

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Patent and Trademark Office**

[Docket No. PTO-C-2020-0024]

**Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees****AGENCY:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.**ACTION:** Notice and request for nominations for the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees.

**SUMMARY:** On November 29, 1999, the President signed into law the Patent and Trademark Office Efficiency Act ("1999 Act"), which, among other things, established two Public Advisory Committees to review the policies, goals, performance, budget, and user fees of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with respect to patents, in the case of the Patent Public Advisory Committee, and trademarks, in the case of the Trademark Public Advisory Committee, and to advise the Director on these matters (now codified in the United States Code). The America Invents Act Technical Corrections Act made several amendments to the 1999 Act, including the requirement that the terms of the USPTO Public Advisory Committee members be realigned by 2014 so that December 1 would be used as the start and end date, with terms staggered so that each year, three existing terms expire and three new terms begin on December 1. With this notice, the USPTO is requesting nominations for up to three members of the Patent Public Advisory Committee and for up to three members of the Trademark Public Advisory Committee, for terms of three years beginning on December 1, 2020.

**DATES:** Nominations must be postmarked or emailed on or before July 31, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons wishing to submit nominations should send the nominee's résumé by postal mail to Coke Stewart, Office of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, or by email to [PPACnominations@uspto.gov](mailto:PPACnominations@uspto.gov) for the Patent Public Advisory Committee or [TPACnominations@uspto.gov](mailto:TPACnominations@uspto.gov) for the Trademark Public Advisory Committee.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Coke Stewart, Office of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, at 571-272-8600.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Advisory Committees' duties include:

- Reviewing and advising the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO on matters relating to the policies, goals, performance, budget, and user fees of the USPTO regarding patents and trademarks, respectively (35 U.S.C. 5); and
- Within 60 days after the end of each fiscal year: (1) Preparing an annual report on matters listed above; (2) transmitting the report to the Secretary of Commerce ("Secretary"), the President, and the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and the House of Representatives; and (3) publishing the report in the Official Gazette of the USPTO. Id.

**Advisory Committees**

The Public Advisory Committees are each composed of nine voting members who are appointed by the Secretary and serve at the pleasure of the Secretary for three-year terms. Members are eligible for reappointment for a second consecutive three-year term. The Public Advisory Committee members must be citizens of the United States and are chosen to represent the interests of diverse stakeholders of the USPTO with respect to patents, in the case of the Patent Public Advisory Committee, and trademarks, in the case of the Trademark Public Advisory Committee. Members must represent small and large entity applicants located in the United States in proportion to the number of applications filed by such applicants. The committees must include individuals with "substantial background and achievement in finance, management, labor relations, science, technology, and office automation." 35 U.S.C. 5(b)(3). Each of the Public Advisory Committees also includes three non-voting members representing each labor organization recognized by the USPTO. Administration policy discourages the appointment of federally registered lobbyists to agency advisory boards and commissions (Lobbyists on Agency Boards and Commissions, <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/blog/2009/09/23/lobbyists-agency-boards-and-commissions> (Sept. 23, 2009)); cf. E.O. 13490, 74 FR 4673 (Jan. 21, 2009) (While Executive Order 13490 does not specifically apply to federally registered lobbyists appointed by agency or department heads, it sets forth the Administration's general policy of decreasing the influence of special interests in the Federal Government).

**Procedures and Guidelines of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees**

Each newly appointed member of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees will serve for a three-year term that begins on December 1, 2020, and ends on December 1, 2023. As required by the 1999 Act, members of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees will receive compensation for each day (including travel time) they are attending meetings or engaging in the business of that advisory committee. The enabling statute states that members are to be compensated at the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for level III of the Executive Schedule under section 5314 of title 5 of the United States Code. Committee members are compensated on an hourly basis, which is based on the daily rate. While away from home or regular place of business, each member shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5 of the United States Code.

**Applicability of Certain Ethics Laws**

Public Advisory Committee Members are Special Government Employees within the meaning of section 202 of title 18 of the United States Code. The following additional information includes several, but not all, of the ethics rules that apply to members and assumes that members are not engaged in Public Advisory Committee business for more than 60 days during any period of 365 consecutive days.

- Each member will be required to file a confidential financial disclosure form within 30 days of appointment. 5 CFR 2634.202(c), 2634.204, 2634.903, and 2634.904(b).
- Each member will be subject to many of the public integrity laws, including criminal bars against representing a party in a particular matter that came before the member's committee and that involved at least one specific party. 18 U.S.C. 205(c); see also 18 U.S.C. 207 for post-membership bars. A member also must not act on a matter in which the member (or any of certain closely related entities) has a financial interest. 18 U.S.C. 208.
- Representation of foreign interests may also raise issues. 35 U.S.C. 5(a)(1) and 18 U.S.C. 219.

**Meetings of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees**

Meetings of each Public Advisory Committee will take place at the call of the respective Committee Chair to

consider an agenda set by that Chair. Meetings may be conducted in person, by telephone, online, or by other appropriate means. The meetings of each advisory committee will be open to the public, but each advisory committee may, by majority vote, meet in executive session when considering personnel, privileged, or other confidential information. Nominees must have the ability to participate in committee business via the internet.

**Andrei Iancu,**

*Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.*

[FR Doc. 2020-13043 Filed 6-16-20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No. ED-2020-SCC-0094]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Report of Dispute Resolution Under Part C of the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act

**AGENCY:** Department of Education (ED), Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is proposing an extension of an existing information collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before August 17, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number ED-2020-SCC-0094. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting the Docket ID number or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. If the [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) site is not available to the public for any reason, ED will temporarily accept comments at [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov). Please include the docket ID number and the title of the information collection request when requesting documents or submitting comments. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance

and Strategy Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave. SW, LBJ, Room 6W-208D, Washington, DC 20202-4537.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Amy Bae, 202-245-8272.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

**Title of Collection:** Report of Dispute Resolution Under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

**OMB Control Number:** 1820-0678.

**Type of Review:** An extension of an existing information collection.

**Respondents/Affected Public:** State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:** 56.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:** 2,240.

**Abstract:** The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA; Pub. L. 108-446) directs the Secretary of Education to obtain data on the dispute resolution process described in Section 615 of the law. This package provides instructions and form necessary for States to report the number of written, signed complaints; mediation requests; and hearing requests and the status of these actions initiated during the

reporting year with regards to children served under Part C of IDEA. The form satisfies reporting requirements and is used by OSEP to monitor SEAs and for Congressional and public reporting. No adjustments were made to this data collection therefore we anticipate no change in the response burden associated with this data collection. The Department of Education is interested in public comment addressing the COVID crisis. Specially, are there any considerations to these data collections due to the national emergency caused by the novel Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Dated: June 11, 2020.

**Kate Mullan,**

*PRA Coordinator, Strategic Collections and Clearance, Governance and Strategy Division, Office of Chief Data Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2020-12973 Filed 6-16-20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

### Standardized Format To Be Used for Both Interim and Final Progress Reporting

**AGENCY:** U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

**ACTION:** Request for public comment on standardized EAC Progress Report (EAC-PR) format.

**SUMMARY:** The EAC Office of Grants Management (EAC/OGM) is responsible for distributing, monitoring, and providing technical assistance to states and grantees on the use of Federal funds. EAC/OGM also reports on how the funds are spent, negotiates indirect cost rates with grantees, and resolves audit findings on the use of Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds. The EAC-PR has been developed for both interim and final progress reports for grants issued under HAVA authority. EAC received emergency clearance of its Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act report form due to the public health emergency posed by COVID19. This format builds upon that report for the separate grant awards given by EAC.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by 5 p.m. EST on Monday, August 17, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** To view the proposed EAC-PR format, see: <https://www.eac.gov/payments-and-grants/reporting>. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should