

whether the information has practical utility; (b) The accuracy of the OCC'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 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.

**Theodore J. Dowd,**

*Deputy Chief Counsel, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.*

[FR Doc. 2024-00100 Filed 1-5-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-33-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Interest Rate Paid on Cash Deposited To Secure U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Immigration Bonds

**AGENCY:** Departmental Offices, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** For the period beginning January 1, 2024, and ending on March 31, 2024, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Immigration Bond interest rate is 3 per centum per annum.

**DATES:** Rates are applicable January 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments or inquiries may be mailed to Will Walcutt, Supervisor, Funds Management Branch, Funds Management Division, Fiscal Accounting, Bureau of the Fiscal Services, Parkersburg, West Virginia 26106-1328.

You can download this notice at the following internet addresses: <<http://www.treasury.gov>> or <<http://www.federalregister.gov>>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Ryan Hanna, Manager, Funds Management Branch, Funds Management Division, Fiscal Accounting, Bureau of the Fiscal Service, Parkersburg, West Virginia 261006-1328 (304) 480-5120; Will Walcutt, Supervisor, Funds Management Branch, Funds Management Division, Fiscal Accounting, Bureau of the Fiscal Services, Parkersburg, West Virginia 26106-1328, (304) 480-5117.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Federal law requires that interest payments on cash deposited to secure immigration bonds shall be "at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, except

that in no case shall the interest rate exceed 3 per centum per annum." 8 U.S.C. 1363(a). Related Federal regulations state that "Interest on cash deposited to secure immigration bonds will be at the rate as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, but in no case will exceed 3 per centum per annum or be less than zero." 8 CFR 293.2. Treasury has determined that interest on the bonds will vary quarterly and will accrue during each calendar quarter at a rate equal to the lesser of the average of the bond equivalent rates on 91-day Treasury bills auctioned during the preceding calendar quarter, or 3 per centum per annum, but in no case less than zero. [FR Doc. 2015-18545]. In addition to this Notice, Treasury posts the current quarterly rate in Table 2b—Interest Rates for Specific Legislation on the Treasury Direct website.

The Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Finance, Gary Grippo, having reviewed and approved this document, is delegating the authority to electronically sign this document to Heidi Cohen, Federal Register Liaison for the Department, for purposes of publication in the **Federal Register**.

**Heidi Cohen,**

*Federal Register Liaison.*

[FR Doc. 2024-00148 Filed 1-5-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-AS-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Ch. 10., that the Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses (hereinafter the Committee) will meet by teleconference on February 12, 2024. The meeting will begin at 11 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) and adjourn at 3 p.m. ET.

The open session will be available to the public by connecting to Webex URL: <https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/j.php?MTID=m8b762dc766702f16f2ce55ccd04b8466>. Or, join by phone: 1-833-558-0712 Toll-free; meeting number (access code): 2761 223 7275. Meeting password: GWVets1991!

The purpose of the Committee is to provide advice and make recommendations to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on proposed research studies, research plans, and research strategies relating to the health

consequences of military service in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Gulf War in 1990-91.

The Committee will review VA program activities related to Gulf War Veterans' illnesses and updates on relevant scientific research published since the last Committee meeting. This meeting will focus on Federal Advisory Committee annual training, the Committee Charter and deliberation of Committee recommendations.

Time will be allocated for receiving public comments on February 12, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. EST. Individuals wishing to make public comments should contact Marsha Turner at [VARACGWVI@va.gov](mailto:VARACGWVI@va.gov). Public comment speakers are requested to submit a 1-2-page summary of their comments for inclusion in the official meeting record. Written comments will also be accepted for the record. Members of the public who have confirmed public speaker registrations will be allowed to provide public comment first followed by non-registered speakers time permitting. Each public comment speaker will be held to a 5-minute time limit. Individuals wishing to seek additional information should contact Dr. Karen Block, Designated Federal Officer, at [Karen.Block@va.gov](mailto:Karen.Block@va.gov).

Dated: January 3, 2024.

**LaTonya L. Small,**

*Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2024-00164 Filed 1-5-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Cost of Living Adjustments for Service-Connected Benefits

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** As required by the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2023, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is hereby giving notice of adjustments in certain benefit rates. These adjustments affect the compensation program.

**DATES:** These adjustments became effective on December 1, 2023.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Claire Starke, Policy Staff (211B), Compensation Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, 202-461-9700. (This is not a toll-free telephone number.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 2 of Public Law 118-6 provides for an

increase in each of the rates in sections 1114, 1115(1), and 1162 of title 38, United States Code. VA is required to increase these benefit rates by the same percentage as increases in the benefit amounts payable under title II of the Social Security Act. The increased rates are required to be published in the **Federal Register**.

The Social Security Administration has announced that there will be a 3.2% cost-of-living increase in Social Security benefits for 2024. Therefore, applying the same percentage, the following rates for VA's compensation program became effective on December 1, 2023:

	Monthly rate
<b>Disability Compensation</b> [38 U.S.C. 1114]	
Disability evaluation percentage:	
10 .....	\$171.23
20 .....	338.49
30 .....	524.31
40 .....	755.28
50 .....	1,075.16
60 .....	1,361.88
70 .....	1,716.28
80 .....	1,995.01
90 .....	2,241.91
100 .....	3,737.85
38 U.S.C. 1114(k) through (t):	
38 U.S.C. 1114(k) .....	132.74
38 U.S.C. 1114(l) .....	4,651.06
38 U.S.C. 1114(m) .....	5,132.92
38 U.S.C. 1114(n) .....	5,839.08
38 U.S.C. 1114(o) .....	6,526.64
38 U.S.C. 1114(p) .....	6,526.64
38 U.S.C. 1114(r) .....	2,799.43; 4,170.59
38 U.S.C. 1114(s) .....	4,183.85
38 U.S.C. 1114(t) .....	4,170.59
<b>Additional Compensation for Dependents</b> [38 U.S.C. 1115(1)]	
38 U.S.C. 1115(1)(A) .....	208.40
38 U.S.C. 1115(1)(B) .....	361.02; 103.55
38 U.S.C. 1115(1)(C) .....	139.37; 103.55
38 U.S.C. 1115(1)(D) .....	167.26
38 U.S.C. 1115(1)(E) .....	399.54
38 U.S.C. 1115(1)(F) .....	334.49
<b>Clothing Allowance</b> [38 U.S.C. 1162]	
\$999.51 per year.	

**Signing Authority**

Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, approved and signed this document on January 2, 2024, and authorized the undersigned to sign and

submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Luvenia Potts,**

*Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy & Management, Office of the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2024-00160 Filed 1-5-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board, Notice of Meeting**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. ch.10, that a meeting of the Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board will be held January 30, 2024, via Webex. The meeting will be held between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. EDT. The meeting will be closed to the public from 3:30–5 p.m. EDT for the discussion, examination and reference to the research applications and scientific review. Discussions will involve reference to staff and consultant critiques of research proposals. Discussions will deal with scientific merit of each proposal and qualifications of personnel conducting the studies, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Additionally, premature disclosure of research information could significantly obstruct implementation of proposed agency action regarding the research proposals. As provided by Public Law 92–463 subsection 10(d), as amended by Public Law 94–409, closing the committee meeting is in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (6) and (9)(B).

The objective of the Board is to provide for the fair and equitable selection of the most meritorious

research projects for support by VA research funds and to offer advice for research program officials on program priorities and policies. The ultimate objective of the Board is to ensure the high quality and mission relevance of VA's legislatively mandated Biomedical Laboratory and Clinical Science Research and Development programs.

Board members advise the Directors of the Biomedical Laboratory and Clinical Sciences Research Services and the Chief Research and Development Officer on the scientific and technical merit, the mission relevance, and the protection of human subjects of Biomedical Laboratory and Clinical Sciences Research and Development proposals. The Board does not consider grants, contracts, or other forms of extramural research.

Members of the public may attend the open portion of the meeting. The time limited agenda does not enable public comments or presentations. To attend the open portion of the meeting (3–3:30 p.m. EDT), the public may join by dialing the phone number 1–404–397–1596 and entering the meeting number (access code): 2763 451 0764.

Written public comments must be sent to Michael R. Burgio, Ph.D., Designated Federal Officer, Office of Research and Development, Department of Veterans Affairs (14RD), 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, or to *Michael.Burgio@va.gov* at least five days before the meeting via the email listed above. The written public comments will be shared with the board members. The public may not attend the closed portion of the meeting as disclosure of research information could significantly obstruct implementation of proposed agency action regarding the research proposals (Pub. L. 92–463 subsection 10(d), as amended by Pub. L. 94–409, closing the committee meeting is in accordance with title 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B).

Dated: January 3, 2024.

**LaTonya L. Small,**

*Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2024-00162 Filed 1-5-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**