

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**Immigration and Naturalization Service****[INS 2119-01]****Effective Date of the Revised Form I-129W****AGENCY:** Immigration and Naturalization Service, Justice.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that, effective April 13, 2001, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) will only accept the December 18, 2000, version of Form I-129W, H-1B Data Collection and Filing Fee Exemption. Prior editions of the form will not be accepted. Form I-129W is a supplemental form designed by the INS to capture essential information required for the adjudication of Form I-129, Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker. The information captured on Form I-129W is required as a result of recent legislation.

DATES: This notice is effective April 13, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John W. Brown, Adjudications Officer, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 425 I Street, NW., Room 3214, Washington, DC 20536, telephone (202) 353-8177.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background***Who Is an H-1B Nonimmigrant?*

An H-1B nonimmigrant is an alien employed in a specialty occupation or a fashion model of distinguished merit and ability. A specialty occupation is an occupation that requires theoretical and practical application of a body of specialized knowledge and attainment of a bachelor's or higher degree in the specific specialty as a minimum for entry into the United States.

What Is a Form I-129W?

Form I-129W, H-1B Data Collection and Filing Fee Exemption, is a supplemental form designed by the INS to capture essential information required for the adjudication of Form I-129, Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker. The information captured on Form I-129W is required as a result of the passage of three bills: The American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998, Public Law 105-277 (ACWIA); An Act to increase the amount of fees charged to employers who are petitioners for the employment of H-1B nonimmigrant workers, Public Law 106-311; and the American Competitiveness in the Twenty-First

Century Act, Public Law 106-313 (AC21). The Form I-129W also captures information required by the INS to compile reports required by Congress. The INS is presently modifying Form I-129 in order to capture the information requested on Form I-129W. When this effort is completed, the Form I-129W will no longer be used. Once Form I-129 is revised, INS will publish these proposed changes in a future edition of the **Federal Register** for public comment in accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

What Does This Notice Do?

This notice announces that as of April 13, 2001, the INS will only accept December 18, 2000, versions of Form I-129W. Earlier versions of the Form I-129W that are submitted after April 13, 2001 will not be accepted. The INS will reject a Form I-129 that is not accompanied by the correct version of Form I-129W.

Dated: March 23, 2001.

Mary Ann Wyrsh,

Acting Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

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BILLING CODE 4410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**Veterans' Employment and Training Service****Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Request for Comments**

AGENCY: Veterans' Employment and Training Service, Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on the proposed continued collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506 C (2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, VETS is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection request for the VETS 300,

Cost Accounting Report, DVOP/LVER Programs and Manager's Report.

DATES: Comments are to be submitted by May 29, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments are to be mailed to the Veterans' Employment and Training Service, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-1316, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20210, to the attention of Ronald Bachman, Acting Director, Office of Operations and Programs. Written comments limited to 10 pages or fewer may be transmitted by facsimile to (202) 693-4755 or e-mail to *Bachman-Ronald@dol.gov*. Receipt of submissions, whether by U.S. mail, e-mail or FAX transmittal, will not be acknowledged; however, the sender may request confirmation that a submission has been received, by telephoning VETS at (202) 693-4707 (VOICE) or (202) 693-4753 (TTY/TDD).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ronald Bachman, Acting Director, Office of Operations and Programs, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-1316, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20210, telephone: (202) 693-4707.

Copies of the referenced information collection request are available for inspection and copying through VETS and will be mailed to persons who request copies by telephoning Ronald Bachman at (202) 693-4707.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Background**

The VETS 300 Cost Accounting Report DVOP/LVER Report provides data on State public employment service program expenditures. This data is used at the Federal level by VETS for program budgeting and administration purposes, and to meet the mandated reporting requirements to the President and to Congress. Each State Employment Service Office is required to submit the VETS 300 Cost Accounting Report on a quarterly basis, and one additional, Final Fiscal Year Report.

Title 38 U.S.C. requires not less frequently than on a quarterly basis, an LVER assigned to a local employment service office (LESO) submit a report (Manager's Report) to the manager of the office, and to the Director Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DVET). This report addresses the LESO's compliance and performance with Federal law and regulations with respect to special services and priorities for eligible veterans and eligible persons. Section V(C)(3) of the Special Grant Provisions, requires that this