

Authority: These reviews are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to section 207.62 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: March 24, 2000.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Immigration and Naturalization Service

Agency Information Collection Activities Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice of Information Collection Under Review; Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker.

The Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service has submitted the following information collection request for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for "sixty days" until May 30, 2000.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Revision of currently approved collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component sponsoring the collection:* Form I-129. Adjudications Division, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Business or other for-profit. This form is used to petition for temporary workers and for the admission of treaty traders and investors. It is also used in the process of an extension of stay or for a change of nonimmigrant status.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 368,948 responses at 1 hour and 55 minutes (1.916 hours) per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 706,904 annual burden hours.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please contact Richard A. Sloan 202-514-3291, Director, Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Department of Justice, Room 5307, 425 I Street, NW, Washington, DC 20536. Additionally, comments and/or suggestion regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time may also be directed to Mr. Richard A. Sloan.

If additional information is required contact Mr. Robert B. Briggs, Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Justice, Information Management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center Building, 1001 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: March 27, 2000.

Richard A. Sloan,

Department Clearance Officer, Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

[FR Doc. 00-7961 Filed 3-30-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Immigration and Naturalization Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

ACTION: Notice of Information Collection Under Review; H-1B Data Collection and Filing Fee Exemption.

The Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service has submitted the following information collection request for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for "sixty days" until May 30, 2000.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Extension of currently approved collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* H-1B Data Collection and Filing Fee Exemption.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Justice sponsoring the collection:* Form I-129W. Adjudications Division, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Business or other for-profit. This addendum to Form I-129 will be used by the INS to determine if

an H-1B petitioner is exempt from the additional filing fee of \$500, as provided by the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 128,092 responses at 30 minutes (.50) per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 64,046 annual burden hours.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please contact Richard A. Sloan, 202-514-3291, Director, Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Department of Justice, Room 5307, 425 I Street, NW., Washington, DC 20536. Additionally, comments and/or suggestions regarding item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time may also be directed to Mr. Richard A. Sloan.

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Robert B. Briggs, Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Information Management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center, 1001 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: March 27, 2000.

Richard A. Sloan,

Department Clearance Officer, Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

National Institute of Corrections

Solicitation for a Cooperative Agreement—Development of Comprehensive Objective Prison Classification Systems

AGENCY: National Institute of Corrections, Department of Justice.

ACTION: Solicitation for a cooperative agreement.

SUMMARY: This project will provide technical assistance to correctional agencies to update and improve objective classification systems; to build capacities in correctional agencies that will enable them to continue improvements; to validate or re-validate classification risk instruments; to expand the knowledge of research and

strategies for appropriate and effective correctional classification practices that respond to emerging issues and management concerns; and to encourage the development of comprehensive objective classification systems.

The components of comprehensive objective prison classification systems will include external classification (security and custody for facility placement and supervision, including validation of risk instruments); internal classification (systems for guiding housing, work and program assignments within facilities); identification of desirable enhancements to the classification systems through information technology; development of gender-responsive strategies to appropriately classify women offenders; as well as to promote effective correctional practices for such areas as intake, needs assessment, community transition, and management of high risk offenders.

The recipient of this cooperative agreement award will provide on-site technical assistance to six to eight state correctional agencies that are assessing, validating and improving objective prison classification systems. This work will emphasize the importance of strategic planning and development of comprehensive objective prison classification systems that incorporate a strategically planned continuum of management strategies linking the essential and desirable elements of objective prison classification.

This project will also facilitate a two-day training program at the NIC Training Academy in Longmont, CO, and produce a record of proceedings of the peer training with practitioners.

Project Objectives: The primary objectives of this cooperative agreement are to provide concentrated on-site technical assistance to selected correctional agencies requesting assistance and to advance the development of comprehensive objective prison classification systems.

Scope of Work: There will be three major components in the scope of work:

1. Technical Assistance

On-site technical assistance will be provided to at least six correctional agencies through a clear, well-organized work plan that is responsive to each agency's needs and level of sophistication. This will require classification experts that are knowledgeable of correctional operations and principles of objective prison classification; have expertise in assessment, evaluation and validation research; understand the needs of practitioners and correctional agencies;

are informed and sensitive to requirements for addressing gender-specific issues; and have demonstrated effectiveness in project management.

2. Training Program

Peer training will be conducted at the NIC Training Academy in Longmont, CO, with practitioners from a number of state correctional agencies that have recently received assistance through NIC. This will provide knowledgeable classification practitioners exposure to national issues through peer discussions facilitated by classification experts. The program will provide a forum for sharing developments in objective prison classification and provide an opportunity to broaden the understanding of better practices in prison classification. A report will be developed through the cooperative agreement to record the proceedings of the peer training.

NIC will provide funding for participant travel for the training program separately from the award.

3. Guidelines and Other Publications or Reports

A guidelines publication will be written on the development and management of comprehensive objective prison classification systems by utilizing classification experts, recommendations from practitioners, and knowledge developed in previous multi-year projects. The publication will focus on the development of comprehensive systems and represent the current thinking on objective prison classification. The document must be well-organized and written in understandable language for people with classification and non-classification experience. All parts should be illustrated by case examples and lessons learned from NIC's recent state projects, state reports and training programs.

Each state that receives technical assistance through this cooperative agreement will be provided with a full report with analysis of the data, recommendations and detailed summaries of the work.

At the conclusion of the cooperative agreement, a final report, not to exceed 50 pages, will be submitted for publication describing the issues and developments with states receiving technical assistance.

In consultation with NIC, documents developed through the cooperative agreement must be submitted as an edited final camera-ready copy for NIC publication in accordance with the NIC Preparation of Printed Materials for Publication. All products from this