

clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to 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. Comments may be sent to: Thomas P. Dickson, Director, Acting Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 1522, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-1522. Telephone: (202) 690-4492, FAX: (202) 720-8435 or email [Thomas.Dickson@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Thomas.Dickson@wdc.usda.gov).

*Title:* Rural Alaska Village Grant Program.

*OMB Control Number:* 0572-0150.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* The Rural Alaska Village Grant (RAVG) Program is authorized under Section 305D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (CONACT), (7 U.S.C. 1926(d)), as amended. Governing regulations are currently codified in 7 CFR 1780. Under the RAVG program, the Secretary of Agriculture may make grants to the State of Alaska for the benefit of rural or Native Villages in Alaska to provide for the development and construction of water and wastewater systems to improve the health and sanitation conditions in those Villages. To be eligible to receive a grant under the RAVG program, the project must provide 25 percent in matching funds from the State of Alaska. The matching funds must come from non-Federal sources. The Secretary shall consult with the State of Alaska on a method of prioritizing the allocation of grants according to the needs of, and relative health and sanitation conditions in, each village.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.36 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions, State, Local, or Tribal Government.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 25.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 13.8.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 469.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Rebecca Hunt, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, at (202) 205-3660, FAX: (202) 720-8435 or email: [rebecca.hunt@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:rebecca.hunt@wdc.usda.gov). All responses to this notice will be summarized and included

in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: April 30, 2018.

**Kenneth L. Johnson,**

*Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.*

[FR Doc. 2018-11398 Filed 5-25-18; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

*Agency:* U.S. Census Bureau.

*Title:* American Community Survey Methods Panel Tests.

*OMB Control Number:* 0607-0936.

*Form Number(s):* ACS-1 and ACS-1(GQ).

*Type of Request:* Regular Submission.  
*Number of Respondents:* 455,500 per year.

*Average Hours per Response:* 40 minutes.

*Burden Hours:* 266,168 per year.

*Needs and Uses:* The U.S. Census Bureau requests authorization from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the American Community Survey (ACS) Methods Panel Tests.

An ongoing data collection effort with an annual sample of the magnitude of the ACS requires that the Census Bureau continue research, testing, and evaluations aimed at improving data quality, achieving survey cost efficiencies, reducing respondent burden, and improving ACS questionnaire content and related data collection materials. The ACS Methods Panel is a robust research program focused on enhancing the quality of the respondent experience, survey operations, and data.

From 2018 to 2021, the ACS Methods Panel program may include testing methods for increasing survey efficiencies, reducing survey cost, improving the respondent experience, increasing response rates, and improving data quality. At this time, plans are in place to propose several tests:

- Mail Materials Test that will explore ways to improve the respondent experience and address respondent concerns about the perceived intrusiveness of the ACS balanced against increasing self-response to the survey.

- Self-Response Mail Messaging Tests that research various aspects of the mail materials and contact strategy.

- Multilingual Testing that would explore ways to engage respondents with limited English proficiency during the self-response portion of data collection.

- Content Tests that will test new and/or revised content.

- Respondent Burden Questions Test that would incorporate questions about respondents' experience with the survey.

- Respondent Comment/Feedback Test which would add a comment field to make it easy for respondents to give feedback about the ACS.

- Administrative Data Use Test to assess the potential for supplementing or replacing survey content with administrative data.

- Group Quarters Test to assess the feasibility of making an internet self-response option available to non-institutional GQ residents.

Since the ACS Methods Panel is designed to address emerging issues, we may conduct additional testing as needed. Any additional testing would focus on methods for reducing data collection costs, improving data quality, revising content, or testing new questions that have an urgent need to be included on the ACS. The tests may be conducted on HUs, GQs, or both. As more details are developed for the additional tests, the Census Bureau will submit a non-substantive change request, (and **Federal Register** Notice, as necessary) documenting the change or revision.

The tests proposed allow the Census Bureau to continue to examine operational issues, research the data quality, collect cost information and make recommendations for improvements to this annual data collection.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Frequency:* Multiple one-time tests over a 3-year period.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13, United States Code, Sections 141, 193, and 221.

*This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov).*

Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this

notice to *OIRA\_Submission@omb.eop.gov* or fax to (202) 395-5806.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Departmental Lead PRA Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2018-11437 Filed 5-25-18; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of an opportunity to apply for membership on the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce is currently seeking applications for membership on the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board (Board). The purpose of the Board is to advise the Secretary of Commerce on matters relating to the U.S. travel and tourism industry.

**DATES:** Applications for immediate consideration for membership must be received by the National Travel and Tourism Office by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on Friday, June 15, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit application information by email to *TTAB@trade.gov*.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Brian Beall, National Travel and Tourism Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Ave. NW, Room 10003, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: 202-482-0140; email: *TTAB@trade.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board (Board) is established under 15 U.S.C. 1512 and under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. (FACA). The Board advises the Secretary of Commerce on government policies and programs that affect the U.S. travel and tourism industry, including ways to ensure the United States remains the preeminent destination for international travel and tourism. The Board acts as a liaison to the stakeholders represented by the membership, consulting with them on current and emerging issues in the industry to support sustainable growth in travel and tourism.

The National Travel and Tourism Office is accepting applications for

Board members. Members shall be Chief Executive Officers or senior executives from U.S. companies, U.S. organizations, or U.S. entities in the travel and tourism sectors representing a broad range of products and services, company sizes, and geographic locations. For eligibility purposes, a "U.S. company" is a for-profit firm that is incorporated in the United States (or an unincorporated U.S. firm with its principal place of business in the United States) that is controlled by U.S. citizens or by other U.S. companies. A company is not a U.S. company if 50 percent plus one share of its stock (if a corporation, or a similar ownership interest of an unincorporated entity) is known to be controlled, directly or indirectly, by non-U.S. citizens or non-U.S. companies. For eligibility purposes, a "U.S. organization" is an organization, including trade associations and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), established under the laws of the United States, that is controlled by U.S. citizens, by another U.S. organization (or organizations), or by a U.S. company (or companies), as determined based on its board of directors (or comparable governing body), membership, and funding sources, as applicable. For eligibility purposes, a U.S. entity is a tourism-related entity that can demonstrate U.S. ownership or control, including but not limited to state and local tourism marketing entities, state government tourism offices, state and/or local government-supported tourism marketing entities, and multi-state tourism marketing entities.

Members of the Board will be selected in accordance with applicable Department of Commerce guidelines based on their ability to carry out the objectives of the Board as set forth in the Board's charter and in a manner that ensures that the Board is balanced in terms of geographic diversity, diversity in size of company or organization to be represented, and representation of a broad range of services in the travel and tourism industry. Each member shall serve for two years from the date of the appointment, and at the pleasure of the Secretary of Commerce.

Members serve in a representative capacity, representing the views and interests of their particular business sector, and not as Special Government employees. Members will receive no compensation for their participation in Board activities. Members participating in Board meetings and events will be responsible for their travel, living, and other personal expenses. Meetings will be held regularly and, to the extent

practical, not less than twice annually, usually in Washington, DC.

To be considered for membership, please provide the following information by the Friday, June 15, 2018 deadline to the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section:

1. The name and title of the individual requesting consideration.
2. A sponsor letter from the applicant on his or her company/organization/entity letterhead or, if the applicant is to represent a company/organization/entity other than his or her employer, a letter from the company/organization/entity to be represented, containing a brief statement of why the applicant should be considered for membership on the Board. This sponsor letter should also address the applicant's travel and tourism-related experience.
3. The applicant's personal resume.
4. An affirmative statement that the applicant is not required to register as a foreign agent under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended.
5. If the applicant is to represent a company, information regarding the control of the company, including the stock holdings as appropriate, signifying compliance with the criteria set forth above.
6. If the applicant is to represent an organization, information regarding the control of the organization, including the governing structure, members, and revenue sources as appropriate, signifying compliance with the criteria set forth above.
7. If the applicant is to represent a tourism-related entity, the functions and responsibilities of the entity, and information regarding the entity's U.S. ownership or control, signifying compliance with the criteria set forth above.
8. The company's, organization's, or entity's size, product or service line and major markets in which the company, organization, or entity operates.
9. A brief statement describing how the applicant will contribute to the work of the Board based on his or her unique experience and perspective (not to exceed 100 words).

**Brian Beall,**

*Designated Federal Officer, National Travel and Tourism Office.*

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