

(i) Is subject to a final order of removal, suspension, or debarment (other than a limited scope order) issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency under section 36 of the FDIA;

(ii) Is subject to a temporary suspension or permanent revocation of registration or a temporary or permanent suspension or bar from further association with any registered public accounting firm issued by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board or the Securities and Exchange Commission under sections 105(c)(4)(A) or (B) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7215(c)(4)(A) or (B)); or

(iii) Is subject to an order of suspension or denial of the privilege of appearing or practicing before the Securities and Exchange Commission.

(2) Upon written request, the Office, for good cause shown, may grant written permission to an independent public accountant or accounting firm to perform audit services for savings associations. The request must contain a concise statement of action requested. The Office may require the applicant to submit additional information.

(k) *Notice of removal, suspension, or debarment.* (1) Upon issuance of a final order for removal, suspension, or debarment of an independent public accountant or accounting firm from providing audit services, the Office shall make the order publicly available and provide notice of the order to the other Federal banking agencies.

(2) An independent public accountant or accounting firm that provides audit services to a savings association must provide the Office with written notice of:

(i) Any currently effective order or other action described in paragraphs (c)(6) through (c)(7) or paragraphs (j)(1)(ii) through (j)(1)(iii) of this section; and

(ii) Any currently effective action by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board under sections 105(c)(4)(C) or (G) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7215(c)(4)(C) or (G)).

(3) Written notice required by this paragraph shall be given no later than 15 calendar days following the effective

date of an order or action or 15 calendar days before an independent public accountant or accounting firm accepts an engagement to provide audit services, whichever date is earlier.

(1) *Application for reinstatement.* (1) Unless otherwise ordered by the Office, an independent public accountant, accounting firm, or office of a firm that was removed, suspended or debarred under this section may apply for reinstatement in writing at any time. The request shall contain a concise statement of action requested. The Office may require the applicant to submit additional information.

(2) An applicant for reinstatement under paragraph (1)(1) of this section may, in the Office's sole discretion, be afforded a hearing. The independent public accountant or accounting firm shall bear the burden of going forward with an application and the burden of proving the grounds supporting the application. The Office may, in its sole discretion, direct that any reinstatement proceeding be limited to written submissions. The removal, suspension, or debarment shall continue until the Office, for good cause shown, has reinstated the applicant or until, in the case of a suspension, the suspension period has expired. The filing of a petition for reinstatement shall not stay the effectiveness of the removal, suspension, or debarment of an independent public accountant or accounting firm.

[68 FR 48272, Aug. 13, 2003]

PART 516—APPLICATION PROCESSING PROCEDURES

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 552, 559; 12 U.S.C. 1462a, 1463, 1464, 2901 *et seq.*

SOURCE: 57 FR 14336, Apr. 20, 1992, unless otherwise noted.

§516.1 What does this part do?

(a) This part explains OTS procedures for processing applications, notices, or filings (applications). Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, subparts A and E of this part apply whenever an OTS regulation requires any person (you) to file an application with OTS. Subparts B, C, and D, however, only apply when an OTS regulation incorporates the procedures in the subpart or where otherwise required by OTS.

(b) This part does not apply to any of the following:

(1) An application related to a transaction under section 13(c) or (k) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, 12 U.S.C. 1823(c) or (k).

(2) A request for reconsideration, modification, or appeal of a final OTS action.

(3) A request related to litigation, an enforcement proceeding, a supervisory directive or supervisory agreement. Such requests include a request seeking approval under, modification of, or termination of an order issued under part 508 or 509 of this chapter, a supervisory agreement, a supervisory directive, a consent merger agreement or a document negotiated in settlement of an enforcement matter or other litigation, unless an applicable OTS regulation specifically requires an application under this part.

(4) An application filed under an OTS regulation that prescribes other application processing procedures and time frames for the approval of applications.

(c) If an OTS regulation for a specific type of application prescribes some application processing procedures, or time frames, OTS will apply this part to the extent necessary to process the application. For example, if an OTS

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regulation for a specific type of application does not identify time periods for the processing of an application, the time periods in this part apply.

[66 FR 13000, Mar. 2, 2001]

§516.5 Do the same procedures apply to all applications under this part?

OTS processes applications under this part using two procedures, expedited treatment and standard treatment. To determine which treatment applies, you may use the following chart:

If * * *	Then OTS will process your application under * * *
(a) The applicable regulation does not specifically state that expedited treatment is available.	Standard treatment.
(b) You are not a savings association	Standard treatment.
(c) Your composite rating is 3, 4, or 5. The composite rating is the composite numeric rating that OTS or the other federal banking regulator assigned to you under the Uniform Financial Institutions Rating System ¹ or under a comparable rating system. The composite rating refers to the rating assigned and provided to you, in writing, as a result of the most recent examination.	Standard treatment.

[66 FR 13000, Mar. 2, 2001]

§516.10 How does OTS compute time periods under this part?

In computing time periods under this part, OTS does not include the day of the act or event that commences the time period. When the last day of a time period is a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the time period runs until the end of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday.

[66 FR 13000, Mar. 2, 2001]

Subpart A—Pre-Filing and Filing Procedures

SOURCE: 66 FR 13000, Mar. 2, 2001, unless otherwise noted.

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If * * *	Then OTS will process your application under * * *
(d) Your Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) rating is Needs to Improve or Substantial Noncompliance. The CRA rating is the Community Reinvestment Act performance rating that OTS or the other federal banking regulator assigned and provided to you, in writing, as a result of the most recent compliance examination. See, for example, §563e.28 of this chapter.	Standard treatment.
(e) Your compliance rating is 3, 4, or 5. The compliance rating is the numeric rating that OTS or the other federal banking regulator assigned to you under OTS compliance rating system, or a comparable rating system used by the other federal banking regulator. The compliance rating refers to the rating assigned and provided to you, in writing, as a result of the most recent compliance examination.	Standard treatment.
(f) You fail any one of your capital requirements under part 567 of this chapter.	Standard treatment.
(g) OTS has notified you that you are an association in troubled condition.	Standard treatment.
(h) Neither OTS nor any other federal banking regulator has assigned you a composite rating, a CRA rating or a compliance rating.	Standard treatment.
(i) You do not meet any of the criteria listed in paragraphs (a) through (h) of this section.	Expedited treatment.

¹ A savings association may obtain a copy of its composite rating from the appropriate Regional Office.

PRE-FILING PROCEDURES

§516.15 Must I meet with OTS before I file my application?

(a) *Chart.* To determine whether you must attend a pre-filing meeting before you file an application, please consult the following chart:

If you file * * *	Then * * *
(1) An application for permission to organize a <i>de novo</i> federal savings association.	You must meet with OTS before filing your application. You must submit a draft business plan before this meeting.
(2) An application to convert an existing insured depository institution (other than a state-chartered savings association or a state-chartered savings bank) or a credit union to a federal savings association.	You must meet with OTS before filing your application. OTS may require you to submit a draft business plan or other relevant information before this meeting.

If you file * * *	Then * * *
(3) An application to acquire control of a savings association.	OTS may require you to meet with OTS before filing your application and may require you to submit a draft business plan or other relevant information before this meeting.

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§ 516.25 What type of application must I file?

(a) *Expedited treatment.* If you are eligible for expedited treatment under § 516.5, you may file your application in the form of a notice that includes all information required by the applicable substantive regulation. If OTS has designated a form for your notice, you must file that form. Your notice is an application for the purposes of all statutory and regulatory references to “applications.”

(b) *Standard treatment.* If you are subject to standard treatment under § 516.5, you must file your application following all applicable substantive regulations and guidelines governing the filing of applications. If OTS has a designated form for your application, you must file that form.

(c) *Waiver requests.* If you want OTS to waive a requirement that you provide certain information with the notice or application, you must include a written waiver request:

- (1) Describing the requirement to be waived and
- (2) Explaining why the information is not needed to enable OTS to evaluate your notice or application under applicable standards.

(b) *Contacting the Regional Office.* (1) You must contact the appropriate Regional Office a reasonable time before you file an application described in paragraph (a) of this section. Unless paragraph (a) already requires a pre-filing meeting or a draft business plan, the Regional Office will determine whether it will require a pre-filing meeting, and whether you must submit a business plan or other relevant information before the meeting. The Regional Office will also establish a schedule for any meeting and the submission of any information.

(2) All other applicants are encouraged to contact the appropriate Regional Office to determine whether a pre-filing meeting or the submission of a draft business plan or other relevant information would expedite the application review process.

§ 516.20 What information must I include in my draft business plan?

If you must submit a draft business plan under § 516.15, your plan must:

- (a) Clearly and completely describe the savings association’s projected operations and activities;
- (b) Describe the risks associated with the transaction and the impact of this transaction on any existing activities and operations of the savings association, including financial projections for a minimum of three years;
- (c) Identify the majority of the proposed board of directors and the key senior executive officers (as defined in § 563.555 of this chapter) of the savings association and demonstrate that these individuals have the expertise to prudently manage the activities and operations described in the savings association’s draft business plan; and
- (d) Demonstrate how applicable requirements regarding serving the credit and lending needs in the market areas served by the savings association will be met.

§ 516.30 What information must I provide with my application?

(a) *Required information.* You may obtain information about required certifications, other regulations and guidelines affecting particular notices and applications, appropriate forms, and instructions from any OTS Regional Office. You may also obtain forms and instructions on OTS’s web page at www.ots.treas.gov.

(b) *Captions and exhibits.* You must caption the original application and required copies with the type of filing, and must include all exhibits and other pertinent documents with the original application and all required copies. You are not required to include original signatures on copies if you include a copy of the signed signature page or the copy otherwise indicates that the original was signed.

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§ 516.35 May I keep portions of my application confidential?

(a) *Confidentiality.* OTS makes submissions under this part available to the public, but may keep portions of your application confidential based on the rules in this section.

(b) *Confidentiality request.* (1) You may request OTS to keep portions of your application confidential. You must submit your request in writing with your application and must explain in detail how your request is consistent with the standards under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and part 505 of this chapter. For example, you should explain how you will be substantially harmed by public disclosure of the information. You must separately bind and mark the portions of the application you consider confidential and the portions you consider non-confidential.

(2) OTS will not treat as confidential the portion of your application describing how you plan to meet your Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) objectives. OTS will make information in your CRA plan, including any information incorporated by reference from other parts of your application, available to the public upon request.

(c) *OTS determination on confidentiality.* OTS will determine whether information that you designate as confidential may be withheld from the public under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and part 505 of this chapter. OTS will advise you before it makes information you designate as confidential available to the public.

§ 516.40 Where do I file my application?

(a) *Regional Office.* (1) You must file the original application and the number of copies indicated on the applicable form with the applications filing division of the appropriate OTS Regional Office. You should address the filings to “Attn: Applications Filing Room” at the Regional address listed in paragraph (a)(2) of this section. If the form does not indicate the number of copies you must file or if OTS has not prescribed a form for your application, you must file the original application and two copies.

(2) The addresses of each Regional Office and the states covered by each office are:

Region	Office address	States served
Northeast ...	Office of Thrift Supervision, Harborside Financial Center, Plaza Five, Suite 1600, Jersey City, New Jersey 07311.	Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia.
Southeast ..	Office of Thrift Supervision, 1475 Peachtree Street, NW., Atlanta, Georgia 30309 (Mail Stop: P.O. Box 105217, Atlanta, Georgia 30348–5217).	Alabama, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Virginia, the Virgin Islands.
Central	Office of Thrift Supervision, 1 South Wacker Drive, Suite 2000, Chicago, Illinois 60606.	Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin.
Midwest	Office of Thrift Supervision, 225 E. John Carpenter Freeway, Suite 500, Irving, Texas 75062–2326 (Mail to: P.O. Box 619027, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas 75261–9027).	Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas.
West	Office of Thrift Supervision, Pacific Plaza, 2001 Junipero Serra Boulevard, Suite 650, Daly City, California.	Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

(b) *Additional filings with OTS Headquarters.* (1) In addition to filing in the Regional Office, if your application involves a significant issue of law or policy or if an applicable regulation or form directs you to file with OTS Headquarters, you must also file copies of your application with the Applications Filing Room at OTS headquarters, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552.

You must file the number of copies indicated on the applicable form. If the form does not indicate the number of copies you must file or if OTS has not prescribed a form for your application, you must file three copies.

(2)(i) You may obtain a list of applications involving significant issues of law or policy at the OTS website at

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www.ots.treas.gov or by contacting a Regional Office.

(ii) OTS reserves the right to identify significant issues of law or policy in a particular application. OTS will advise you, in writing, if it makes this determination.

[66 FR 13000, Mar. 2, 2001, as amended at 66 FR 65820, Dec. 21, 2001; 67 FR 78152, Dec. 23, 2002; 69 FR 76602, Dec. 22, 2004; 73 FR 76939, Dec. 18, 2008]

§ 516.45 What is the filing date of my application?

(a) Your application's filing date is the date that you complete all of the following requirements.

(1) You attend a pre-filing meeting and submit a draft business plan or relevant information, if OTS requires you to do so under § 516.15.

(2) You file your application and all required copies with OTS, as described under § 516.40.

(i) If you are required to file with a Regional Office and with OTS Headquarters, you have not filed with OTS until you file with both offices.

(ii) You have not filed with a Regional Office or OTS Headquarters until you file the application and the required number of copies with that office.

(iii) If you file after the close of business established by a Regional Office or OTS Headquarters, you have filed with that office on the next business day.

(3) You pay the applicable fee. You have not paid the fee until you submit the fee to the appropriate Regional Office, or OTS waives the fee. You may pay by check, money order, cashier's check or wire transfer payable to OTS.

(b) OTS may notify you that it has adjusted your application filing date if you fail to meet any applicable publication requirements.

(c) If, after you properly file your application with the Regional Office, OTS determines that a significant issue of law or policy exists under § 516.40(b)(2)(ii), the filing date of your application is the day you filed with the Regional Office. The 30-day review period under §§ 516.200 or 516.210 of this part will restart in its entirety when the Regional Office forwards the appropriate number of copies of your application to OTS Headquarters.

§ 516.47 How do I amend or supplement my application?

To amend or supplement your application, you must file the amendment or supplemental information at the appropriate OTS office(s) along with the number of copies required under § 516.40. Your amendment or supplemental information also must meet the caption and exhibit requirements at § 516.30(b).

Subpart B—Publication Requirements

SOURCE: 62 FR 64143, Dec. 4, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

§ 516.50 Who must publish a public notice of an application?

This subpart applies whenever an OTS regulation requires an applicant ("you") to follow the public notice procedures in this subpart.

§ 516.55 What information must I include in my public notice?

Your public notice must include the following:

(a) Your name and address.

(b) The type of application.

(c) The name of the depository institution(s) that is the subject matter of the application.

(d) A statement indicating that the public may submit comments to the appropriate OTS office(s).

(e) The address of the appropriate OTS offices where the public may submit comments.

(f) The date that the comment period closes.

(g) A statement indicating that the nonconfidential portions of the application are on file in the Regional Office, and are available for public inspection during regular business hours.

(h) Any other information that OTS requires you to publish. You may find the format for various publication notices in the appendix to OTS application processing handbook.

[66 FR 13002, Mar. 2, 2001]

§ 516.60 When must I publish the public notice?

You must publish a public notice of the application no earlier than seven

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days before and no later than the date of filing of the application.

§ 516.70 Where must I publish the public notice?

You must publish the notice in a newspaper having a general circulation in the communities indicated in the following chart:

If you file . . .	You must publish in the following communities . . .
(a) An application for permission to organize under § 543.2 of this chapter, a Bank Merger Act application under 563.22(a) of this chapter, an application to convert to is a federal charter under § 543.8 or § 552.2–6 of this chapter, or an application for a mutual to stock conversion under part 563b of this chapter . . .	The community in which your home office is located.
(b) An application to establish a branch office under § 545.95 of this chapter . . .	The community to be served by the branch office.
(c) An application for the change of permanent location of a home or branch office under § 545.95 of this chapter . . .	The community in which the existing office is located and the community to be served by the new office.
(d) A holding company application or a change of control notice under part 574 of this chapter . . .	The community in which the home office of the savings association whose stock is to be acquired is located and, if applicable, the community in which the home office of the acquiror's largest subsidiary savings association is located.

[69 FR 68246, Nov. 24, 2004]

§ 516.80 What language must I use in my publication?

(a) *English.* You must publish the notice in a newspaper printed in the English language.

(b) *Other than English.* If the OTS determines that the primary language of a significant number of adult residents of the community is a language other than English, the OTS may require that you simultaneously publish additional notice(s) in the community in the appropriate language(s).

Subpart C—Comment Procedures

SOURCE: 62 FR 64144, Dec. 4, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

§ 516.100 What does this subpart do?

This subpart contains the procedures governing the submission of public comments on certain types of applications or notices (“applications”) pending before the OTS. It applies whenever a regulation incorporates the procedures in this subpart, or where otherwise required by the OTS.

§ 516.110 Who may submit a written comment?

Any person may submit a written comment supporting or opposing an application.

[62 FR 64144, Dec. 4, 1997, as amended at 66 FR 13003, Mar. 2, 2001]

§ 516.120 What information should a comment include?

(a) A comment should recite relevant facts, including any demographic, economic, or financial data, supporting the commenter’s position. A comment opposing an application should also:

(1) Address at least one of the reasons why OTS may deny the application under the relevant statute or regulation;

(2) Recite any relevant facts and supporting data addressing these reasons; and;

(3) Address how the approval of the application could harm the commenter or any community.

(b) A commenter must include any request for a meeting under § 516.170 in its comment. The commenter must describe the nature of the issues or facts to be discussed and the reasons why written submissions are insufficient to

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adequately address these facts or issues.

[66 FR 13003, Mar. 2, 2001, as amended at 69 FR 68247, Nov. 24, 2004]

§ 516.130 Where are comments filed?

A commenter must file with the appropriate OTS Regional Office (See table at § 516.40(a)(2)). The commenter must simultaneously send a copy of the comment to the applicant.

[66 FR 13003, Mar. 2, 2001]

§ 516.140 How long is the comment period?

(a) *General.* Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, a commenter must file a written comment with OTS within 30 calendar days after the date of publication of the initial public notice.

(b) *Late-filed comments.* OTS may consider late-filed comments if OTS determines that the comment will assist in the disposition of the application.

[69 FR 68247, Nov. 24, 2004]

Subpart D—Meeting Procedures

SOURCE: 69 FR 68247, Nov. 24, 2004, unless otherwise noted.

§ 516.160 What does this subpart do?

This subpart contains meeting procedures. It applies whenever a regulation incorporates the procedures in this subpart, or when otherwise required by OTS.

§ 516.170 When will OTS conduct a meeting on an application?

(a) OTS will grant a meeting request or conduct a meeting on its own initiative, if it finds that written submissions are insufficient to address facts or issues raised in an application, or otherwise determines that a meeting will benefit the decision-making process. OTS may limit the issues considered at the meeting to issues that OTS decides are relevant or material.

(b) OTS will inform the applicant and all commenters requesting a meeting of its decision to grant or deny a meeting request, or of its decision to conduct a meeting on its own initiative.

(c) If OTS decides to conduct a meeting, OTS will invite the applicant and any commenters requesting a meeting and raising an issue that OTS intends to consider at the meeting. OTS may also invite other interested persons to attend. OTS will inform the participants of the date, time, location, issues to be considered, and format for the meeting a reasonable time before the meeting.

§ 516.180 What procedures govern the conduct of the meeting?

(a) OTS may conduct meetings in any format including, but not limited to, a telephone conference, a face-to-face meeting, or a more formal meeting.

(b) The Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 551 *et seq.*), the Federal Rules of Evidence (28 U.S.C. Appendix), the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (28 U.S.C. Rule 1 *et seq.*) and the OTS Rules of Practice and Procedure in Adjudicatory Proceedings (12 CFR part 509) do not apply to meetings under this section.

§ 516.185 Will OTS approve or disapprove an application at a meeting?

OTS will not approve or deny an application at a meeting under this subpart.

§ 516.190 Will a meeting affect application processing time frames?

If OTS decides to conduct a meeting, it may suspend applicable application processing time frames, including the time frames for deeming an application complete and the applicable approval time frames in subpart E of this part. If OTS suspends applicable application processing time frames, the time period will resume when OTS determines that a record has been developed that sufficiently supports a determination on the issues considered at the meeting.

Subpart E—OTS Review

SOURCE: 66 FR 13003, Mar. 2, 2001, unless otherwise noted.

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EXPEDITED TREATMENT

§516.200 If I file a notice under expedited treatment, when may I engage in the proposed activities?

If you are eligible for expedited treatment and you have appropriately filed your notice with OTS, you may engage in the proposed activities upon the expiration of 30 days after the filing date of your notice, unless OTS takes one of the following actions before the expiration of that time period:

(a) OTS notifies you in writing that you must file additional information supplementing your notice. If you are required to file additional information, you may engage in the proposed activities upon the expiration of 30 calendar days after the date you file the additional information, unless OTS takes one of the actions described in paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section before the expiration of that time period;

(b) OTS notifies you in writing that your notice is subject to standard treatment under this subpart. OTS will subject your notice to standard treatment if it raises a supervisory concern, raises a significant issue of law or policy, or requires significant additional information;

(c) OTS notifies you in writing that it is suspending the applicable time frames under §516.190; or

(d) OTS notifies you that it disapproves your notice.

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STANDARD TREATMENT

§516.210 What will OTS do after I file my application?

(a) *OTS action.* Within 30 calendar days after the filing date of your application, OTS will take one of the following actions:

If OTS * * *	Then * * *
(1) Notifies you, in writing, that your application is complete * * *.	The applicable review period will begin on the date that OTS deems your application complete.
(2) Notifies you, in writing, that you must submit additional information to complete your application * * *.	You must submit the required additional information under §516.220.
(3) Notifies you, in writing, that your application is materially deficient * * *.	OTS will not process your application.
(4) Takes no action * * *	Your application is deemed complete. The applicable review period will begin on the day the 30-day time period expires.

(b) *Waiver requests.* If your application includes a request for waiver of an information requirement under §516.25(b), and OTS has not notified you that you must submit additional information under paragraph (a)(2) of this section, your request for waiver is granted.

§516.220 If OTS requests additional information to complete my application, how will it process my application?

(a) You may use the following chart to determine the procedure that applies to your submission of additional information under §516.210(a)(1):

If, within 30 calendar days after the date of OTS's request for additional information * * *	Then, OTS may * * *.	And * * *.
(1) You file a response to all information requests * * *.	(i) Notify you in writing within 15 days after the filing date of your response that your application is complete * * * applicable to all response that your application is complete * * *. (ii) Notify you in writing within 15 calendar days after the filing date of your response that you must submit additional information regarding matters derived from or prompted by information already furnished or any additional information necessary to resolve the issues presented in your application * * *. (iii) Notify you in writing within 15 calendar days after the filing date of your response that your application is materially deficient * * *.	The applicable review period will begin on the date that OTS deems your application complete. You must respond to the additional information request within the time period required by OTS. OTS will review your response under the procedures described in this section. OTS will not process your application.

If, within 30 calendar days after the date of OTS's request for additional information * * *	Then, OTS may * * *.	And * * *.
(2) You request an extension of time to file additional information * * *.	(iv) Take no action within 15 calendar days after the filing date of your response * * *. (i) Grant an extension, in writing, specifying the number of days for the extension * * *. (ii) Notify you in writing that your extension request is disapproved * * *.	Your application is deemed complete. The applicable review period will begin on the day that the 15-day time period expires. You must fully respond within the extended time period specified by OTS. OTS will review your response under the procedures described under this section. OTS will not process your application further. You may resubmit the application for processing as a new filing under the applicable regulation.
(3) You fail to respond completely * * * ..	(i) Notify you in writing that your application is deemed withdrawn * * *. (ii) Notify you, in writing, that your response is incomplete and extend the response period, specifying the number of days for the respond extension * * *.	OTS will not process your application further. You may resubmit the application for processing as a new filing under the applicable regulation. You must fully respond within the extended time period specified by OTS. OTS will review your response under the procedures described under this section.

(b) OTS may extend the 15-day period referenced in paragraph (a)(1) of this section by up to 15 calendar days, if OTS requires the additional time to review your response. OTS will notify you that it has extended the period before the end of the initial 15-day period and will briefly explain why the extension is necessary.

(c) If your response filed under paragraph (a)(1) of this section includes a request for a waiver of an informational requirement, your request for a waiver is granted if OTS fails to act on it within 15 calendar days after the filing of your response, unless OTS extends the review period under paragraph (b). If OTS extends the review period under paragraph (b), your request is granted if OTS fails to act on it by the end of the extended review period.

[66 FR 13003, Mar. 2, 2001; 67 FR 3264, Jan. 23, 2002]

§ 516.230 Will OTS conduct an eligibility examination?

(a) *Eligibility examination.* OTS may notify you at any time before it deems your application complete that it will conduct an eligibility examination. If OTS decides to conduct an eligibility examination, it will not deem your application complete until it concludes the examination.

(b) *Additional information.* OTS may, as a result of the eligibility examina-

tion, notify you that you must submit additional information to complete your application. If so, you must respond to the additional information request within the time period required by OTS. OTS will review your response under the procedures described in § 516.220.

§ 516.240 What may OTS require me to do after my application is deemed complete?

After your application is deemed complete, but before the end of the applicable review period,

(a) OTS may require you to provide additional information if the information is necessary to resolve or clarify the issues presented by your application.

(b) OTS may determine that a major issue of law or a change in circumstances arose after you filed your application, and that the issue or changed circumstances will substantially effect your application. If OTS identifies such an issue or changed circumstances, it may:

(1) Notify you, in writing, that your application is now incomplete and require you to submit additional information to complete the application under the procedures described at § 516.220; and

(2) Require you to publish a new public notice of your application under § 516.250.

§ 516.250

§ 516.250 Will OTS require me to publish a new public notice?

(a) If your application was subject to a publication requirement, OTS may require you to publish a new public notice of your application if:

(1) You submitted a revision to the application, you submitted new or additional information, or a major issue of law or a change in circumstances arose after the filing of your application; and

(2) OTS determines that additional comment on these matters is appropriate because of the significance of the new information or circumstances.

(b) OTS will notify you in writing if you must publish a new public notice of your revised application.

(c) If you are required to publish a new public notice of your revised application, you must notify OTS after you publish the new public notice.

§ 516.260 May OTS suspend processing of my application?

(a) *Suspension.* OTS may, at any time, indefinitely suspend processing of your application if:

(1) OTS, another governmental entity, or a self-regulatory trade or professional organization initiates an investigation, examination, or administrative proceeding that is relevant to OTS's evaluation of your application;

(2) You request the suspension or there are other extraordinary circumstances that have a significant impact on the processing of your application.

(b) *Notice.* OTS will promptly notify you, in writing, if it suspends your application.

§ 516.270 How long is the OTS review period?

(a) *General.* The applicable OTS review period is 60 calendar days after the date that your application is deemed complete, unless an applicable OTS regulation specifies a different review period.

(b) *Multiple applications.* If you submit more than one application in connection with a proposed action or if two or more applicants submit related applications, the applicable review period for all applications is the review period for the application with the

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longest review period, subject to statutory review periods.

(c) *Extensions.* (1) OTS may extend the review period for up to 30 calendar days beyond the period described in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section. OTS must notify you in writing of the extension and the duration of the extension. OTS must issue the written extension before the end of the review period.

(2) OTS may also extend the review period as needed until it acts on the application, if the application presents a significant issue of law or policy that requires additional time to resolve. OTS must notify you in writing of the extension and the general reasons for the extension. OTS must issue the written extension before the end of the review period, including any extension of that period under paragraph (c)(1) of this section. This section applies to applications and notices filed under § 575.3(b) and part 574 of this chapter.

§ 516.280 How will I know if my application has been approved?

(a) *OTS approval or denial.* (1) OTS will approve or deny your application before the expiration of the applicable review period, including any extensions of the review period.

(2) OTS will promptly notify you in writing of its decision to approve or deny your application.

(b) *No OTS action.* If OTS fails to act under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, your application is approved.

§ 516.290 What will happen if OTS does not approve or disapprove my application within two calendar years after the filing date?

(a) *Withdrawal.* If OTS has not approved or denied your pending application within two calendar years after the filing date under § 516.45, OTS will notify you, in writing, that your application is deemed withdrawn unless OTS determines that you are actively pursuing a final OTS determination on your application. You are not actively pursuing a final OTS determination if you have failed to timely take an action required under this part, including filing required additional information, or OTS has suspended processing of your application under § 516.260 based

on circumstances that are, in whole or in part, within your control and you have failed to take reasonable steps to resolve these circumstances.

(b) *Effective date.* This section is effective July 1, 2001.

PART 517—CONTRACTING OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Sec.

517.1 Purpose and scope.

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AUTHORITY: 12 U.S.C. 1833(e); 42 U.S.C. 12101 *et seq.*

SOURCE: 58 FR 33324, June 17, 1993, unless otherwise noted.

§517.1 Purpose and scope.

The purpose of the OTS Minority-, Women- and Individuals with Disabilities-Owned Businesses Outreach Program (Outreach Program) is to ensure that firms owned and operated by minorities, women and individuals with disabilities are given the opportunity to participate to the maximum extent possible in all contracts entered into by the OTS. Sections 517.5 through 517.7 of this part apply to all contracting activities, with the exception of contracting for legal services, engaged in by OTS in any of its capacities, for all OTS functions authorized by law. These contracts will typically pertain to services in support of OTS's business operations, such as consulting, programming, auditing, expert witnesses, customized training, relocation services, information systems technology (computer systems, database management, software and office automation), or micrographic services; or in support of its day-to-day operations, such as facilities management, mail and printing services, or procurement of office supplies, furniture and office equipment.

§517.2 Definitions.

The definitions included in this part are derived from common usage of these terms. A term in this part includes all those who are commonly un-

derstood to be included within that term.

(a) *Minority- and/or women-owned (small and large) businesses and entities owned by minorities and women* means firms at least fifty-one (51) percent owned by individuals who are members of the minority group or women and who are citizens of the United States. In the case of publicly-owned companies, at least fifty-one (51) percent of each class of voting stock must be owned by one or more members of the minority group or by one or more women, who are citizens of the United States. In the case of partnerships, at least fifty-one (51) percent of the partnership interest must be owned by one or more members of the minority group or by one or more women, who are citizens of the United States. Additionally, the management and daily business operations of the firm must be controlled by one or more such individuals.

(b) *Minority* means any Black/African-American; Native American (American Indians, Eskimos, Aleuts and Native Hawaiians); Hispanic American; Asian-Pacific American; or Subcontinent-Asian American.

(c) *Small and large businesses and entities owned by individuals with disabilities* means firms at least fifty-one (51) percent owned by individuals with disabilities who are citizens of the United States. In the case of publicly-owned companies, at least fifty-one (51) percent of each class of voting stock must be owned by individuals with disabilities who are citizens of the United States. In the case of partnerships, at least fifty-one (51) percent of the partnership interest must be owned by individuals with disabilities who are citizens of the United States. Additionally, the management and daily business operations must be controlled by one or more such individuals.

(d) *Disability*, as used in this part, has the same meaning as the term used in section 3 of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, Public Law 101-336, 104 Stat. 327 (42 U.S.C. 12101 *et seq.*)

§517.3 Policy.

It is the policy of the OTS that minorities, women and individuals with