DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) DOL-Only Performance Accountability, Information, and Reporting System

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is soliciting comments concerning proposed extension for the authority to conduct the information collection request (ICR) titled, “Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Performance Accountability, Information and Reporting System.” This comment request is part of continuing Departmental efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA).

DATES: Submit written comments to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before July 24, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov by selecting Docket ID number ETA–2017–0002 or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. A copy of the ICR with applicable supporting documentation; including a description of the likely respondents, proposed frequency of response, and estimated total burden may be obtained free of charge from http://www.regulations.gov or by contacting Herman L. Quilloin III by telephone at 202–693–3994 (this is not a toll-free number) or by email at Quilloin.Herman@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The DOL, as part of continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information before submitting them to the OMB for final approval. This program helps to ensure requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements can be properly assessed.

Section 116 of WIOA requires States that operate core programs of the publicly-funded workforce system to comply with common performance accountability requirements. As such, States that operate core programs must submit common performance data to demonstrate that specified performance levels are achieved.

The data collections in this ICR fulfill requirements in WIOA Sec. 116(d)(1) which mandates that the Secretaries of Labor and Education develop a template for the annual performance reports to be used by States, local boards, and of training services for reporting on outcomes achieved by the WIOA programs. Pursuant to WIOA sec. 116(d)(2), required annual data for the core programs include, among others, those related to primary performance indicators, participant counts and costs, and barriers to employment. The Department proposes to amend the information collection by making changes to the Participant Individual Record Layout (ETA–9172), (Program) Performance Report (ETA–9173) and the Pay-for-Performance Report (ETA–9174) to facilitate State quarterly performance reporting.

This notice includes several documents—the ETA (Program) Performance Report, the WIOA Pay-for-Performance Report, the Participant Individual Record Layout (PIRL), and the WIOA Data Element Specifications. The Department requires states to certify and submit the ETA (Program) Performance Report to ETA on a quarterly basis and the Pay-for-Performance report(s) will be collected annually. ETA will aggregate the information the States submit through the PIRL to populate the ETA (Program) Performance Report, which ETA will then send to the States to confirm their accuracy. Each program included in this ICR will generate its own quarterly Performance Report.

The ETA (Program) Performance Report and WIOA Pay-for-Performance Report have been designed to maximize the value of the reports for workers, jobseekers, employers, local elected officials, State officials, Federal policymakers, and other key stakeholders. The PIRL has been designed to reflect the specific requirements of the annual reports as described in WIOA section 116(d)(2) through (4).

ETA will use the data to track total participants, characteristics, services, training strategies and outcomes for employed, unemployed and long-term unemployed participants. This data collection format permits program offices to evaluate program...
greatly encourage your comments on the potential impact on individual states and local areas of this and all other items discussed in this package.

As mentioned above, as part of its effort to streamline program performance reporting, the Department added the performance information collection requirements for the SCSEP to this information collection. The Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2016 (OAA–2016) amended the SCSEP core indicators of performance, and it requires those amended indicators to be implemented by regulation by December 31, 2017. SCSEP will retain its current ICR (under OMB Control Number 1205–0040) for non-performance data elements and will implement the OAA–2016 performance measures’ information collection under this ICR upon completion of rulemaking. This ICR may receive OMB approval before Final Rules implementing the OAA–2016 SCSEP measures are published. If this occurs, the Department will submit another ICR for this collection to OMB to incorporate the Final Rule citations, as required by 5 CFR 1320.11(h). Those citations currently do not exist and, therefore, cannot be included at this time. The Department plans to review and analyze any comments received in response to this Federal Register Notice in order to finalize the substantive information collection requirements to the extent legally possible.

II. Review Focus

The Department as part of its effort to streamline program performance reporting is (1) making grammar edits, code fields, and instructions revisions; (2) deleting data elements no longer required by ETA, (3) adding data elements needed by ETA, and (4) adding the performance information collection requirements for the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP).

The Department is particularly interested in comments that:

• Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
• evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
• can further help to create an integrated data element layout between ETA-funded programs;
• enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
• 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).

III. Current Actions

Type of Review: Revision. 
Title: Workforce Performance Accountability, Information, and Reporting System
OMB Number: 1205–0521. 
Affected Public: State, Local, and Tribal Governments; Individuals or Households; and Private Sector—businesses or other for-profits and not-for-profit institutions.
Frequency: Quarterly. Annually. 
Estimated Total Annual Respondents: 947. 
Estimated Total Annual Responses: 17,360,446. 
Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 4,495,212. 
Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden: $17,100,000.

Approval of this information collection request is required so that the states, locals, and other entities can begin programming their management information systems in order to enable them to collect the necessary data to implement the data collection and reporting requirements of section 116 in accordance with the WIOA statute.

Byron Zuidema, 
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Comment Request: Survey of Employer Policies on the Employment of People With Disabilities

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Chief Evaluation Office, Department of Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized,