

*Dates:* Consideration will be given to all comments received by March 10, 2003.

*Title, Form Number, and OMB Number:* CHAMPUS Claims Patient's Request for Medical Payment; DD Form 2642; OMB Number 0720-0006.

*Type of Request:* Reinstatement.  
*Number of Respondents:* 1,035,000.  
*Responses per Respondent:* 1.  
*Annual Responses:* 1,035,000.  
*Average Burden per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 258,750.  
*Needs and Uses:* This form is used solely by beneficiaries claiming reimbursement for medical expenses under the TRICARE Program [formerly the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (TRICARE/CHAMPUS)]. The information collected will be used by TRICARE/CHAMPUS to determine beneficiary eligibility, other health insurance liability, certification that the beneficiary received the care, and reimbursement for the medical services received.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

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

*OMB Desk Officer:* Ms. Crista Thomas.

Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Ms. Thomas at the Office of Management and Budget, Desk Officer for DoD Health Affairs, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

*DOD Clearance Officer:* Mr. Robert Cushing.

Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Cushing, WHS/DIOR, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302.

Dated: January 30, 2003.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 03-2817 Filed 2-5-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-08-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice.

The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the

following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

*Dates:* Consideration will be given to all comments received by March 10, 2003.

*Title and OMB Number:* Evaluation of Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C) Retirement System; Survey; OMB Number 0702-[To Be Determined].

*Type of Request:* New collection.  
*Number of Respondents:* 1,500.  
*Responses per Respondent:* 1.  
*Annual Responses:* 1,500.  
*Average Burden per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 375.

*Needs and Uses:* To assess the utility and efficiency of the Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C) retirement system. To this end, recently retired Army civilian employees whose retirements were processed by the Army Benefits Centers will be surveyed. The purpose of the survey is to determine the degree of customer satisfaction with the current system and to make recommendations for improvements.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Frequency:* One time.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Ms. Jacqueline Zeiher.

Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Ms. Zeiher at the Office of Management and Budget, Desk Officer for DoD, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

*DOD Clearance Officer:* Mr. Robert Cushing.

Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Cushing, WHS/DIOR, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302.

Dated: January 30, 2003.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 03-2818 Filed 2-5-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Defense Science Board

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense.

**ACTION:** Notice of advisory committee meeting date change.

**SUMMARY:** On November 29, 2002 (67 FR 71144), the Department of Defense

announced closed meetings of the Defense Science Board (DSB) Task Force on Unexploded Ordnance. The meeting originally scheduled for March 12-13, 2003, has been moved to March 11-12, 2003. This meeting will be held at SAIC, 4001 N. Fairfax Street, Arlington, VA.

Dated: January 30, 2003.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 03-2820 Filed 2-5-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Leader, Regulatory Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 7, 2003.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

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.

Dated: January 30, 2003.

**John D. Tressler,**

*Leader, Regulatory Management Group,  
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

### **Office of Educational Research and Improvement**

*Type of Review:* New Collection.

*Title:* National Assessment of Educational Progress: Foreign Language Assessment, field test 2003 and full scale 2004.

*Frequency:* Other: One-time.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or household (primary), State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 50250.

Burden Hours: 14252.

*Abstract:* The National Assessment of Educational Progress Foreign Language assessment will assess the current status of the foreign language skills of high school seniors in the U.S. as well as collecting information about foreign language programs, instructional practices, and attitudes towards learning foreign languages.

Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address [Vivian.reese@ed.gov](mailto:Vivian.reese@ed.gov). Requests may also be faxed to 202-708-9346. *Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.*

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Kathy Axt at her e-mail address [Kathy.axt@ed.gov](mailto:Kathy.axt@ed.gov). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 03-2825 Filed 2-5-03; 8:45 am]

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## **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

### **Recognition of Accrediting Agencies, State Agencies for the Approval of Public Postsecondary Vocational Education, and State Agencies for the Approval of Nurse Education**

**AGENCY:** National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity, Department of Education (The Advisory Committee).

#### **What Is the Purpose of This Notice?**

The purpose of this notice is to invite written comments on accrediting agencies and State approval agencies whose applications to the Secretary for initial or renewed recognition or whose interim reports will be reviewed at the Advisory Committee meeting to be held on June 9-10, 2003.

#### **Where Should I Submit My Comments?**

Please submit your written comments by March 24, 2003 to Carol Griffiths, Chief, Accrediting Agency Evaluation, Accreditation and State Liaison. You may contact her at the U.S. Department of Education, room 7105, MS 8509, 1990 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006, telephone: (202) 219-7011. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

#### **What is the Authority for the Advisory Committee?**

The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity is established under section 114 of the Higher Education Act (HEA), as amended, 20 U.S.C. 1011c. One of the purposes of the Advisory Committee is to advise the Secretary of Education on the recognition of accrediting agencies and State approval agencies.

#### **Will This Be My Only Opportunity to Submit Written Comments?**

Yes, this notice announces the only opportunity you will have to submit written comments. However, a subsequent **Federal Register** notice will announce the meeting and invite individuals and/or groups to submit requests to make oral presentations before the Advisory Committee on the agencies that the Committee will review. That notice, however, does not offer a second opportunity to submit written comment.

#### **What Happens to the Comments That I Submit?**

We will review your comments, in response to this notice, as part of our evaluation of the agencies' compliance with the Secretary's Criteria for

Recognition of Accrediting Agencies and State Approval Agencies. The Criteria are regulations found in 34 CFR part 602 (for accrediting agencies) and in 34 CFR part 603 (for State approval agencies) and are found at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/accreditation/index.html>. We will also include your comments with the staff analyses we present to the Advisory Committee at its June 2003 meeting. Therefore, in order for us to give full consideration to your comments, it is important that we receive them by March 24, 2003. In all instances, your comments about agencies seeking initial or continued recognition must relate to the Criteria for Recognition. In addition, your comments for any agency whose interim report is scheduled for review must relate to the issues raised and the Criteria for Recognition cited in the Secretary's letter that requested the interim report.

#### **What Happens to Comments Received After the Deadline?**

We will review any comments received after the deadline. If such comments, upon investigation, reveal that the accrediting agency is not acting in accordance with the Criteria for Recognition, we will take action either before or after the meeting, as appropriate.

#### **What Agencies Will the Advisory Committee Review at the Meeting?**

The Secretary of Education recognizes accrediting agencies and State approval agencies for public postsecondary vocational education and nurse education if the Secretary determines that they meet the Criteria for Recognition. Recognition means that the Secretary considers the agency to be a reliable authority as to the quality of education offered by institutions or programs that are encompassed within the scope of recognition he grants to the agency. The following agencies will be reviewed during the June 2003 meeting of the Advisory Committee:

#### **Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies**

##### *Petition for Initial Recognition*

1. Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (Requested scope of recognition: The accreditation of postsecondary English language programs and institutions in the United States).

2. Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (Requested scope of recognition: The accreditation and pre-accreditation throughout the United States of graduate-level, four-year