

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Office of the Secretary****[Docket ID DOD–2013–OS–0080]****Proposed Collection; Comment Request****AGENCY:** Defense Security Service, DoD.**ACTION:** Notice.

In compliance with Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Defense Security Service (DSS) announces the proposed extension of a public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by June 10, 2013.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail:* Federal Docket Management System Office, 4800 Mark Center Drive, 2nd Floor, East Tower, Suite 02G09, Alexandria, VA 22350–3100.

Instructions: All submissions received must include agency name, docket number, and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

Any associated form(s) for this collection may be located within this same electronic docket and downloaded for review/testing. Follow the instructions at <http://www.regulations.gov> for submitting comments. Please submit comments on any given form identified by docket number, form number, and title.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this

proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to: Defense Security Service, ISFO, ATTN: Ms. Sharon Bickmore, Russell-Knox Building, 27130 Telegraph Road, Quantico, VA 22134–2253, or call Defense Security Service at (571) 305–6620.

Title, Associated Form, and OMB Number: Voice of Industry Survey, OMB Control Number 0704–0472.

Needs and Uses: Executive Order 12829, “National Industrial Security Program (NISP)” Section 202(a) stipulates that the Secretary of Defense shall serve as the Executive Agent for inspecting and monitoring the contractors, licensees, and grantees who require or will require access to or who store or will store classified information; and for determining the eligibility for access to classified information of contractors, licensees, and grantees and their respective employees. The Executive Agent has the authority to issue, after consultation with affected agencies, standard forms or other standardization that will promote the implementation of the NISP. Department of Defense Directive 5105.42, “Defense Security Service,” dated August 3, 2010, delineates the mission, functions, and responsibilities of DSS. DSS functions and responsibilities include the administration and implementation of the Defense portion of the NISP.

This survey will provide feedback on how DSS is performing with respect to the administration and implementation of the NISP. Participation in the survey is strictly voluntary.

Affected Public: Contractors, licensees, and grantees in the NISP under DSS cognizance.

Annual Burden Hours: 6,119.

Number of Respondents: 12,238.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Average Burden per Response: 30 minutes.

Frequency: Annually.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Summary of Information Collection**

This collection of information requests the assistance of the facility security officer (FSO) or senior management official to provide feedback as to how DSS is doing with respect to the administration and implementation of the NISP. The survey will be distributed electronically via a web-based, commercial survey tool.

Dated: April 2, 2013.

Aaron Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2013–08185 Filed 4–8–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Navy****Superior Supplier Incentive Program**

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of proposed policy letter.

SUMMARY: The Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Acquisition and Procurement (DASN (AP)), is soliciting comments that the Department of the Navy (DoN) may use in drafting a policy that will establish a Superior Supplier Incentive Program (SSIP). Under the SSIP, contractors that have demonstrated exemplary performance at the business unit level in the areas of cost, schedule, performance, quality, and business relations would be granted Superior Supplier Status (SSS). Contractors that achieve SSS could receive more favorable contract terms and conditions in DoN contracts. In addition to recognition of SSS at the business unit level, multi-business unit corporations, that have several business units which attain SSS, may receive additional recognition by the DoN at the corporate level. This additional corporate recognition will not result in the receipt of more favorable contract terms and conditions in DoN contracts, but may result in the use of more favorable business practices by the DoN in its relations at the corporate level. Upon approval of the policy by the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition, DoN will initiate the pilot phase of the SSIP.

The SSIP pilot is a revision of DoN's previous initiative to recognize superior performance. This initiative was known as the Preferred Supplier Program (PSP). DoN published a previous notice of proposed policy letter on May 14, 2010.

DATES: DoN invites interested parties from both the public and private sectors to provide comments to be considered in the formulation of the final policy letter. In particular, DoN encourages respondents to offer their views as discussed below, in Section C, “Solicitation of Public Comment.” Interested parties should submit comments, in writing, to the address below, on or before May 3, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Email: SSIP@navy.mil; Facsimile: 703-614-9394; Mail: DASN (AP), Attn: Clarence Belton, 1000 Navy Pentagon, Room BF992, Washington, DC 20350-1000.

Instructions: Please submit comments only and cite "Proposed DoN SSIP Policy Letter" in all correspondence. All comments received will be posted, without change or redaction, to https://acquisition.navy.mil/rda/home/acquisition_one_source/business_opportunities/SSIP, so commenters should not include information that they do not wish to be posted (for example, personal or business-confidential).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clarence Belton, 703-693-4006 or clarence.belton@navy.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

Companies in the private sector that have implemented SSIPs have significantly improved performance. Cash flow, contract terms and conditions, and relief from non-statutory compliance requirements, either procedurally or with respect to timing, can reduce contractor costs and risk; and, as such, are powerful incentives that can be used to motivate contractors to perform at a high level. DoN and its contractors negotiate these key components of the business arrangement contract by contract. As a result of this decentralized and individualized approach, DoN fails to take advantage of an extremely important opportunity to motivate industry behavior. This policy would establish the SSIP to leverage that opportunity through the use of favorable contract terms and conditions and other changes in business process that would be available to Superior Suppliers (i.e., suppliers that have demonstrated exemplary performance, at the business unit or corporate level, in the areas of cost, schedule, performance, quality, and business relations).

The proposed policy has been revised from the original concept of the PSP. DoN is again considering comments to capture the public's views as it revises the concept of operations for SSIP. After consideration of the comments, DoN may publish a draft proposed policy letter for additional public comments.

B. Proposed Policy Letter Concepts

The general outline of the pilot phase of the SSIP, to be established under the

proposed policy letter, is set forth below.

Assessment of contractors for designation as Superior Suppliers will be conducted by teams consisting of members from the DoN's Echelon II contracting activities. These contracting activities are identified in Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement 202.101. Contracting activities may be assigned as evaluation team leads, based on the volume of contracting activity between a contractor under evaluation and a particular contracting activity. DASN (AP) will oversee the assessment of contractors under the SSIP. DASN (AP) will make recommendations to a panel of senior DoN leaders as to which companies should be designated as Superior Suppliers. The panel will include the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition and may include the Vice Chief of Naval Operations; the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps; and Commander, Fleet Forces Command; or their representatives.

DoN will use the Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting System (CPARS) as the baseline data during the pilot phase of the SSIP. In the course of the pilot phase, DoN may also identify other sources of data, including information available to DoN program offices and government contract administration organizations that the DoN may use to supplement CPARS data in implementing the SSIP. During the pilot phase, contractors will be assessed in the following CPARS areas:

- Technical (Quality of Product).
- Schedule.
- Cost Control.
- Management Responsiveness.
- Management of Key Personnel.
- Utilization of Small Business.
- Other CPARS Factors As

Appropriate.

During the SSIP pilot phase, DoN will use a 5-star rating system based upon the 5-color ratings used in CPARS, as follows:

CPARS color rating	Number of stars
Red	0
Yellow	1
Green	2
Purple	3
Dark Blue	4

DoN will use the CPARS conversion table above, based upon CPARS data; and, as appropriate, may use other sources of information and may weight evaluation factors. Contractors must achieve at least a 3-Star rating to be

designated as a Superior Supplier. A 5-Star rating can only be achieved if the contractor maintains an active Energy Efficiency Program, and otherwise has received a 4-Star rating. Failure to demonstrate an active Energy Efficiency Program will not diminish the contractor's SSIP rating. If a contractor provides documentation sufficient to establish that it has an Energy Efficiency Program, it will receive an additional star, up to a maximum rating of 5 Stars.

For the pilot, DoN intends to evaluate the top 15 DoN contractors that supply goods and the top 15 DoN contractors that supply services. The top 15 DoN contractors will be determined by the value of contract awards for the most recent fiscal year at the business unit level. A business unit can only be rated in either the goods or services category. In the event a contractor is within the top 15 suppliers of both goods and services, it will be evaluated in the category that represents the preponderance of sales to the DoN.

DoN plans to seek policy changes that will allow it to offer more favorable terms and conditions to its preferred suppliers. Once approved, DoN contracting officers will be authorized to offer some or all of the following more favorable contract terms and conditions:

- More favorable progress payments. Adjustments may be made to progress payment percentages or retention percentages.
- Priority for adjudication of final labor and indirect cost rates.
- Increase in the intervals between business system reviews.

C. Solicitation of Public Comment

DoN invites interested parties from both the public and private sectors to provide comments for consideration in the formulation of a policy letter establishing the SSIP. In particular, DoN seeks to better understand how to incentivize contractors, to achieve sustained superior performance in the areas of cost, schedule, performance, quality, and business relations. Accordingly, DoN welcomes feedback regarding the following questions.

1. What clauses are currently being used in government subcontracts, and commercial contracts and subcontracts, to incentivize superior performance, at the corporate level, in the areas of cost, schedule, performance, quality, and business relations?

2. What solicitation provisions, contract clauses, and performance incentives will provide contractors with the greatest motivation to achieve SSS?

3. What contract terms and conditions increase cost or impair performance and could be removed from contracts with

Superior Suppliers without significant risk to the Government?

4. Energy Efficiency is a critical DoN requirement significantly impacting the successful achievement of DoN's missions. How should a contractor's use of energy as it relates to the entire life-cycle of a product—design, manufacture, use, maintenance, and disposal—be considered in the designation of Superior Suppliers?

5. How long should SSS last?

6. What criteria, other than CPARS data elements, should DoN use to select companies for evaluation as superior suppliers?

7. Is there any other aspect of the proposed SSIP on which you wish to comment?

Dated: April 1, 2013.

C. K. Chiappetta,

Lieutenant Commander, Office of the Judge Advocate General, U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2013-08190 Filed 4-8-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No. ED-2013-ICCD-0009]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Private School Universe Survey 2013-16

AGENCY: Institute of Education Sciences/ National Center for Education Statistics (IES), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 3501 *et seq.*), ED is proposing a revision of an existing information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 9, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting Docket ID number ED-2013-ICCD-0009 or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. *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 Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education,

400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ, Room 2E105, Washington, DC 20202-4537.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Electronically mail ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. Please do not send comments here.

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: Private School Universe Survey 2013-16.

OMB Control Number: 1850-0641.

Type of Review: Revision of an existing collection of information.

Respondents/Affected Public: Private Sector.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 25,567.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 6,410.

Abstract: The Private School Universe Survey (PSS) is the NCES collection of basic data from the universe of private elementary and secondary schools in the United States. The PSS is designed to gather biennial data on the total number of private schools, teachers, and students, along with a variety of related data, including: religious orientation; grade-levels taught and size of school; length of school year and of school day; total student enrollment by gender (K-12); number of high school graduates; whether a school is single-sexed or coeducational; number of teachers

employed; program emphasis; and existence and type of its kindergarten program. The PSS includes all schools that are not supported primarily by public funds, that provide classroom instruction for one or more of grades K-12 or comparable ungraded levels, and that have one or more teachers. The PSS is also used to create a universe list of private schools that can be used as a sampling frame for NCES surveys of private schools. No substantive changes have been made to the survey or its procedures since its last approved PSS 2010-13. This clearance is for the 2013-14 and 2015-16 PSS data collections, and the 2015-16 PSS list- and area-frame building operations.

Dated: April 3, 2013.

Stephanie Valentine,

Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Privacy, Information and Records Management Services, Office of Management.

[FR Doc. 2013-08248 Filed 4-8-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No. ED-2013-ICCD-0042]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Streamlined Clearance Process for Discretionary Grants

AGENCY: Department of Education (ED), Office of the Secretary/Office of the Deputy Secretary (OS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 3501 *et seq.*), ED is proposing an extension of an existing information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 10, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting Docket ID number ED-2013-ICCD-0042 or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. 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 Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ, Room 2E105, Washington, DC 20202-4537.