

receive an answer more quickly than through standard mail. IRIS does not provide applications to veterans or serve as a conduit for patient data, etc.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or Households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 5,000 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:* 10 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 30,000.

Dated: May 6, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Loise Russell,**

*Director, Records Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 04-11152 Filed 5-14-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0455]

### 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 whether proprietary education institutions receiving Federal financial assistance comply with the applicable civil rights law and regulations.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before July 16, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M35), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail: [irmnkess@vba.va.gov](mailto:irmnkess@vba.va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0455" 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. 3501-3521), 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:* Equal Opportunity Compliance Review Report, VA Form 20-8734 and Supplement to Equal Opportunity Compliance Review Report, VA Form 20-8734a.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0455.

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

*Abstract:* Executive Order 12250, Leadership and Coordination of Nondiscrimination Laws, delegated authority to the Attorney General to coordinate the implementation and enforcement by Executive agencies of various equal opportunity laws prohibiting discriminatory practices in Federal programs and programs receiving Federal financial assistance. The Order extended the delegation to cover Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Department of Justice issued government-wide guidelines (29 CFR 42.406) instructing funding agencies to "provide for the collection of data and information from applicants for and recipients of Federal assistance.

VA Forms 20-8734 and 20-8734a are used by VA personnel during regularly scheduled educational compliance survey visit, as well as during investigations of equal opportunity complaints, to identify areas where there may be disparate treatment of members of protected groups. VA Form 20-8734 is used to gather information from post-secondary proprietary schools

below college level. The information is used to assure that VA-funded programs comply with equal opportunity laws. VA Form 20-8734a, is used to gather information from students and instructors at post-secondary proprietary schools below college level. The information is are used to assure that participants have equal access to equal treatment in VA-funded programs. If this information were not collected, VA would be unable to carry out the civil rights enforcement responsibilities established in the Department of Justice's guidelines and VA's regulations.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit.

*Estimated Annual Burden and Average Burden Per Respondent:* Based on past experience, VBA estimates that 76 interviews will be conducted with recipients using VA Form 20-8734 at an average of 1 hour and 45 minutes per interview (133 hours). This includes one hour for an interview with the principal facility official, plus 45 minutes for reviewing records and reports and touring the facility. It is estimated that 76 interviews will be conducted with students using VA Form 20-8734a at an average of 30 minutes per interview (38 hours) and with instructors at an average of 30 minutes per interview (38 hours). Interviews are also conducted with 76 students without instructors at an average time of 30 minutes (38 hours). The total burden hour is 247.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 228.

Dated: May 6, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Loise Russell,**

*Director, Records Management Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0212]

### 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