

Because of security procedures, the use of regular mail may cause a significant delay in the receipt of comments. For information about security procedures concerning the delivery of materials by hand, express delivery, messenger or courier service, please contact the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-2350 (TTY (877) 889-5627).

Comments and submissions are posted without change at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Therefore, OSHA cautions commenters about submitting personal information such as Social Security numbers and date of birth. Although all submissions are listed in the <http://www.regulations.gov> index, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through this Web site. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office. Information on using the <http://www.regulations.gov> Web site to submit comments and access the docket is available at the Web site's "User Tips" link. Contact the OSHA Docket Office for information about materials not available through the Web site, and for assistance in using the Internet to locate docket submissions.

#### V. Authority and Signature

David Michaels, PhD, MPH, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, directed the preparation of this notice. The authority for this notice is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506 *et seq.*) and Secretary of Labor's Order No. 4-2010 (75 FR 55355).

Signed at Washington, DC, on January 21, 2011.

**David Michaels,**

*Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.*

[FR Doc. 2011-1679 Filed 1-26-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-26-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Wage and Hour Division

**RIN 1235-0005**

#### Proposed Extension of the Approval of Information Collection Requirements

**AGENCY:** Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor.

**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. 3056(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 Wage and Hour Division is soliciting comments concerning its proposal to extend Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval of the Information Collection: Notice to Examinee, Employee Polygraph Protection Act. A copy of the proposed information request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this Notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section below on or before March 28, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by Control Number 1235-0005, by either one of the following methods: *E-mail:*

*WHDPRAComments@dol.gov; Mail, Hand Delivery, Courier:* Division of Regulations, Legislation, and Interpretation, Wage and Hour, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. *Instructions:* Please submit one copy of your comments by only one method. All submissions received must include the agency name and Control Number identified above for this information collection. Because we continue to experience delays in receiving mail in the Washington, DC area, commenters are strongly encouraged to transmit their comments electronically via e-mail or to submit them by mail early. Comments, including any personal information provided, become a matter of public record. They will also be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of the information collection request.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary Ziegler, Director, Division of Regulations, Legislation, and Interpretation, Wage and Hour, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; *telephone:* (202) 693-0406 (this is not a toll-free number). Copies of this notice may be obtained in alternative formats (Large Print, Braille, Audio Tape, or Disc), upon request, by

calling (202) 693-0023 (not a toll-free number). TTY/TTD callers may dial toll-free (877) 889-5627 to obtain information or request materials in alternative formats.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

The Wage and Hour Division (WHD) of the Department of Labor (DOL) administers the Employee Polygraph Protection Act of 1988 (EPPA), 29 U.S.C. 2001 *et seq.* The EPPA prohibits most private employers from using any lie detector tests either for pre-employment screening or during the course of employment. The Act contains an exemption applicable to Federal, State and local government employers. The EPPA also contains several limited exemptions authorizing polygraph tests under certain conditions, including testing: (1) By the Federal Government of experts, consultants, or employees of Federal contractors engaged in national security intelligence or counterintelligence functions; (2) of employees the employer reasonably suspects of involvement in a workplace incident resulting in economic loss or injury to the employer's business; (3) of some prospective employees of private armored cars, security alarm and security guard firms; and (4) of some current and prospective employees of certain firms authorized to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances. The WHD may assess civil money penalties of up to \$10,000 against employers who violate any EPPA provision.

##### II. Review Focus

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- 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;
- 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;
- 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 DOL seeks an approval for the extension of this information collection that requires the keeping of records by examiners and employers as necessary or appropriate for the administration of the Act and the provision of certain notices to polygraph examiners and examinees.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Agency:* Wage and Hour Division.

*Title:* Notice to Examinee, Employee Polygraph Protection Act.

*OMB Number:* 1235-0005.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit, Not-for-profit institutions, Farms.

*Total Respondents:* 593,400.

*Total Annual Responses:* 593,400.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 68,739.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 30–45 minutes.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Total Burden Cost (capital/startup):* \$0.

*Total Burden Costs (operation/maintenance):* \$1,254,427.

Dated: January 20, 2011.

**Michael Hancock,**

*Assistant Administrator for Policy.*

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**BILLING CODE 4510-27-P**

### NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

#### Comment Request: National Science Foundation Proposal & Award Policies and Procedures Guide

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is announcing plans to request renewed clearance of this collection. In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are providing opportunity for public comment on this action. After obtaining and considering public comment, NSF will prepare the submission requesting OMB clearance of this collection for no longer than 3 years.

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 of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology;

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.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received by March 28, 2011 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments regarding the information collection and requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Suzanne Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Rm. 295, Arlington, VA 22230, or by e-mail to [splimpto@nsf.gov](mailto:splimpto@nsf.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Suzanne Plimpton on (703) 292-7556 or send e-mail to [splimpto@nsf.gov](mailto:splimpto@nsf.gov).

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title of Collection:* "National Sciences Foundation Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide" OMB Approval Number: 3145-0058.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* September 30, 2013.

*Type of Request:* Intent to seek approval to extend with revision an information collection for three years.

*Proposed Project:* The National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (Pub. L. 81-507) set forth NSF's mission and purpose:

"To promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense. \* \* \*

The Act authorized and directed NSF to initiate and support:

- Basic scientific research and research fundamental to the engineering process;
- Programs to strengthen scientific and engineering research potential;
- Science and engineering education programs at all levels and in all the various fields of science and engineering;
- Programs that provide a source of information for policy formulation; and
- Other activities to promote these ends.

Over the years, NSF's statutory authority has been modified in a number of significant ways. In 1968, authority to support applied research was added to the Organic Act. In 1980, The Science and Engineering Equal Opportunities Act gave NSF standing

authority to support activities to improve the participation of women and minorities in science and engineering.

Another major change occurred in 1986, when engineering was accorded equal status with science in the Organic Act. NSF has always dedicated itself to providing the leadership and vision needed to keep the words and ideas embedded in its mission statement fresh and up-to-date. Even in today's rapidly changing environment, NSF's core purpose resonates clearly in everything it does: Promoting achievement and progress in science and engineering and enhancing the potential for research and education to contribute to the Nation. While NSF's vision of the future and the mechanisms it uses to carry out its charges have evolved significantly over the last four decades, its ultimate mission remains the same.

*Use of the Information:* The regular submission of proposals to the Foundation is part of the collection of information and is used to help NSF fulfill this responsibility by initiating and supporting merit-selected research and education projects in all the scientific and engineering disciplines. NSF receives more than 40,000 proposals annually for new projects, and makes approximately 10,500 new awards. Support is made primarily through grants, contracts, and other agreements awarded to more than 2,000 colleges, universities, academic consortia, nonprofit institutions, and small businesses. The awards are based mainly on evaluations of proposal merit submitted to the Foundation.

The Foundation has a continuing commitment to monitor the operations of its information collection to identify and address excessive reporting burdens as well as to identify any real or apparent inequities based on gender, race, ethnicity, or disability of the proposed principal investigator(s)/project director(s) or the co-principal investigator(s)/co-project director(s).

*Burden on the Public:* The Foundation estimates that an average of 120 hours is expended for each proposal submitted. An estimated 40,000 proposals are expected during the course of one year for a total of 4,800,000 public burden hours annually.

Dated: January 24, 2011.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

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**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**