

or the taxpayer's spouse or dependent, at an eligible educational institution. These expenses are calculated net of scholarships, fellowships, employer-provided educational assistance, and other tuition reduction amounts, and must be incurred during the tax year of the redemption of the bonds for which the interest exclusion is claimed.

(6) Eligible educational institutions include those defined in sections 1201(a) and 481(a)(1) (C) and (D) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as in effect on October 21, 1988, excluding proprietary institutions. Such eligible institutions include post-secondary institutions, and vocational schools that meet the standards for participation in Federal financial aid programs, excluding proprietary institutions. Additional guidance concerning eligible institutions should be obtained from the Department of Education.

(7)(i) Interest exclusion benefits are based on the modified adjusted gross income of the taxpayer. For taxpayers filing a joint Federal income tax return, the exclusion is gradually decreased for modified adjusted gross income between \$60,000 and \$90,000. Married taxpayers filing jointly who have modified adjusted gross incomes above \$90,000 are ineligible for the exclusion. For single taxpayers and heads of households, the exclusion is gradually decreased for such incomes between \$40,000 and \$55,000. Single taxpayers with such incomes above \$55,000 are ineligible for the exclusion. After 1990, these income limits will be adjusted for inflation.

(ii) Married taxpayers must file a joint return in order to qualify for the exclusion. Married taxpayers filing separate returns will not qualify for the exclusion, regardless of their modified adjusted gross incomes.

(8) The taxpayer is responsible for maintaining adequate records of bond redemption transactions to support claims for the exclusion, in accordance with applicable rules and regulations of the Internal Revenue Service.

(9) The Internal Revenue Service should be consulted for advice concerning the eligibility and tax treatment of bonds for the income exclusion under the educational savings bond program.

27. *Additional information.* [Sec 321.25] Requests for additional advice, clarification of the payment regulations or this Appendix, and other matters relating to the actions of a financial institution as paying agent should generally be made to the appropriate Federal Reserve Bank referred to in §321.25.

[53 FR 37511, Sept. 26, 1988; 53 FR 39581, Oct. 7, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 35397, Aug. 29, 1990; 59 FR 10538, Mar. 4, 1994; 61 FR 37197, July 16, 1996]

PART 323—DISCLOSURE OF RECORDS

Sec.

323.1 Purpose of regulations.

323.2 Rules governing availability of information.

323.3 Materials available for inspection and copying.

323.4 Requests for identifiable records.

323.5 Fees.

AUTHORITY: 80 Stat. 379; sec. 3, 60 Stat. 238, as amended; 5 U.S.C. 301, 552.

SOURCE: 32 FR 9967, July 7, 1967, unless otherwise noted.

§323.1 Purpose of regulations.

The regulations of this part are issued to implement 5 U.S.C. 552(a) (2) and (3). The requirements of 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1) are met through the publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER of the statement of the organization, functions and procedures available of the Fiscal Service, including the Bureau of the Public Debt, and revisions thereof, and through the publication therein of substantive and procedural regulations of the Bureau. A synopsis of the statements of Bureau organization, functions and procedures available will be published annually by the Office of the Federal Register in the U.S. Government Organization Manual.

§323.2 Rules governing availability of information.

(a) *General.* The records of the Bureau of the Public Debt required by 5 U.S.C. 552 to be made available to the public shall be made available in accordance with the regulations on the Disclosure of Records of the Office of the Secretary issued under 5 U.S.C. 552 and published as part I of title 31 of the Code of Federal Regulations, 32 FR 9562, July 1, 1967, except as specifically provided in this part.

(b) *Limitations on the availability of records relating to securities.* Records relating to the purchase, ownership of, and transactions in Treasury securities or other securities handled by the Bureau of the Public Debt for government agencies or wholly or partially Government-owned corporations will ordinarily be disclosed only to the owners

of such securities, their executors, administrators or other legal representatives or to their survivors or to investigative and certain other agencies of the Federal and State governments, to trustees in bankruptcy, receivers of insolvents' estates or where proper order has been entered requesting disclosure of information to Federal and State courts. These records are held confidential because they relate to private financial affairs of the owners.

§ 323.3 Materials available for inspection and copying.

(a) *Availability.* The materials which are required under 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(2) to be made available for inspection and copying are:

(1) Final opinions or orders made in the adjudication of cases. Any issued by the Bureau of the Public Debt would be in the form of letters or memorandums setting out determinations made in disposing of any matter before the Bureau.

(2) Statements of policy and interpretations which have been adopted by the Bureau but not published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(3) Administrative staff manuals and instructions to the staff that affect any member of the public. Some Federal Reserve Bank memorandums and Public Debt memorandums will be made available under this provision.

(b) *Location.* The materials listed in paragraph (a) of this section are available for inspection and copy during office hours in the Public Reading Room of the Treasury Department, 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20220.

§ 323.4 Requests for identifiable records.

(a) *Procedure.* (1) A written request for an identifiable record relating to a U.S. savings bond or note shall be addressed to the Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of the Public Debt, Chicago, IL 60605.

(2) A request for an identifiable record relating to any Treasury Department security, other than a savings bond or note, or a security of a Government agency or a wholly or partially Government-owned corporation, the record of which is maintained by

the Bureau of the Public Debt, shall be addressed to the Chief, Division of Loans and Currency, Bureau of the Public Debt, Washington, DC 20226.

(3) A request for an identifiable record relating to any security of a Government agency or wholly or partially Government-owned corporation, the record for which is maintained by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, shall be addressed to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, New York, NY 10045.

(4) A written request for any identifiable record that the Bureau of the Public Debt has other than those set out in paragraphs (a) (1), (2), and (3) of this section shall be addressed to the Commissioner of the Public Debt, Washington, DC 20220.

(5) A request may be presented in person at the office to which a written request would be addressed.

(b) *Determination of availability.* Determination as to whether or not a requested record shall be disclosed will be made by the Officer to whom the request should be directed under paragraph (a) of this section, and by the Bureau of Public Debt Information Officer for requests directed to the Office of the Commissioner, subject to an appeal to the Commissioner of the Public Debt. The decision of the Commissioner shall constitute final agency action unless he refers the appeal to the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, in which case the decision of the Fiscal Assistant Secretary shall constitute final agency action.

§ 323.5 Fees.

The fees provided in part 1 of title 31 of the CFR (32 FR 9562, July 1, 1967), shall apply to all requests for identifiable records under this part except as follows:

(a) No charge will be made for verifying the record of a savings bond or note identified by series and denomination and either the registration and issue date or the serial number at the request of the owner, coowner, or surviving beneficiary or person entitled to the security under the applicable regulations.

(b) No charge will be made for verifying the record of a registered Treasury security, other than a savings bond or

note, or a registered security of a Government agency or a wholly or partially Government-owned corporation, identified as to loan and registration for an owner, joint owner or person entitled to the security under the applicable regulations.

(c) No charge will be made for advising a person who has submitted satisfactory evidence of ownership as to the status of a bearer Treasury security or a bearer security of a Government agency or a wholly or partially Government-owned corporation.

(d) No charge will be made for furnishing an owner, coowner, joint owner, surviving beneficiary, or person who is entitled to the security under the applicable regulations a photocopy or similar reproduction of any Treasury security, with any necessary supporting documents, which it is alleged was improperly paid or was reissued, transferred or redeemed on a forged or defective request, endorsement, or assignment.

(e) Fees may be waived for other classes of requested records upon a finding by the Commissioner of the Public Debt that the person requesting the information is entitled to the record requested without charge.

PART 328—RESTRICTIVE ENDORSEMENTS OF U.S. BEARER SECURITIES

Sec.

328.1 Scope of regulations.

328.2 Definitions.

328.3 Authorization for restrictive endorsements.

328.4 Effect of restrictive endorsements.

328.5 Forms of endorsement.

328.6 Requirements for endorsement.

328.7 Shipment of securities.

328.8 Loss, theft, or destruction of securities bearing restrictive endorsements.

328.9 Miscellaneous.

AUTHORITY: R.S. 3706; 40 Stat. 288, 502, 1309; 46 Stat. 20; 48 Stat. 343; 49 Stat. 20; 56 Stat. 189; 73 Stat. 622; 85 Stat. 5, 74 (31 U.S.C. 738a, 739, 752, 752a, 753, 754, 754a and 754b); and 5 U.S.C. 301.

SOURCE: 38 FR 10682, Apr. 30, 1973, unless otherwise noted.

§ 328.1 Scope of regulations.

The regulations in this part are applicable only to U.S. bearer securities¹ presented:

(a) By or through banks for payment at or after their maturity or call date, or in exchange for any securities under any exchange offering.

(b) By banks for conversion to book-entry securities.

(c) By or through banks at any time prior to their maturity or call date for redemption at par and application of the entire proceeds in payment of Federal estate taxes, provided said securities by the terms of their issue are eligible for such redemption, and

(d) By Service Center Directors and District Directors, Internal Revenue Service, for redemption, with the proceeds to be applied in payment of taxes (other than securities presented under paragraph (c) of this section).

These regulations do not apply to bearer securities presented for any other transactions, or to registered securities assigned in blank, or to bearer, or so assigned as to become, in effect, payable to bearer.

§ 328.2 Definitions.

Certain words and terms, as used in these regulations, are defined as follows:

(a) *Banks* refer to, and include, incorporated banks (i.e., banks doing a general commercial banking business), incorporated trust companies (i.e., trust companies doing either a general banking business or a general trust business), and savings and loan associations, building and loan associations, and such other financial institutions as may be designated by the Federal Reserve banks. This definition is limited to institutions incorporated within the United States, its territories and possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Canal Zone.

(b) *Bearer securities* or *securities* are those which are payable on their face to *bearer*, the ownership of which is not recorded. They include *Treasury bonds*,

¹ Certain agencies of the United States and certain Government and Government-sponsored corporations also authorize the restrictive endorsement of bearer securities.