WASHINGTON, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 693–2870 (This is not a toll-free number).

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to announce the annual list of labor surplus areas for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012.

DATES: Effective Date: The annual list of labor surplus areas is effective October 1, 2011, for all states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Samuel Wright, Office of Workforce Investment, Employment and Training Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room S–4291, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 693–2870 (This is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Labor’s regulations implementing Executive Orders 12073 and 10582 are set forth at 20 CFR part 654, Subparts A and B. These regulations require the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) to classify jurisdictions as labor surplus areas pursuant to the criteria specified in the regulations and to publish annually a list of labor surplus areas. Pursuant to those regulations, ETA is hereby publishing the annual list of labor surplus areas.

In addition, the regulations provide exceptional circumstance criteria for classifying labor surplus areas when catastrophic events, such as natural disasters, plant closings, and contract cancellations are expected to have a long-term impact on labor market area conditions, discounting temporary or seasonal factors.

Eligible Labor Surplus Areas

A Labor Surplus Area (LSA) is a civil jurisdiction that has a civilian average annual unemployment rate during the previous two calendar years of 20 percent or more above the average annual civilian unemployment rate for all states during the same 24-month reference period. Only official unemployment estimates provided to ETA by the Bureau of Labor Statistics are used in making these classifications. The average unemployment rate for all states includes data for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The basic LSA classification criteria include a “floor unemployment rate” (6.0%) and a “ceiling unemployment rate” (10.0%).

Civil jurisdictions are defined as follows:
(a) A city of at least 25,000 population on the basis of the most recently available estimates from the Bureau of the Census; or
(b) A town or township in the States of Michigan, New Jersey, New York, or Pennsylvania of 25,000 or more population and which possess powers and functions similar to those of cities; or
(c) A county, except those counties which contain any type of civil jurisdictions defined in A or B above and a county in the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island; or
(d) A “balance of county” consisting of a county less any component cities and townships identified in paragraphs A or B above; or
(e) A county equivalent which is a town in the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, or a municipio in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Procedures for Classifying Labor Surplus Areas

The Department of Labor (DOL) issues the labor surplus area list on a fiscal year basis. The list becomes effective each October 1 and remains in effect through the following September 30. The reference period used in preparing the current list was January 2009 through December 2010. The national average unemployment rate during this period was 9.5 percent. Twenty percent higher than the national unemployment rate is 11.4 percent. Since the ceiling unemployment rate is 10.0 percent, the qualifying rate is 10.0 percent. Therefore, areas included on the FY 2012 labor surplus area list had an average unemployment rate of 10.0 percent or above during the reference period. When a civil jurisdiction is part of a county and meets the unemployment qualifier as a labor surplus area, then the balance of county will be used if the balance of county also meets the unemployment criteria of a labor surplus area. The FY 2012 labor surplus area list and the list of labor surplus areas in Puerto Rico can be accessed at the ETA’s LSA website at http://www.doleta.gov/programs/lsa.cfm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data collection activity</th>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>Total burden hours</th>
<th>Average hourly wage rate*</th>
<th>Total annualized cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal—Interviews</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus Groups:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Participant Information Sheet</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>1,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Informed Consent</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>480</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Discussion</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>8,640</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subtotal—Focus Groups</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>660</td>
<td></td>
<td>10,560</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grantee Surveys:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Screening Calls</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>44.84</td>
<td>583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Web/Telephone Survey</td>
<td>760</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>28.01</td>
<td>7,087</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subtotal—Surveys</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>266</td>
<td></td>
<td>7,670</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,252</td>
<td>1,186</td>
<td></td>
<td>25,453</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Petition for Exceptional Circumstance Consideration

The classification procedures also provide for the designation of labor surplus areas under exceptional circumstance criteria. These procedures permit the regular classification criteria to be waived when an area experiences a significant increase in unemployment which is not temporary or seasonal and which was not reflected in the data for the 2-year reference period. Under the program’s exceptional circumstance procedures, labor surplus area classifications can be made for civil jurisdictions, Metropolitan Statistical Areas or Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget. In order for an area to be classified as a labor surplus area under the exceptional circumstance criteria, the state workforce agency must submit a petition requesting such classification to the Department of Labor’s ETA. The current criteria for an exceptional circumstance classification are: an area’s unemployment rate is at least 10.0 percent for each of the three most recent months; a projected unemployment rate of at least 10.0 percent for each of the next 12 months; and documentation that the exceptional circumstance event has already occurred. The state workforce agency may file petitions on behalf of civil jurisdictions, as well as Metropolitan Statistical Areas or Micropolitan Statistical Areas. The addresses of state workforce agencies are available on the ETA Web site at: http://www.doleta.gov/programs/lsa.cfm. State Workforce Agencies may submit petitions in electronic format to wright.samuel.e@dol.gov, or in hard copy to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Workforce Investment, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room S–4231, Washington, DC 20210, Attention Samuel Wright. Data collection for the petition is approved under OMB 1205–0207, expiration date March 31, 2012.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 22nd day of August, 2011.

Jane Oates,
Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training Administration.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

Records Schedules; Availability and Request for Comments

AGENCY: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed records schedules; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) publishes notice at least once monthly of certain Federal agency requests for records disposition authority (records schedules). Once approved by NARA, records schedules provide mandatory instructions on what happens to records when no longer needed for current Government business. They authorize the preservation of records of continuing value in the National Archives of the United States and the destruction, after a specified period of records lacking administrative, legal, research, or other value. Notice is published for records schedules in which agencies propose to destroy records not previously authorized for disposal or reduce the retention period of records already authorized for disposal. NARA invites public comments on such records schedules, as required by 44 U.S.C. 3303(a).

DATES: Requests for copies must be received in writing on or before September 28, 2011. Once the appraisal of the records is completed, NARA will send a copy of the schedule. NARA staff usually prepare appraisal memorandums that contain additional information concerning the records covered by a proposed schedule. These, too, may be requested and will be provided once the appraisal is completed. Requesters will be given 30 days to submit comments.

ADDRESSES: You may request a copy of any records schedule identified in this notice by contacting Records Management Services (ACNR) using one of the following means:

Mail: NARA (ACNR), 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740–6001.
E-mail: request.schedule@nara.gov.
Fax: 301–837–3698.

Requesters must cite the control number, which appears in parentheses after the name of the agency which submitted the schedule, and must provide a mailing address. Those who desire appraisal reports should so indicate in their request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laurence Brewer, Director, Records Management Services (ACNR), National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740–6001. Telephone: 301–837–1539. E-mail: records.mgt@nara.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Each year Federal agencies create billions of records on paper, film, magnetic tape, and other media. To control this accumulation, agency records managers prepare schedules proposing retention periods for records and submit these schedules for NARA’s approval, using the Standard Form (SF) 115, Request for Records Disposition Authority. These schedules provide for the timely transfer into the National Archives of historically valuable records and authorize the disposal of all other records after the agency no longer needs them to conduct its business. Some schedules are comprehensive and cover all the records of an agency or one of its major subdivisions. Most schedules, however, cover records of only one office or program or a few series of records. Many of these update previously approved schedules, and some include records proposed as permanent.

The schedules listed in this notice are media neutral unless specified otherwise. An item in a schedule is media neutral when the disposition instructions may be applied to records regardless of the medium in which the records are created and maintained. Items included in schedules submitted to NARA on or after December 17, 2007, are media neutral unless the item is limited to a specific medium. (See 36 CFR 1225.12(e).)

No Federal records are authorized for destruction without the approval of the Archivist of the United States. This approval is granted only after a thorough consideration of their administrative use by the agency of origin, the rights of the Government and of private persons directly affected by the Government’s activities, and whether or not they have historical or other value.

Besides identifying the Federal agencies and any subdivisions requesting disposition authority, this public notice lists the organizational unit(s) accumulating the records or indicates agency-wide applicability in the case of schedules that cover records that may be accumulated throughout an agency. This notice provides the control number assigned to each schedule, the total number of schedule items, and the number of temporary items (the records proposed for destruction). It also includes a brief description of the temporary records. The records schedule itself contains a full