

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**[OMB Control No. 2900-0132]****Proposed Information Collection
Activity: Proposed Collection;
Comment Request****AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), 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 extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments for information needed to determine a veteran's eligibility for specially adapted housing or for a special home adaptation grant.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before December 31, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20S52), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail: irmnkess@vba.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0132" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-7079 or FAX (202) 275-5947.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C., 3501-3520), 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.

Title: Veteran's Application in Acquiring Specially Adapted Housing or Special Home Adaptation Grant, VA Form 26-4555.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0132.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The form is used to gather the necessary information to determine the veteran's eligibility for specially adapted housing or the special home adaptation grant.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 250 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per

Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,500.

Dated: October 22, 2002.

By direction of the Secretary.

Ernesto Castro,

Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 02-27778 Filed 10-31-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**[OMB Control No. 2900-0004]****Agency Information Collection
Activities Under OMB Review**

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted 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; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before December 2, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW.,

Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030, FAX (202) 273-5981 or e-mail: denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0004."

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0004" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, Death Pension and Accrued Benefits by a Surviving Spouse or Child (Including Death Compensation if Applicable), VA Form 21-534.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0004.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 21-534 is used to gather the necessary information to determine the spouse's and/or children's eligibility, dependency and income, as applicable, for death benefit sought.

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 on August 23, 2002, at page 54697.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 79,125 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 63,300.

Dated: October 22, 2002.

By direction of the Secretary.

Ernesto Castro,

Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 02-27779 Filed 10-31-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**[OMB Control No. 2900-0016]****Agency Information Collection
Activities Under OMB Review**

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995

(44 U.S.C., 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted 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; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before December 2, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030, FAX (202) 273-5981 or e-mail: denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0016."

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0016" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Claim for Disability Insurance Benefits, Government Life Insurance, VA Form 29-357.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0016.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 29-357 is used by policyholder to claim disability insurance on National Service Life Insurance and the United States Government Life Insurance policies. The information collected is used to determine the insured person's eligibility for disability insurance benefits.

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 on August 23, 2002, at pages 54696-54697.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 14,175 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 8,100.

Dated: October 22, 2002.

By direction of the Secretary.

Ernesto Castro,

Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 02-27780 Filed 10-31-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

ACTION: Notice of establishment of new system of records.

SUMMARY: The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552(e) (4)) requires that all agencies publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of the existence and character of their systems of records. Notice is hereby given that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is establishing a new system of records entitled "Employee Incentive Scholarship Program—VA" (110VA10).

DATES: Comments on the establishment of this system of records must be received no later than December 2, 2002. If no public comment is received, the new system will become effective December 2, 2002.

ADDRESSES: You may mail or hand-deliver written comments concerning the proposed new system of records to the Office of Regulations Management (02D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420; or fax comments to (202) 273-9289; or email comments to OGCRegulations@mail.va.gov. All relevant material received before December 2, 2002 will be considered. Comments will be available for public inspection at the above address in the Office of Regulations Management, Room 1158, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Privacy Act Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, telephone (727) 320-1839.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Description of Proposed System of Records

The Employee Incentive Scholarship Program (EISP) allows VA to award scholarships to employees pursuing degrees or training leading to appointment or retention in the following health professions: physician, dentist, podiatrist, pharmacist, licensed practical/vocational nurse, expanded-

function dental auxiliary, registered nurse, certified registered nurse anesthetist, physician assistant, optometrist, physical therapist, occupational therapist, certified respiratory therapy technician, and registered respiratory therapist. The purpose of the program is to help VA meet its needs for qualified healthcare staff.

The Employee Incentive Scholarship Program—VA (110VA10) system of records contains personal identification information related to the application material, to award processes, to employment status, and to obligated service such as name, address, Social Security number, employing facility name, job title, grade, education level, degree sought, award amounts, obligated service incurred, and name and address of the educational institution. It also contains individual information about applicants who have been denied scholarships, program participants who have been terminated from VA employment, program participants who have breached their program contracts and any amount of indebtedness arising from a scholarship and owed back to VA. Additionally, it may contain information about why an applicant declined to accept a scholarship if the applicant furnished such information. Since applicants typically are denied scholarships because they do not meet the eligibility requirements to participate in the program, the specific nature of an applicant's ineligibility would be another element of information contained in the system of records. Scholarship recipients may request that a payment or service obligation be waived or suspended if circumstances beyond their control make it impossible to comply with the terms and conditions of the educational assistance program. The system of records would include information about the specific nature of the request and the related decision.

Any information in this system may be used by local VA supervisory officials and program coordinators to ensure that individual data in the system of records is accurate and up to date and that award recipients are in compliance with the terms of the scholarship program contract. Data about individual award recipients may change (e.g., adjustments to academic course load) and could impact certain terms of their scholarships such as the amounts of the awards and/or the beginning and ending dates of their periods of obligated service. Data changes may also impact assessments of the effectiveness of the scholarship