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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Immigration and Naturalization Service

[INS No. 1918-98]

English Language, American History and Civics, Standardized Naturalization Test

AGENCY: Immigration and Naturalization
Service, Justice.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the termination of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (Service) Standardized Citizenship Testing Program, currently conducted by five non-government companies on behalf of the Service. The program, established under a 1991 Notice of Program in the **Federal Register**, will end at midnight on August 30, 1998. After the August 30 termination date, the Service will commence citizenship testing at the newly opened Application Support Centers as part of the ongoing effort to re-engineer and streamline the entire naturalization process.

DATES: The Citizenship Testing Program will terminate effective at midnight, Eastern Daylight Time, August 30, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Craig Howie, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Office of Naturalization Operations, 801 I Street, NW., Suite 900, Washington, DC 20536. Telephone: (202) 305-0539.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

What Is the Standard Citizenship Testing Program?

The Service established a standardized citizenship testing program pursuant to a Notice of Program published in the **Federal Register** on June 28, 1991, at 56 FR 29714-15. The program's model was similar to the testing program used with Legalization applicants as provided in section 254A(b)(1)(D) of the Immigration

and Nationality Act (the Act). The citizenship testing program was designed to facilitate the naturalization of persons who otherwise might be hesitant to apply for naturalization.

Section 312 of the Act requires most applicants for naturalization to demonstrate a basic understanding of the English language and an understanding of United States history and government. Traditionally, applicants are tested on English and United States history and government as part of the mandatory naturalization interview. The 1991 Notice established criteria that non-government organizations were required to meet in order to be authorized to conduct citizenship testing on behalf of the Service. These criteria included requirements for the administration of a multiple choice test on United States history, government, and written English. Naturalization applicants who take and pass one of these tests normally are not questioned on these topics during the mandatory naturalization interview before an officer of the Service.

Since publication of the 1991 Notice, the Service approved six national organizations to administer citizenship tests. Five national organizations currently are administering citizenship tests through networks of local testing centers across the United States. The Service has no contractual or financial ties with any of the companies authorized to conduct citizenship testing.

Why Has the Service Decided To Terminate the Current Testing Program?

The Service has been engaged in a complete re-engineering of the naturalization process. Part of this process involves developing new methods for applicants to demonstrate compliance with various naturalization requirements under the Act. For example, last year the Service embarked upon a new method for applicant fingerprinting. Fingerprints for all Service applications or petitions are now taken at Application Support Centers (ASCs). The Service now plans to commence citizenship testing at the ASCs so that applicants may fulfill these particular requirements at one time, with one visit. The Service anticipates publishing a proposed rule in the **Federal Register** later this year, outlining our regulatory proposal for citizenship testing at the ASCs. The authority for this decision to end the current testing program is found in section 332(a) of the Act which

authorizes the Service to determine an applicant's admissibility to citizenship.

How Long Will Testing Certificates Issued by the Current Testing Organizations Be Valid?

The Service will allow the current testing organizations to continue administering tests through midnight, Eastern Daylight Time, August 30, 1998. Test certificates issued noting a testing date on or before August 30, 1998, will be honored in accordance with Service regulations found at 8 CFR 312.3(a)(1). For example, an applicant who is tested on August 30, 1998, passes, and is issued a certificate, has until August 30, 1999, to file an N-400, Application for Naturalization, in order for the certificate to be honored. If the applicant has already filed an N-400 and is awaiting an interview, the certificate will be valid until a final determination on the application has been made, regardless of how long the time period is between the date of the test and the date of the final determination on the application. Service officers interviewing naturalization applicants will retest persons presenting certificates only if the officer has reason to believe that the certificate was either fraudulently issued or otherwise inappropriately granted. While not a requirement, the Service urges all applicants desiring to be tested by the current testing organizations to submit a copy of the passing certification as an attachment to the N-400 at the time of filing, and to bring the original certificate to the naturalization interview.

Dated: April 15, 1998.

Doris Meissner,

*Commissioner, Immigration and
Naturalization Service.*

[FR Doc. 98-12004 Filed 5-5-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of Justice Programs

Office for Victims of Crime; Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice of Information Collection Under Review; Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired; Victims of Crime Act, Victim Compensation Grant Program, State Performance Report.

This proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from

the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until July 6, 1998. Request written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Does the proposed information collection instrument include all relevant program performance measures;

(2) Does the proposed information to be collected have practical utility;

(3) Does the proposed information to be collected enhance the quality and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Does the proposed information to be collected 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.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please contact Toni Thomas, 202-616-3579, Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, 810 Seventh Street, NW., Washington, DC 20531. You may also contact the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Department of Justice Desk Officer, Washington, DC 20530. Additionally, comments may be submitted to OMB via facsimile to (202) 395-7285. Comments may also be submitted to the Department of Justice (DOJ), Justice Management Division, Information Management and Security Staff, Attention: Department Clearance Officer, Suite 850, 1001 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20530. Additionally, comments may be submitted to DOJ via facsimile to (202) 514-1590.

Overview of this information

(1) *Type of information collection:* Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

(2) *The title of the form/collection:* Victims of Crime Act, Victim Compensation Grant Program, State Performance Report.

(3) *The agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection:* None.

Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:*

Primary: State government.

Other: None.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond/reply:* 52 respondents to complete an annual report in 2 hours.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 104 annual burden hours.

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: April 30, 1998.

Robert B. Briggs,

Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 98-11965 Filed 5-5-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Notice of Determinations Regarding Eligibility To Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance and NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, the Department of Labor herein presents summaries of determinations regarding eligibility to apply for trade adjustment assistance for workers (TA-W) issued during the period of April, 1998.

In order for an affirmative determination to be made and a certification of eligibility to apply for worker adjustment assistance to be issued, each of the group eligibility requirements of Section 222 of the Act must be met.

(1) That a significant number or proportion of the workers in the workers' firm, or an appropriate subdivision thereof, have become totally or partially separated,

(2) That sales or production, or both, of the firm or subdivision have decreased absolutely, and

(3) That increases of imports of articles like or directly competitive with articles produced by the firm or appropriate subdivision have contributed importantly to the

separations, or threat thereof, and to the absolute decline in sales or production.

Negative Determination for Worker Adjustment Assistance

In each of the following cases the investigation revealed that criterion (3) has not been met. A survey of customers indicated that increased imports did not contribute importantly to worker separations at the firm.

TA-W-34,156; *Pinnacle Micro, Inc., Colorado Springs, CO*

TA-W-34,284; *Munekata America, Inc., Dalton, GA*

TA-W-34,274; *Copes-Vulcan, Inc., Sootblowers Div., Lake City, PA*

TA-W-34,291; *Hafer Logging Co., Inc., LaGrande, OR*

TA-W-34,231; *Eagle Veneer, Inc., Harrisburg Plywood Div., Harrisburg, OR*

TA-W-34,296; *Doehler-Jarvis, Toledo, OH*

TA-W-34,303, A & B; *Young Morgan Lumber, Lyons, OR, Hanel Lumber, Hood River, OR and Hood Lumber Co., Mill City, OR*

TA-W-34,273; *Harris Enterprises, Inc., Marshfield, MO*

TA-W-34,390; *Don Mart Clothes, Inc., Philipsburg, PA*

TA-W-34,424; *The Penn Traffic Co., Insalaco Distribution Center, Scranton, PA*

TA-W-34,328; *Mexicana Airlines, San Antonio, TX*

TA-W-34,421; *Weyerhaeuser Co., Coos Bay Services Div., North Bend, OR*

TA-W-34,402; *Energy Transportation Corp., New York, NY*

TA-W-34,267; *Block Drug Co., Inc., South Brunswick, NJ*

TA-W-34,305 & A; *Sara Lee Underwear, Winston-Salem, NC and Yadkinville, NC*

TA-W-34,304; *Electro-Motive Div., General Motors Corp., Commerce, CA*

TA-W-34,271; *Danly Machine L.P., Cicero, IL*

TA-W-34,180; *Comac Enterprises, Columbia, TN*

TA-W-34,225; *BTR Automotive Sealing Systems, West Unity, OH*

TA-W-34,406; *Moore Document Solutions, LDK Department, Stillwater, OK*

Increased imports did not contribute importantly to worker separations at the firm.