SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:


OMB Control Number: 2900–0779.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 21–0960 series is used to gather necessary information from a claimant’s treating physician regarding the results of medical examinations. VA gathers medical information related to the claimant that is necessary to adjudicate the claim for VA disability benefits. The Disability Benefit Questionnaire title will include the name of the specific disability for which it will gather information. VAF 21–0960B–2, Hematologic and Lymphatic Conditions, Including Leukemia Disability Benefits Questionnaire, will gather information related to the claimant’s diagnosis of any hematologic or lymphatic condition; VAF 21–0960C–2, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (Lou Gehrig’s Disease) Disability Benefits Questionnaire, will gather information related to the claimant’s diagnosis of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; VAF 21–0960C–10, Peripheral Nerve Conditions (Not Including Diabetic Sensory-Motor Peripheral Neuropathy) Disability Benefits Questionnaire, will gather information related to the claimant’s diagnosis of a peripheral nerve disorder; VAF 21–0960I–1, Persian Gulf and Afghanistan Infectious Diseases Disability Benefits Questionnaire, will gather information related to the claimant’s diagnosis of an infectious disease due to service in the Persian Gulf or Afghanistan; VAF 210960J–4–6, Tuberculosis Disability Benefits Questionnaire, will gather information related to the claimant’s diagnosis of tuberculosis; VAF 21–0960J–1, Kidney Conditions (Nephrology) Disability Benefits Questionnaire, will gather information related to the claimant’s diagnosis of kidney disease; VAF 21–0960J–2, Male Reproductive Organ Conditions Disability Benefits Questionnaire, will gather information related to the claimant’s diagnosis of a male reproductive organ condition; VAF 21–0960J–3, Prostate Cancer Disability Benefits Questionnaire, will gather information related to the claimant’s diagnosis of prostate cancer; VAF 21–0960P–1, Eating Disorders Disability Benefits Questionnaire, will gather information related to the claimant’s diagnosis of an eating disorder; VAF 21–0960P–2, Mental Disorders (other than PTSD and Eating Disorders) Disability Benefits Questionnaire, will gather information related to the claimant’s diagnosis of any mental disorder with the exception of PTSD; VAF 21–0960P–3, Review Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Disability Benefits Questionnaire, will gather information related to the claimant’s diagnosis of PTSD.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Federal Register Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at 82 FR 74 on April 19, 2017, pages 18538 and 18540.

AFFECTED PUBLIC: Individuals or Households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 127,917 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 25 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 307,000.

By direction of the Secretary.

Cynthia Harvey-Pryor, Department Clearance Officer, Office of Quality, Privacy and Risk, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2017–28510 Filed 1–4–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0622]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Department of Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR), Buy American Act

AGENCY: Office of Acquisition and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Office of Acquisition and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before February 5, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through www.Regulations.gov, or to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attn: VA Desk Officer; 725 17th St. NW, Washington, DC 20503 or sent through electronic mail to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0622” in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cynthia Harvey-Pryor, Enterprise Records Service (005R1B), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 461–5870 or email cynthia.harvey- pryor@va.gov. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0622.”

SUMMARY: Buy American Act
material shall be used to perform domestic Federal contracts for construction, with certain exceptions. VA policy is to not accept foreign construction material. However, if a bidder chooses to submit a bid that includes foreign material, VA will consider such bids if the material is specifically identified and the price of the material is provided. VAAR clause 852.236–89, Buy American Act, advises bidders of these provisions and requires bidders who want to offer foreign construction material to list the material and its price. Bidders who do not intend to offer foreign material do not need to submit any information under this clause. The information is required to allow VA to make an informed decision as to whether or not to accept a bid that includes foreign construction material. In actual practice, very few bidders ever offer foreign materials and, when they do, very few of those offers are accepted.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Federal Register Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at 82 FR 142 on July 26, 2017, pages 34747 and 34748.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions.


Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: VAAR clause 852.236–89, Buy American Act—30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: VAAR clause 852.236–89, Buy American Act—43.

By direction of the Secretary.

Cynthia Harvey-Pryor,
Department Clearance Officer, Office of Quality, Privacy and Risk, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2018–00002 Filed 1–4–18; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Notice of Request for Information on the Department of Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC)

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Request for information.

SUMMARY: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is requesting information regarding its Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC). Through PCAFC, VA provides certain medical, travel, training, and stipend benefits to designated family caregivers of eligible veterans and servicemembers who were seriously injured in the line of duty on or after September 11, 2001. This notice requests information and comments from interested parties to help inform PCAFC of any changes needed to increase consistency across the program, as well as ensure it supports those family caregivers of veterans servicemembers most in need.

DATES: Comments in response to this request for information must be received by VA on or before February 5, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be submitted through http://www.Regulations.gov; by mail or hand delivery to the Director, Office of Regulation Policy and Management (00REG), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Room 1068, Washington, DC 20420; or by fax to (202) 273–9026. Comments should indicate that they are submitted in response to “Notice of Request for Information on the Department of Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC)”. Copies of comments received will be available for public inspection in the Office of Regulation Policy and Management (00REG), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Room 1063B, Washington, DC 20420, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays). Please call (202) 461–4902 (this is not a toll-free number) for an appointment. During the comment period, comments may also be viewed online through the Federal Docket Management System at www.Regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Margaret Kabat, National Director, Caregiver Support Program, 10P4C, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, 202–461–6780 (this is not a toll free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) was established by Title I of Public Law 111–163, Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010, and is codified in section 1720G(a) of title 38, United States Code (U.S.C.). VA has been administering PCAFC continuously since May 5, 2011 and has implemented this program through its regulations in part 71 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The purpose of PCAFC is to support family caregivers of eligible veterans (as defined in 38 U.S.C. 1720G(a)(2) and 38 CFR 71.20 to include certain servicemembers) through the provision of caregiver benefits, including training, respite care, counseling, technical support, beneficiary travel (in certain circumstances), a monthly stipend payment, and access to health care (if qualified) through the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA). 38 U.S.C. 1720G(a)(3), 38 CFR 71.40.

For purposes of this notice hereinafter, the term “veteran” refers to veterans and servicemembers who apply for or participate in the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers.

We are issuing this notice in order to solicit input on several components of the program, as further explained below. This notice and request for information serves as a means for VA to consult with key stakeholders on whether and how PCAFC should be modified to provide the highest quality care and support to veterans and their family caregivers in a consistent manner. We will use the information to inform any updates to this program and its implementing regulations. To the extent that there are any comments related to, or which would require changing, the relevant statutory authorities, those comments are outside the scope of this notice, as those would require Congressional action. The intent of this notice is for VA to gather input from the public on whether and how to change its regulations under the current statute.

This notice and request for information has a comment period of 45 days, during which individuals, groups, and entities may reply to the questions presented below. VA believes that 45 days is sufficient to provide comments, as the individuals, groups, and entities interested in this program likely have information and opinions readily available or can quickly compile and submit such information. Commenters are encouraged to provide complete but concise responses to the questions outlined below. Please note that VA will not respond to comments or questions regarding policy plans, decisions, or issues with regard to this notice. VA may choose to contact individual commenters, and such communications would serve to further clarify their written comments.

In order to improve PCAFC, we are seeking information on the following topics and issues: