

and Publication 550, "Investment Income and Expenses," for detailed information; and

(2) Suggesting that the presenter make a record of eligible bonds redeemed either by using IRS Optional Form 8818, or otherwise.

(b) Bond owners seeking to benefit from the special tax exclusion, available through the savings bond education feature, should be aware of the following basic rules:

(1) Only interest earned on Series EE bonds bearing issue dates on or after January 1, 1990, is eligible for the exclusion of interest income, where the proceeds from the redemption of the bonds are used to pay qualified post-secondary education expenses. Interest received on bonds bearing issue dates prior to January 1, 1990, is not eligible.

(2)(i) The bonds must be registered in the name of a taxpayer as sole owner, or in the name of the taxpayer as co-owner, with the taxpayer's spouse as the other co-owner. Bonds registered in the name of the taxpayer's child, as owner or co-owner, will not qualify for the exclusion. A taxpayer may purchase bonds registered in beneficiary form, i.e., "A payable on death to B", naming any individual, including a child, as beneficiary.

(ii) The bonds must be registered in the name of a taxpayer who has attained the age of 24 years at the time of issue. Generally, a taxpayer must be 24 years of age on or before the first day of the month in which the taxpayer purchases the bond, because savings bonds bear the issue date of the first day of the month in which purchased.

(3) The bond must be redeemed by the owner or co-owner. It may not be transferred to the educational institution.

(4) If the entire amount of the proceeds of the eligible bonds is less than, or equal to, the qualified post-secondary educational expenses incurred by the owner, his or her spouse, or his or her dependent, all interest received is excludable, subject to the limitations in paragraph (b)(7) of this section. If the amount of the proceeds exceeds such qualified expenses, the excludable portion of the interest will be reduced by a pro rata amount.

(5) Qualified educational expenses are limited to tuition and fees required for the enrollment of, or attendance by, the taxpayer, 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 in-

stitutions, 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; 63 FR 38042, 38043, July 14, 1998]

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

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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

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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

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