

When the application is granted or denied, the notice will be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the authority indicated below.

Comment closing date: March 8, 2002. (49 U.S.C. 301118, 301120; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8)

Issued on: February 1, 2002.

Stephen R. Kratzke,

Associate Administrator, for Safety Performance Standards.

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BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[IA-195-78]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, IA-195-78 (TD 8426), Certain Returned Magazines, Paperbacks or Records (§ 1.458-1).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before April 8, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to George Freeland, Internal Revenue Service, room 5577, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the regulation should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, or through the internet (CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov), Internal Revenue Service, room 5242, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Certain Returned Magazines, Paperbacks, or Records.

OMB Number: 1545-0879.

Regulation Project Number: IA-195-78.

Abstract: The regulations provide rules relating to an exclusion from gross income for certain returned

merchandise. The regulations provide that in addition to physical return of the merchandise, a written statement listing certain information may constitute evidence of the return. Taxpayers who receive physical evidence of the return may, in lieu of retaining physical evidence, retain documentary evidence of the return. Taxpayers in the trade or business of selling magazines, paperbacks, or records, who elect a certain method of accounting, are affected.

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing regulation.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 19,500.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 25 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 8,125 hours.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the 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 collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (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; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: January 31, 2002.

George Freeland,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-2872 Filed 2-5-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[REG-209485-86]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, REG-209485-86 (TD 8812), Continuation Coverage Requirements Application to Group Health Plans (§§ 54.4980B-6, 54.4980B-7, and 54.4980B-8).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before April 8, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to George Freeland, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of regulation should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, or through the internet (CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov), Internal Revenue Service, room 5242, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Continuation Coverage Requirements Applicable to Group Health Plans.

OMB Number: 1545-1581.

Regulation Project Numbers: REG-209485-86.

Abstract: The regulations require group health plans to provide notices to individuals who are entitled to elect COBRA (The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985) continuation coverage of their election rights. Individuals who wish to obtain the benefits provided under the statute

are required to provide plans notices in the cases of divorce from the covered employee, a dependent child's ceasing to be a dependent under the terms of the plan, and disability. Most plans will require that elections of COBRA continuation coverage be made in writing. In cases where qualified beneficiaries are short by an insignificant amount in a payment made to the plan, the regulations require the plan to notify the qualified beneficiary if the plan does not wish to treat the tendered payment as full payment. If a health care provider contacts a plan to confirm coverage of a qualified beneficiary, the regulations require that the plan disclose the qualified beneficiary's complete rights to coverage.

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing regulation.

Type of review: Extension of OMB approval.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations, individuals or households, and not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,800,000.

The estimated time per respondent varies from 30 seconds to 330 hours, depending on individual circumstances, with an estimated average of 14 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 404,640.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the 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 collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (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; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: January 31, 2002.

George Freeland,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-2873 Filed 2-5-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Veterans

Employment and Training

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training, Labor.

ACTION: Notice of availability of funds and Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA) for Veterans' Workforce Investment Program (VWIP), Section 168, Program Year 2001—Female Veterans Program Competitive Grants (SGA 02-02).

SUMMARY: All applicants for grant funds should read this notice in its entirety. The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, (VETS) announces a grant competition for Veterans' Workforce Investment Program (VWIP), Section 168, Program Year 2001—female veteran competitive grants. These grants will assist eligible female veterans who: have service-connected disabilities; served on active duty in the armed forces during a war, campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge was authorized; are recently separated veterans, and veterans with significant barriers to employment, by providing training, employment and supportive service assistance in areas of high demand, non-traditional occupations.

Under this solicitation, VETS anticipates that up to \$400,000 will be available for grant awards in Program Year (PY) 2001 and expects to award up to two grants. The VWIP programs are designed to be flexible in addressing the universal as well as local or regional problems barring veterans from the workforce. The program in PY 2001 will continue to strengthen the provision of comprehensive services through a case management approach, the attainment of supportive service resources for veterans entering the labor force, and strategies for employment and retention.

This notice describes the background, application process, description of

program activities, evaluation criteria, and reporting requirements for this SGA. The information and forms contained in the Supplementary Information Section constitute the official application package. All necessary information and forms needed to apply for grant funding is included.

Forms or Amendments: If another copy of a form is needed, go online to <http://www.nara.gov>. To receive amendments to this Solicitation (Please reference SGA 02-02), *all applicants must register their name and address with the Grant Officer at the following address:* U.S. Department of Labor, Procurement Services Center, Room N-5416, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210.

Closing Date: Applications are to be submitted, including those hand delivered, to the address below by no later than 4:45 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, March 8, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Applications must be directed to the U.S. Department of Labor, Procurement Services Center, Attention: Cassandra Willis, Reference SGA 02-02, Room N-5416, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: All applicants are advised that U.S. mail delivery in the Washington, DC area has been erratic due to the recent concerns involving anthrax contamination. All applicants must take this into consideration when preparing to meet the application deadline. It is recommended that you confirm receipt of your application by contacting Cassandra Willis, U.S. Department of Labor, Procurement Services Center, telephone (202) 693-4570 (this is not a toll-free number), prior to the closing deadline.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Veterans' Workforce Investment Program, Section 168, Program Year 2001—Female Veterans Program Competitive Grants Solicitation

I. Purpose

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) VETS is requesting grant applications that will provide employment and training services for female veterans who meet the eligibility criteria set forth in the VWIP, section 168 of the Workforce Investment Act, Pub.L. 105-220 (WIA). These instructions contain general program information, requirements, and forms to apply for funds to operate a veterans employment and training program in areas of high demand occupations non-traditional for women. Accordingly, the Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and