

professional associations, unions, VA employees and any other person or organization who informally provides comments via the **Federal Register** will be reviewed. VA will make appropriate revisions in light of the comments, including those that present evidence-based practice and alternatives that help VA meet our mission and goals, and that are better for Veterans or VA health care professionals. We will publish a collective response to all comments at <https://www.va.gov/standardsofpractice>.

After the national standard of practice is finalized, approved and published in VHA policy, VA will implement the tasks and duties authorized by that national standard of practice. Any tasks or duties included in the national standard will be incorporated into an individual health care professional's privileges, scope of practice, or functional statement following any training and education necessary for the health care professional to perform those functions. Implementation of the national standard of practice may be phased in across all medical facilities, with limited exemptions for health care professionals as needed.

National Standard for Ophthalmology Technicians

The proposed format for national standards of practice when there is a national certifying body is as follows. The first paragraph is general information about the profession and what the health care professionals can do. The second paragraph references the education, certification, license, registration, or other requirements needed to practice this profession at VA and confirms that this profession follows the standard of practice set by the certifying body. A final statement confirms that as of the date of the workgroup's research into requirements, all individuals in this profession follow the same standard of practice.

We note that proposed standards of practice do not contain an exhaustive list of every task this profession can perform. Rather, it is designed to highlight whether there are any areas of variance in how this profession can practice across States and how this profession will be able to practice within VA notwithstanding their State license, certification, registration, and other requirements.

VA qualification standards require Ophthalmology Technicians to have an active, current, full and unrestricted national certification from the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO). VA reviewed whether there are any

alternative registrations, certifications, or State requirements that could be required for an Ophthalmology Technician and found that there were none. VA proposes to adopt a standard of practice consistent with the national certification; therefore, VA Ophthalmology Technicians will continue to follow the same standard as set by their national certification. The standard of practice for the national registration can be found here: https://documents.jcahpo.org/documents/Certification/IJCAHPO_Core_Criteria.pdf.

Because the practice of Ophthalmology Technicians is not changing, there will be no impact on the practice of this occupation when this national standard of practice is implemented.

Proposed National Standard of Practice for Ophthalmology Technicians

Ophthalmology Technicians are eye health care professionals qualified to assist ophthalmologists in the diagnostic evaluation, management, treatment and education of patients with medical and surgical conditions affecting the visual system. Their duties include, but are not limited to, documenting patient histories, assessing visual and ocular function, performing tests and ophthalmology imaging, administering topical ocular medications (*i.e.*, drops or ointment, including anesthetic, dye, dilation, cycloplegic or antibiotics) and providing patient care.

Ophthalmology Technicians in VA possess the required education and certification from JCAHPO, in accordance with VA qualification standards, as more specifically described in VA Handbook 5005, Staffing, Part II, Appendix G52.

This national standard of practice confirms Ophthalmology Technicians practice in accordance with the Allied Ophthalmology Personnel Certification standards from JCAHPO, which are available at: <https://jcahpo.org/>. As of August 2021, Ophthalmology Technicians in all States follow this national certification.

Request for Information

1. Are there any required trainings for the aforementioned practices that we should consider?
2. Are there any factors that would inhibit or delay the implementation of the aforementioned practices for VA health care professionals in any States?
3. Is there any variance in practice that we have not listed?
4. What should we consider when preempting conflicting State laws, regulations or requirements regarding

supervision of individuals working toward obtaining their license or unlicensed personnel?

5. Is there anything else you would like to share with us about this national standard of practice?

Signing Authority

Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, approved this document on July 18, 2022, and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Luvenia Potts,

Regulation Policy Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy & Management, Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2022–16325 Filed 7–28–22; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0863]

Agency Information Collection Activity: VA Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Clause 852.237–73, Crime Control Act—Requirement for Background Checks

AGENCY: Office of Acquisition and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Office of Acquisition and Logistics (OAL), 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.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before September 27, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at www.Regulations.gov or to Bogdan Vaga, Office of Acquisition & Logistics, Procurement Policy & Warrant Management Services (003A2A), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC

20420 or email to *Bogdan.Vaga@va.gov*. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0863” in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 266–4688 or email *maribel.aponte@va.gov*. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0863” in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995, 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, OAL invites comments on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of OAL’s functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of OAL’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.

Authority: Public Law 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3501–3521.

Title: VA Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Construction Provisions and Clauses.

OMB Control Number: 2900–0863.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: This Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) submission seeks renewal without changes of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved No. 2900–0863, VAAR clause 852.237–73, Crime Control Act—Requirement for Background Checks. Under the Crime Control Act of 1990 (34 U.S.C. 20351), each agency of the Federal Government, and every facility operated by the Federal Government, or operated under contract with the Federal Government, that hires, or contracts for hire, individuals involved with the provision to children under the age of 18 of childcare services shall assure that all existing and newly hired employees undergo a criminal history background check. VAAR clause 852.237–73, Crime Control Act—Requirement for Background Checks, is required in all solicitations, contracts,

and orders that involve providing childcare services to children under the age of 18, including social services, health and mental health care, child-(day) care, education (whether or not directly involved in teaching), and rehabilitative programs covered under the statute.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 1,500 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 60 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One per contract employee.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,500.

By direction of the Secretary.

Maribel Aponte,

VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Enterprise and Integration/Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0586]

Agency Information Collection

Activity: VA Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Clause 852.211–72, Technical Industry Standards

AGENCY: Office of Acquisition and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Office of Acquisition and Logistics (OAL), 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.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before September 27, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at *www.Regulations.gov* or to Bogdan Vaga, Office of Acquisition & Logistics, Procurement Policy & Warrant Management Services (003A2A), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810

Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420 or email to *Bogdan.Vaga@va.gov*. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0586” in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 266–4688 or email *maribel.aponte@va.gov*. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0586” in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995, 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, OAL invites comments on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of OAL’s functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of OAL’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.

Authority: Public Law 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3501–3521.

Title: VA Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Construction Provisions and Clauses.

OMB Control Number: 2900–0586.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: This Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) submission seeks an extension of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval No. 2900–0586 for collection of information for both commercial and non-commercial item, service, and construction solicitations and contracts using VAAR Clause 852.211–72, Technical Industry Standards, as prescribed in CFR Title 48, Federal Acquisition Regulations System, VAAR 811.204–70, Contract clause. VAAR clause 852.211–72, Technical Industry Standards, requires that items offered for sale to VA under the solicitation conform to certain technical industry standards, such as United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) or the USDA Institutional Meat Purchase Specifications (IMPS) and that the contractor furnish evidence to VA