27cfe390e0c732ee1eb>; for audio by phone, please dial 1-404-397-1596, access code 2760 198 8717. Participants will

interact by submitting written comments and/or questions using the chat function during the presentation. Written comments may also be submitted by any of the following methods:

- By email to tribalgovernmentconsultation@va.gov.
- By facsimile to 202-273-5716.
- By mail to U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Suite 915B, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420.

Comments should indicate that the submission is in response to "The Tribal Representation Expansion Project."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clay Ward, VA Office of Tribal Government Relations at (202) 461-7445 (this is not a toll-free number), or by email at Tribalgovernmentconsultation@va.gov, or by mail at Suite 915B, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Through T. REP, VA strives to ensure that Native American Veterans and their families have access to responsible, qualified representation in the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of their benefit claims before VA. Through T. REP, VA aims to focus on the Tribal communities that are being underserved in terms of representation. To help improve access to claims representation in those communities, VA would like to collaborate with Tribal governments to designate an individual within the community as authorized to prepare, present, and prosecute VA benefit claims.

VA has long since recognized the unique circumstances of Tribes and that cultural, geographical, or language barriers may exist that prevent or deter Native American Veterans from seeking out representation on their benefit claims before VA. In 2017, VA took affirmative steps to improve access to representation on Tribal land by revising its regulations to, among other things, permit veterans' service offices affiliated with Tribal governments to be recognized by VA as Tribal organizations in a manner similar to State organizations (*see* 82 FR 6265 (Jan. 19, 2017)). VA, however, recognizes that there is still more that VA can do to advance equity in the access to representation for Native American Veterans on their VA benefit claims. Accordingly, to further facilitate access to culturally competent representation for Native American Veterans, and to honor the unique nature of the Federal government's Nation-to-Nation relationship with the Tribes, VA would like to collaborate with Tribal

governments to expand opportunities for claims representation where needed.

Through consultation, VA seeks to learn which Tribal communities have access to representation for VA benefit claims. VA is interested in learning which Tribal communities have access to representation that is provided by representatives of VA-recognized organizations. VA is also interested in learning which Tribal communities have access to representation by attorneys and agents. Moreover, VA also seeks to learn whether such representation is viewed in the Tribal community as culturally competent representation.

In addition, from the Tribal communities that self-identify as being underserved in terms of representation, VA seeks comments on whether their Tribal governments may be interested in collaborating with VA to provide an option for representation. Specifically, VA is interested in learning if there are Tribes that may be interested in identifying an individual who is affiliated with their government, is of good character and reputation, and, who, after proper training on VA benefits, would be fit to be authorized by the VA General Counsel to represent on VA benefit claims. The General Counsel then plans to use his discretionary authority, pursuant to 38 CFR 14.630, to specially authorize such individuals to prepare, present, and prosecute VA benefit claims before VA. In addition, to help ensure the fitness of these specially authorized individuals, VA is exploring the possibility of coordinating with VA-recognized organizations that have established veterans benefits training programs and that may be willing to make their training available to such individuals.

In addition, VA is seeking comments and recommendations from Tribal leaders and representatives of Tribal communities on any issues, concerns, or processes that should be addressed in T. REP to ensure that the project is successful in expanding access to representation for Native American Veterans on their VA benefit claims.

Accordingly, through this Tribal consultation, the Secretary seeks information on the questions listed below. Comments do not need to address every question and should focus on those that are relevant to the commenter's Tribal community. To the extent possible, please clearly indicate which questions you are addressing in your response and include any rationale or information that may be helpful to VA.

1. Are Native American Veterans in your community receiving any