

[FR Doc. 03-14351 Filed 6-5-03; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 4510-CX-C

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment and Training Administration

[TA-W-40,899A]

#### E.J. Footwear LLC, Franklin, Tennessee; Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility To Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2273) the Department of Labor issued a Notice of Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility To Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance on July 15, 2002, applicable to workers of E.J. Footwear LLC located in Franklin, Tennessee. The notice was published in the **Federal Register** on July 24, 2002 (67 FR 48485).

At the request of the State agency, the Department reviewed the certification for workers of the subject firm. Findings on review show that workers of the subject firm were previously certified eligible to apply for TAA under petition TA-W-38,042 which expired on November 2, 2002. The amended certification for TA-W-40,899A established an impact date of October 24, 2000. In order to avoid an overlap in worker group coverage, this certification is being amended to establish a new impacted date of November 3, 2002.

The amended notice applicable to TA-W-40,899A is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of E.J. Footwear LLC, Franklin, Tennessee, who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after November 3, 2002, through April 3, 2004, are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed at Washington, DC this 10th day of February, 2003.

**Linda G. Poole,**

*Certifying Officer, Division of Trade Adjustment Assistance.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment and Training Administration

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor (DOL), 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 proposed and/or continuing 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 on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed new collection of administrative and survey data on the Growing America Through Entrepreneurship project. A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the address section of this notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before August 5, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Jonathan Simonetta, U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration/Office of Policy Development, Evaluation and Research, Rm. N-5637, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210, (202) 693-3911 (this is not a toll-free number); [jsimonetta@doleta.gov](mailto:jsimonetta@doleta.gov); Fax: (202) 693-2766 (this is not a toll-free number).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

Many individuals have the motivation and skills to develop small businesses but lack business expertise and/or access to financing. Recognizing this untapped potential, ETA is teaming with the Small Business Administration (SBA) to create a demonstration program designed to assist individuals interested in self-employment to develop their businesses—Project GATE (Growing America Through Entrepreneurship). In helping people develop businesses, Project GATE will promote both workforce and economic development. The effectiveness of the program will be evaluated.

Entrepreneurial services provided by Project GATE will include an assessment, a structured training course, and technical assistance provided by a trained counselor. As part of the technical assistance, counselors will assist individuals in need of financing to apply for loans from SBA's Microloan

program and other funding sources. DOL's One-Stop Centers will conduct Project GATE orientations where interested individuals will be informed about the services available at the One-Stop Center, the benefits and challenges of self-employment and the services offered through Project GATE. Small Business Development Center (SBDC) counselors will conduct individual assessments and identify the most appropriate training course for each Project GATE participant. Existing entrepreneurial training providers in the community will provide training and technical assistance.

DOL's One-Stop Centers will play a central role in recruiting for the project. Interested individuals will be able to register for an orientation to Project GATE at One-Stop Centers as well as via telephone, mail, or a Website. The orientations will also be held at the One-Stop Centers.

Eligibility for Project GATE will be broad—it is designed to serve almost anyone interested in starting a business. Special attention will be paid, however, to recruiting immigrant populations.

Project GATE will be evaluated using an experimental design. Individuals who submit an application for Project GATE in each site and who meet minimal eligibility criteria will be randomly assigned to either a program group or a control group. Members of the program group will be eligible to receive Project GATE services, while members of the control group will not be eligible to receive Project GATE services, although they will not be prohibited from receiving self-employment services from other services.

GATE will be implemented in seven sites—three urban and four rural sites. The three urban sites are in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota. The rural sites are one in Minnesota centered around Duluth, and three in Maine centered around Portland, Bangor, and Lewiston.

The evaluation will address three key questions:

1. *Is Project GATE Viable?* What are the challenges in implementing the program? Does an interagency model for the program work? Who participates in GATE? Is the outreach effective in reaching immigrants? How does the implementation of the program vary across sites?

2. *Does the Program Work?* Does the program increase self-employment, increase employment and earnings, and reduce the receipt of unemployment insurance and public assistance? Does the program promote employment and

other economic development? Is it effective in both rural and urban areas? Does the effectiveness of the program vary by population subgroup?

3. *Is the Program Cost-Effective?* Do the benefits of the program exceed its costs? Addressing these questions will involve conducting process, impact, and benefit-cost analyses. The process evaluation will be based on information collected during three rounds of visits to each site, during which detailed information will be collected on the implementation of the program from interviews with program staff, observations of services, and focus groups with program participants. Data will also be collected using a Participant Tracking System developed specifically for the study. The impact evaluation will involve comparing outcomes of members of the program group with outcomes of members of the control group. Data on these outcomes will be collected from Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefit records and quarterly wage records, and two follow-up surveys that will occur approximately 6 months and 18 months after random assignment. The benefit-cost analysis will involve placing a dollar value on all impacts of the program and comparing them with the dollar value of the costs.

## II. Review Focus

DOL is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of ETA, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- 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;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- 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 submissions of responses.

## III. Current Actions

The data for the impact analysis will come from UI benefits and wage records in the three states, a computer-based Participant Tracking System developed for the demonstration and used in the seven sites, and follow-up surveys conducted twice with the expected

sample of 4,000 individuals who will apply for Project GATE.

The follow-up surveys, which are the subject of this notice, will be conducted by telephone approximately 6 and 18 months following the GATE application. These voluntary surveys will collect data unavailable from administrative records. The first survey is designed to collect detailed information about sample members' participation and experiences in receiving self-employment services, their experiences starting a business, their experiences in jobs working for someone else, their receipt of public assistance, and some background data on their socio-economic and demographic characteristics. The second survey is designed to collect their experiences in self-employment and developing small businesses, their experiences in jobs working for someone else, and their income and receipt of public assistance.

*Type of Review:* New.

*Agency:* Employment and Training Administration.

*Title:* Partnership for Self-Sufficiency: Growing America Through Entrepreneurship.

*Agency Number:* 1205-ONEW.

*Affected Public:* Individuals.

Activity	Total respondents	Frequency	Total responses	Average time per response	Burden (hours)
GATE follow-up survey ....	3,200	Two times .....	6,400	40 minutes .....	2,134 (annual).
Totals .....					4,268 (total).

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 30, 2003.

**Maria K. Flynn,**

*Acting Administrator.*

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**BILLING CODE 4510-30-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment Standards Administration

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation

program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing 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, the Employment Standards Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed collection: Health Insurance Claim Form (OWCP-1500). A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this Notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before August 5, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Ms. Hazel M. Bell, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Room S-3201, Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 693-0418, fax (202) 693-1451, Email [hbelle@fenix2.dol-esa.gov](mailto:hbelle@fenix2.dol-esa.gov). Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or Email).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

##### I. Background

The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) administers the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) (5 U.S.C. 8101, *et seq.*), the Black Lung Benefits Act (BLBA) (30 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*) and the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA), 42 U.S.C. 7384 *et seq.* All three of these statutes require that OWCP pay for medical treatment of beneficiaries; BLBA also requires that OWCP pay for medical examinations and related diagnostic services to determine eligibility for benefits under that statute. The OWCP-1500 is a form