

closed to the public because the Treasury Department requires frank and full advice from representatives of the financial community prior to making its final decision on major financing operations. Historically, this advice has been offered by debt management advisory committees established by the several major segments of the financial community. When so utilized, such a committee is recognized to be an advisory committee under 5 U.S.C. App. section 3.

Although the Treasury's final announcement of financing plans may not reflect the recommendations provided in reports of the advisory committee, premature disclosure of the committee's deliberations and reports would be likely to lead to significant financial speculation in the securities market. Thus, these meetings fall within the exemption covered by 5 U.S.C. section 552b(c)(9)(A).

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Financial Markets is responsible for maintaining records of debt management advisory committee meetings and for providing annual reports setting forth a summary of committee activities and such other matters as may be informative to the public consistent with the policy of 5 U.S.C. section 552b.

Darcy Bradbury,

Assistant Secretary, Financial Markets.

[FR Doc. 96-25337 Filed 10-2-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-25-M

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 8850

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 Form 8850, Work Opportunity Credit Pre-Screening Notice and Certification Request.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 2, 1996, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be directed to Martha R. Brinson, (202) 622-3869, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Work Opportunity Credit Pre-Screening Notice and Certification Request.

OMB Number: 1545-1500.

Form Number: 8850.

Abstract: Employers use Form 8850 as part of a written request to a state employment security agency to certify an employee as a member of a targeted group for purposes of qualifying for the work opportunity credit. Under Internal Revenue Code section 51(d)(11), the work opportunity credit applies only to individuals who begin work for the employer after September 30, 1996, and before October 1, 1997.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to the form at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 85,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 3 hrs. 42 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,480,000.

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: September 27, 1996.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 96-25404 Filed 10-2-96; 8:45 am]

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UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

College and University Affiliations Program

ACTION: Notice—request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The Office of Academic Programs of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an assistance award program. Accredited, post-secondary educational institutions meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c)(3)-1 may apply to develop a partnership with (a) foreign institution(s) of higher education in specified fields and themes within the humanities, arts, and social sciences.

Proposed projects must be eligible in terms of country(ies)/regions and themes as described in the section entitled "Guidelines" below. Participating institutions exchange faculty and administrators for a combination of teaching, lecturing, faculty and curriculum development, collaborative research, and outreach, for periods ranging from one week (for planning visits) to an academic year. The FY 97 program will also support the establishment and maintenance of internet communication facilities at foreign partner institutions.

The program awards up to \$120,000 for a three-year period to defray the cost of travel and per diem with an allowance for educational materials and some aspects of project administration. At this writing, prospects for Congressional appropriations in support of USIA's exchange programs are very uncertain and may result in reduced funding. Subject to the availability of funding, awards will be made under each of the following thematic categories: *Democracy and Human*