

guaranteeing that necessary employment information will be accessible and available to the public on inquiry. It is also fully compliant with Section 508 (29 U.S.C. 794(d)), which requires agencies to provide disabled employees and members of the public access to information that is comparable to the access available to others.

II. Method of Collection

With the use of USA Staffing, the application information is collected electronically from the applicant. Applicants contact the OPM USA Jobs Web site where they will find the on-line job announcement that links them

to the application. The application is completed on-line and then transmitted to the USPTO via the Internet. For those applicants who do not have access to a personal computer, applications may be faxed to the OPM computer facility for processing.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651-0042.
Form Number(s): N/A.
Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.
Affected Public: Individuals or households.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 7,000 responses per year.

Estimated Time per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 30 minutes (0.5 hours) to complete the employment application, depending upon the situation.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 3,500 hours per year.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden: \$134,540. Using the median hourly rate for scientists and engineers of \$38.44 as listed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the USPTO estimates \$134,540 per year in cost burden associated with respondents. This is a fully-loaded hourly rate.

| Item | Estimated time for response | Estimated annual responses | Estimated annual burden hours |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Patent Examiner Employment Application | 30 minutes | 7,000 | 3,500 |
| Total | | 7,000 | 3,500 |

Estimated Total Annual (Non-hour) Respondent Cost Burden: \$0. There are no capital start-up, maintenance, or record keeping costs, as well as no filing fees associated with this information collection. However there are annual (non-hour) costs in the form of postage costs.

Not every applicant can supply all of the required information electronically. The applicant does have the option to submit a 'Paper Qualifications Questionnaire' and any supporting documents, such as resumes to the USPTO either by fax, mail or in person. The transcripts and other supporting materials are submitted to the USPTO the same way. These additional documents may be submitted to the USPTO by first-class mail through the United States Postal Service. The USPTO estimates that the average first-class postage is 97 cents. Therefore the USPTO estimates that it will receive 7,000 responses per year, for a total cost of \$6,790 (7,000 × \$0.97) in postage fees.

IV. Request for Comments

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 (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the

use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 10, 2008.

Susan K. Fawcett,
Records Officer, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Customer Information Services Group, Public Information Services Division.

[FR Doc. E8-5277 Filed 3-14-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Renewal of Department of Defense Federal Advisory Committees

AGENCY: DoD.

ACTION: Renewal of Federal Advisory Committee.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, (5 U.S.C. Appendix, as amended), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR 102-3.65, the Department of Defense gives notice that it is renewing the charter for the Army Education Advisory Committee (hereafter referred to as the Committee).

The Committee is a discretionary federal advisory committee established by the Secretary of Defense to provide

the Department of Defense, the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army independent advice and recommendations in matters pertaining to the educational, doctrinal, and research policies and activities of the U.S. Army's educational programs, including activities of the U.S. Army's joint professional military education programs. The Committee, in accomplishing its mission: (a) Provides advice to their supported schools; (b) assist in the maintenance of the highest academic standards; and (c) ensure that Army educational policies and techniques are current and equal to those used in the finest institutions of higher education.

The Committee shall be composed of not more than 15 members, who are distinguished members of the field of defense, management, leadership, and academia. Committee members appointed by the Secretary of Defense, who are not federal officers or employees, shall serve as Special Government Employees under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 3109. Committee members shall be appointed on an annual basis by the Secretary of Defense. The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs or designated representative shall serve as the Chairperson, and shall serve at the discretion of the Secretary of Army or designated representative. In addition, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Army or designated representative may invite other distinguished Government officers to serve as non-voting observers of the Committee, and appoint consultants

with special expertise to assist the Committee on an ad hoc basis. Committee members shall with the exception of travel and per diem for official travel, serve without compensation.

The Committee shall be authorized to establish subcommittees, as necessary and consistent with its mission, and these subcommittees or working groups shall operate under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976, and other appropriate federal regulations.

Such subcommittees or workgroups shall not work independently of the chartered Committee, and shall report all their recommendations and advice to the Committee for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees or workgroups have no authority to make decisions on behalf of the chartered Committee nor can they report directly to the Department of Defense or any federal officers or employees who are not Committee members.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee shall meet at the call of the Committee's Designated Federal Officer, in consultation with the Committee's chairperson. The Designated Federal Officer, pursuant to DoD policy, shall be a full-time or permanent part-time DoD employee, and shall be appointed in accordance with established DoD policies and procedures. The Designated Federal Officer or duly appointed Alternate Designated Federal Officer shall attend all committee meetings and subcommittee meetings.

Pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.105(j) and 102-3.140, the public or interested organizations may submit written statements to the Army Education Advisory Committee membership about the Committee's mission and functions. Written statements may be submitted at any time or in response to the stated agenda of planned meeting of the Army Education Advisory Committee.

All written statements shall be submitted to the Designated Federal Officer for the Army Education Advisory Committee, and this individual will ensure that the written statements are provided to the membership for their consideration. Contact information for the Army Education Advisory Committee's Designated Federal Officer can be obtained from the GSA's FACA database—<https://www.fido.gov/facadatabase/public.asp>.

The Designated Federal Officer, pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.150, will announce planned meetings of the Army Education Advisory Committee.

The Designated Federal Officer, at that time, may provide additional guidance on the submission of written statements that are in response to the stated agenda for the planned meeting in question.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Freeman, Deputy Committee Management Officer for the Department of Defense, 703-601-2554, extension 128.

Dated: March 11, 2008.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. E8-5312 Filed 3-14-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[DoD-2008-OS-0024]

Privacy Act of 1974; Systems of Records

AGENCY: DoD; Defense Finance and Accounting Service.

ACTION: Notice to add a new system of records.

SUMMARY: The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) is proposing to add a system of records notice to its inventory of record systems subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended.

DATES: This Action will be effective without further notice on April 16, 2008 unless comments are received that would result in a contrary determination.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to the FOIA/PA Program Manager, Corporate Communications and Legislative Liaison, Defense Finance and Accounting Service, 6760 E. Irvington Place, Denver, CO 80279-8000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Linda Krabbenhoft at (303) 676-6045.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Defense Finance and Accounting Service notices for systems of records subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended, have been published in the **Federal Register** and are available from the address above.

The proposed system report, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(r) of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, was submitted on March 5, 2008, to the House Committee on Government Reform, the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) pursuant to paragraph 4c of Appendix I to OMB Circular No. A-130, "Federal

Agency Responsibilities for Maintaining Records About Individuals," dated December 12, 2000, 65 FR 239.

Dated: March 10, 2008.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

T-1430

SYSTEM NAME:

Mentoring Program.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

Triple Creek Associates, Inc., 7730 E. Belleview Ave., Suite 200A, Greenwood Village, CO 80111-6617.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Department of Finance and Accounting System (DFAS) civilian employees.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

Name, address, Social Security Number (SSN), e-mail address, work phone, location, organization, job series, and grade, years of experience at DFAS, total years of work experience.

AUTHORITY FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

5 U.S.C. 301, Departmental Regulations; 5 U.S.C. 1402, and Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 1430.02, Civilian Career Management.

PURPOSE(S):

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) is proposing to establish a system of records to provide DFAS civilian employees with an automated mentoring system which will match mentees with potential mentors based on mentee need and mentor capabilities and experience. The system will facilitate the tracking and management of the DFAS mentoring relationships.

ROUTINE USE OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

In addition to those disclosures generally permitted under 5 U.S.C. 552a(b) of the Privacy Act, these records or information contained therein may specifically be disclosed outside the DoD as a routine use pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(b)(3) as follows: To DFAS contractors who serve as the agent for the Agency for the purpose of managing the DFAS web-based mentoring program. It may also be disclosed for any of the DoD "Blanket Routine Uses" as published at the beginning of the DFAS compilation of systems of record notices.