

may obtain a copy of contacting the person named under the caption **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.**

Interested persons can submit comments on these draft updates. Comments received may be inspected at the office of the Rotorcraft Standards Staff, FAA, 4th floor, 2601 Meacham Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on March 9, 1999.

Eric Bries,

Acting Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 99-6389 Filed 3-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-99-5194]

Information Collection Available for Public Comments and Recommendations

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Maritime Administration's (MARAD's) intentions to request extension of approval for three years of a currently approved information collection.

DATES: Comments should be submitted on or before May 17, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Crawford Ellerbe, Office of Maritime Labor, Training and Safety, MAR-250, Maritime Administration, 400 Seventh St., S.W., Room 7302, Washington, D.C. 20590. Telephone: 202-366-5755, or FAX 202-493-2288. Copies of this collection can also be obtained from that office.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: Request for Waiver of Service Obligation/Request for Deferment of Service Obligation.

Type of Request: Extension of currently approved information collection.

OMB Control Number: 2133-0510.

Form Numbers: MA-355; MA-528; MA-742; MA-828; and, MA-942.

Expiration Date of Approval: November 30, 1999.

Summary of Collection of Information: This information collection is essential for determining if a student or graduate of the United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA) or subsidized student or graduate of a State Maritime Academy has a waivable situation preventing them from fulfilling

the requirements of a service obligation contract signed at the time of their enrollment in a Federal maritime training program.

Need and Use of the Information: The collected information is necessary for MARAD to determine if waivers and deferments of the service obligation may be granted.

Description of Respondents: Students and graduates of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and subsidized students or graduates of the State Maritime Academies who request waivers of service obligations.

Annual Responses: 75

Annual Burden: 20 minutes each or 25 hours total.

Comments: Signed written comments should refer to the docket number that appears at the top of this document and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20590. Specifically, address whether this information collection is necessary for proper performance of the function of the agency and will have practical utility, accuracy of the burden estimates, ways to minimize this burden and ways to enhance quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays. An electronic version of this document is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: March 11, 1999.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-6359 Filed 3-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice that a meeting of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education, authorized by 38 U.S.C. 3692, will be held on March 25, and March 26, 1999. The meeting will take place at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Room 542, 1800 G St., NW, Washington, DC 20420, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 25, and from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Friday, March 26. The purpose of the Committee is to assist in the evaluation of existing programs and services, and recommend

needed programs and services. On Thursday, the Committee will review and discuss education issues in the report submitted to Congress by the Commission on Servicemembers and Veterans' Transition Assistance. On Friday, the Committee will review and discuss recent legislation introduced regarding the Department of Veterans' Affairs education programs and prepare their recommendations to the Secretary.

The meeting will be open to the public. Those wishing to attend should contact Mr. Bill Susling, Education Policy and Program Administration, (phone 202-273-7187).

Interested persons may attend, appear before, or file statements with the Committee. Statements, if in written form, may be filed before or within 10 days after the meeting. Oral statements will be heard on Friday at 9:00 a.m.

Dated: March 8, 1999.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Heyward Bannister,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-6303 Filed 3-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974; Report of Amendment Matching Program

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) intends to conduct a recurring computer program matching Internal Revenue Service (IRS) records with VA pension and parents' dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) records.

The goal of this match is to compare income status as reported to VA with records maintained by IRS.

VA plans to match records of veterans and surviving spouses and children who receive pension, and parents who receive DIC, with data from the IRS income tax return information as it relates to unearned income.

VA will use this information to adjust VA benefit payments as prescribed by law. The proposed matching program will enable VA to ensure accurate reporting of income.

Records to be Matched: The VA records involved in the match are the VA system of records, Compensation, Pension, Education and Rehabilitation Records—VA (58 VA 21/22) first published at 41 FR 9294, March 3, 1976 and last amended at 63 FR 37941 (July 14, 1998). The IRS records consist of return information with respect to unearned income from the Wage and

Information Returns (IRP) master file, Privacy Act System Treas/IRS 22.061, hereafter referred to as the Information Return Master File (IRMF) published at 60 FR 56786 (11/9/95) through the Disclosure of Information to Federal, State, and Local Agencies (DIFSLA) program. In accordance with Title 5 U.S.C. subsection 552a(o)(2) and (r), copies of the agreement are being sent to both Houses of Congress and to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

This notice is provided in accordance with the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 as amended by Pub. L. 100-503.

DATES: The match will start no sooner than 30 days after publication of this Notice in the **Federal Register**, or 40 days after copies of this Notice and the agreement of the parties is submitted to Congress and OMB, whichever is later, and end not more than 18 months after the agreement is properly implemented by the parties. The involved agencies' Data Integrity Boards (DIB) may extend this match for 12 months provided the agencies certify to their DIBs within three months of the ending date of the original match that the matching program will be conducted without change and that the matching program has been conducted in compliance with the original matching program.

ADDRESSES: Interested individuals may submit written comments to the Director, Office of Regulations Management (02D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Room 1154, Washington, DC 20420. Comments will be available for public inspection at the above address in the Office of Regulations Management, Room 1158, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, except holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Trowbridge (213B), (202) 273-7218.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This information is required by Title 5 U.S.C. subsection 552a(e)(12), the Privacy Act of 1974. A copy of this notice has been provided to both Houses of Congress and OMB.

Approved: March 1, 1999.

Togo D. West, Jr.,

Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 99-6302 Filed 3-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974; Amendment of System of Records Notice "Means Test Verification Records—VA"

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending and renaming the system of records currently known as "Means Test Verification Records—VA (89VA161)" as set forth in the **Federal Register** 59FR8677 (2/23/94). VA is amending the system by revising the System Name and Number and the paragraphs for System Location; Categories of Individuals Covered by the System; Categories of Records in the System; Authority for Maintenance of the System; and Policies and Practices for Storing, Retrieving, Accessing, Retaining, and Disposing of Records in the System, including Storage, Retrievability and Safeguards. VA is republishing the system notice in its entirety at this time.

DATES: These amendments are effective on March 16, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alan Begbie, Director, Health Eligibility Center (HEC), Veterans Health Administration, 1644 Tullie Circle, Atlanta, Georgia 30329, (404) 235-1300.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The name and number of the system is changed from "Means Test Verification Records" VA(89VA161) to "Healthcare Eligibility Records" VA(89VA19) to more accurately reflect the type of records maintained in this system and to reflect recent organizational changes.

The system location has been amended to reflect that the Income Verification Match Center (IVMC) has been renamed the Health Eligibility Center (HEC) and to indicate the current address of the HEC.

The individuals covered by this system have been increased to include all veterans who have applied for VA healthcare services under Title 38, United States Code, Chapter 17, and in certain cases, members of their immediate families. Under the previous notice only data on nonservice-connected veterans was collected.

The VHA HEC in Atlanta, Georgia, was originally established as the IVMC to verify the self-reported income of certain veterans with Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Social Security Administration (SSA) information to determine the veteran's correct eligibility for VA healthcare benefits, as mandated by section 8051, Pub. L. 101-508. Section 8014 of Pub. L. 105-33 extended VA's matching authority through September 30, 2002.

Title 38, United States Code, Section 1705, requires VA to design, establish and operate a system of annual patient enrollment. As a matter of policy, VHA has determined that the HEC database will be expanded to serve as the central repository for eligibility and enrollment

data of veterans applying for or receiving VA healthcare benefits. Veterans' enrollment information such as beginning and ending dates of the enrollment period, enrollment status and primary healthcare facility, will be maintained in this database and provided to VA healthcare facilities involved in the veteran's care. This increases the types of records and individuals covered under the system.

To carry out the HEC programs, the Center receives electronic transmissions from VA healthcare facilities via the Department's electronic communications system (wide area network). These transmissions include personal, income and eligibility information, such as name, social security number, address, health insurance coverage, and other information concerning the veteran's self-reported household income and eligibility status. In certain cases, these transmissions include limited immediate family information provided by the veteran.

Compensation and pension award adjustment information contained in claim records administered by the Veterans Benefit Administration (VBA) is also sent to the HEC database, ensuring consistency of eligibility information contained in records covered by this system.

The HEC automatically sends this information over VA's wide area network to VA medical facilities where the veteran received care within the previous 12 month period. VA medical facilities can query the HEC database to obtain information on veteran applicants who have not received healthcare at that facility during the previous 12 month time frame. If available, updated information is transmitted to the requesting facility and loaded into the facility's database. Access to data in these files is controlled at the healthcare facility in accordance with nationally and locally-established data security procedures. These standards include, but are not limited to, requiring a unique password for each user, restricting access to "need-to-know" data, and deactivating screen displays after short periods of inactivity.

The HEC submits record identifiers (name, social security number, date of birth, and sex) to SSA for social security number validation. The validated social security number assists in matching a veteran's record maintained at one VA healthcare facility with records maintained at another. For certain veterans whose eligibility for VA healthcare is based on income, the validated social security number is also