

“(vi) the demonstrated ability of the recipient to disseminate results and spur the implementation of transportation research and education programs through national or statewide continuing education programs;

“(vii) the demonstrated commitment of the recipient to the use of peer review principles and other research best practices in the selection, management, and dissemination of research projects;

“(viii) the strategic plan submitted by the recipient describing the proposed research to be carried out by the recipient and the performance metrics to be used in assessing the performance of the recipient in meeting the stated research, technology transfer, education, and outreach goals; and

“(ix) the ability of the recipient to implement the proposed program in a cost-efficient manner, such as through cost sharing and overall reduced overhead, facilities, and administrative costs.”

(49 U.S.C. 5505(b)(4)(B) as amended by Pub. L. 112-141 Sec. 52009 (effective Oct. 1, 2012)).

Additional selection criteria applying to regional UTCs are:

The institution (or lead institution in the case of a consortium) must have a well-established, nationally recognized program in research and education, as shown by:

(i) recent expenditures by the institution in highway or public transportation research;

(ii) a historical track record of awarding graduate degrees in professional fields closely related to highways and public transportation; and

(iii) an experienced faculty who specialize in professional fields closely related to highways and public transportation (49 U.S.C. 5505(c)(3)(B) as amended by Pub. L. 112-141 Sec. 52009 (effective Oct. 1, 2012)).

**External Stakeholders.** The Department will consult with external stakeholders (including the Transportation Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences, among others), to the maximum extent practicable, to evaluate and competitively review all proposals (49 U.S.C. 5505(b)(6) as amended by Pub. L. 112-141, Sec. 52009 (effective Oct. 1, 2012)).

#### V. Program Funding and Award

UTCs will be selected by the Secretary, in consultation as appropriate with the Administrators of the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.

#### VI. Use of Grant Funds

According to the terms of the grant agreement, grantees will have until September 30, 2017 to expend FY 2013 funds and, assuming availability, FY 2014 funds.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 12, 2013.

**Gregory D. Winfree,**

*Administrator, Research and Innovative Technology Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2013-27421 Filed 11-15-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-HY-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0047]

### Proposed Information Collection (Financial Statement); 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 revision 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 Veteran-obligors' and prospective assumers' creditworthiness.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before January 17, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov) or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M35), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420 or email [nancy.kessinger@va.gov](mailto:nancy.kessinger@va.gov). Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900-0047” in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 632-8924 or FAX (202) 632-8925.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), 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:* Financial Statement, VA Form 26-6807.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0047.

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* VA Form 26-6807 is primarily completed by purchasers assuming a Veteran's home loan in release of liability cases authorized by 38 U.S.C. 3714 and by Veteran-purchasers seeking substitution of entitlement by 38 U.S.C. 3702(b)(2). Data obtained permits credit underwriting determinations for action in such cases.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 2,250 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:* 45 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On Occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 3,000.

Dated: November 13, 2013.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Crystal Rennie,**

*VA Clearance Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2013-27507 Filed 11-15-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0567]

### Proposed Information Collection Activity: (The Presidential Management Certificate) Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The National Cemetery Administration (NCA), Department of