OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Submission for Review: SF–15 Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: 30-Day Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces the Office of Personnel Management’s (OPM) plan to submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for clearance of a revised information collection, Standard Form (SF) 15, Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference. The SF–15 is used by agencies, OPM examining offices, and agency appointing officials to adjudicate individuals’ claims for veterans’ preference in accordance with the Veterans’ Preference Act of 1944. OPM’s revisions will (1) remove obsolete items; and (2) update language as a result of the enactment of the VOW (Veterans Opportunity to Work) to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 (Pub. L. 112–56). The SF–15 will be revised to create a PDF fillable form for applicant use. The only acceptable version of this form will be as stated above, consistent with current practice, the form may be submitted electronically or in hard copy. Upon publication, please destroy any prior versions you have in stock. The SF–15 will be obtainable on the OPM Web site at http://www.opm.gov/forms/standard-forms/. No comments were received for this information collection. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comments. The Office of Management and Budget is particularly interested in comments that:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of OPM, including whether the information will have practical utility;  
2. Evaluate the accuracy of OPM’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;  
3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and  
4. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until November 29, 2013. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.1.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection by mail to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management Budget, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention: Desk Officer for the Office of Personnel Management, by email to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov, or by fax to (202) 395–6974.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A copy of this Information Collection Request (ICR), with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by contacting the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management Budget, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention: Desk Officer for the Office of Personnel Management or sent via electronic mail to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov or faxed to (202) 395–6974.

Analysis


Title: SF–15 Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference.

OMB Number: 3206–0001.
OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Privacy Act of 1974: New System of Records

AGENCY: U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

ACTION: Notice of a new system of records.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) proposes to add a new system of records to its inventory of records systems subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended. This action is necessary to meet the requirements of the Privacy Act to publish in the Federal Register notice of the existence and character of records maintained by the agency. 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4).

DATES: This action will be effective without further notice on December 9, 2013 unless comments are received that would result in a contrary determination.


FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Padma Shah by telephone at 202–606–2128, or by email at mspp@opm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111–148, was enacted on March 23, 2010, and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act, Public Law 111–152, was enacted on March 30, 2010 (collectively referred to as “the Affordable Care Act”).

Section 1334 of the Affordable Care Act and its implementing regulations (codified at 45 CFR part 800) direct OPM to establish a Multi-State Plan (MSP) Program to foster competition among plans offering coverage on the individual and small group health insurance markets on the Affordable Insurance Exchanges (referred to as “Exchanges” or “Health Insurance Marketplaces”). Specifically, OPM must contract with private health insurance issuers to offer at least two MSP options on each of the Exchanges in the 50 States and the District of Columbia, in which issuers may phase in coverage over a period of 4 years.

Under section 1334(a)(4) of the Affordable Care Act, OPM must administer the MSP Program “in a manner similar to the manner in which” it implements the contracting provisions of the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program under 5 U.S.C. 8901 et seq. In the MSP Program final rule (78 FR 15560, March 11, 2013), OPM interpreted section 1334(a)(4) of the Affordable Care Act to require implementation of a uniform, nationally applicable external review process for MSP options, consistent with the requirements of section 2719 of the Public Health Service Act and similar to the process administered by OPM under the FEHB Program. This process will ensure that MSP Program contracts are administered consistently throughout all 51 jurisdictions that would be served by an MSP option. Specifically, under 45 CFR 800.503, OPM is authorized to conduct external review of adverse benefit determinations by MSP issuers using a process similar to the FEHB Program disputed claims process. In addition to requests for external review, we anticipate that MSP enrollees may contact OPM about inquiries or complaints regarding MSP options, which may have to be referred to other appropriate entities such as State insurance departments, State consumer assistance programs, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The purpose of this system of records is to provide a central database through which OPM may conduct external review of adverse benefit determinations under the MSP Program, refer MSP enrollees to other entities about their inquiries or complaints, and correspond with MSP enrollees. OPM will collect, manage, and analyze health services data that MSP enrollees, MSP issuers, health care providers, and others will furnish through secure data transfer. The information contained in the database will help ensure that (1) MSP enrollees have adequate access to independent review of adverse benefit determinations, (2) MSP enrollees are referred to appropriate entities about their inquiries or complaints, (3) OPM corresponds with MSP enrollees, and (4) OPM collects the information necessary for the enforcement of MSP Program contracts and implementation of the program.

OPM will use identifiable data to create records about MSP enrollee inquiries or complaints, which may have to be referred to other State and Federal Government agencies. However, OPM and external analysts using the database for analysis purposes will have access only to de-identified data.

Elaine Kaplan, Acting Director.

OPM CENTRAL–19

SYSTEM NAME: External Review Records for Multi-State Plan (MSP) Program

SYSTEM LOCATION: Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

This system will contain records on MSP enrollees who request external review of adverse benefit determinations, and MSP enrollees who contact OPM about an inquiry or complaint.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

In order to process a request for external review, OPM may require an MSP enrollee or an authorized representative to submit the following information about the enrollee, which OPM may also collect, as necessary, to process enrollee inquiries and complaints:

a. The adverse benefit determination that the individual received from the MSP issuer.

b. Name.
c. Date of birth.
d. Gender.
e. Social Security Number.
f. Phone number(s), postal address(es) (current and mailing), and email address(es).
g. Insurance identification (ID) number.
h. Group number.
i. Scanned copy of insurance ID card.
j. The State and county of coverage.
k. An indication of whether the external review request is for an urgent claim.
l. A brief statement of the reason for the external review request.
m. The MSP issuer’s name.
n. The name of the MSP option that covers the MSP enrollee.

O. The claim number.
p. Subscriber’s information: Name, Social Security Number, date of birth, gender, phone number(s), postal address(es) (current and mailing), and email address(es).