

functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VHA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Title: Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery (VBA, VHA, NCA).

OMB Control Number: 2900-0770. <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAsearch> (Once at this link, you can enter the OMB Control Number to find the historical versions of this Information Collection).

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Executive Order 12862 directs Federal agencies to provide service to the public that matches or exceeds the best service available in the private sector. In order to work continuously to ensure that our programs are effective and meet our customers' needs, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) seeks to obtain OMB approval of a generic clearance to collect qualitative feedback on our service delivery for Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA); Veterans Health Administration (VHA); and National Cemetery Administration (NCA). By qualitative feedback, we mean information that provides useful insights on perceptions and opinions, but not statistical surveys that yield quantitative results that can be generalized to the population of study.

The proposed information collection activity provides a means to garner qualitative customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner, in accordance with the Administration's commitment to improving service delivery. This feedback will provide insights into customer or stakeholder perceptions, experiences and expectations, provide an early warning of issues with service, or focus attention on areas where communication, training, or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. These collections will allow for ongoing, collaborative, and actionable communications between the VA and its customers and stakeholders. They will also provide feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of program management.

The solicitation of feedback will target areas such as timeliness,

appropriateness, accuracy of information, courtesy, efficiency of service delivery, and resolution of issues with service delivery. Responses will be assessed to plan and inform efforts to improve or maintain the quality of service offered to the public. If this information is not collected, vital feedback from customers and stakeholders on the provision of services will be unavailable to the Agency.

The Agency will only submit information collections for approval under this generic clearance if they meet the following conditions:

- The collections are voluntary;
- The collections are low-burden for respondents (based on considerations of total burden hours, total number of respondents, or burden-hours per respondent) and are low-cost for both the respondents and the Federal Government;
- The collections are noncontroversial and do not raise issues of concern to other Federal agencies;
- Any collection is targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with the program or may have experience with the program in the near future;
- Personally identifiable information (PII) is collected only to the extent necessary and is not retained;
- Information gathered will be used only internally for general service improvement and program management purposes and is not intended for release outside of the agency;
- Information gathered will not be used for the purpose of substantially informing influential policy decisions; and
- Information gathered will yield qualitative information; the collections will not be designed or expected to yield statistically reliable results or used as though the results are generalizable to the population of study.

The types of collections that this generic clearance covers include, but are not limited to, Program Satisfaction Surveys; Focus Groups; Customer Comment Cards; Small Discussion Groups of customers, potential customers, delivery partners, or other stakeholders; Qualitative Customer Satisfaction Surveys, such as post-transaction surveys and opt-out web surveys; In-person Observation Testing, such as website or software usability tests; and Patient Surveys. As a general matter, information collections under this clearance will not result in any new system of records containing privacy information and will not ask questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs,

and other matters that are commonly considered private. There is an overall decrease in the anticipated number of respondents and burden hours due to adjustments based on agency program data.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households; Businesses and Organizations; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 201,250 total hours.

Program Satisfaction Surveys: 62,500.

Focus Groups: 35,000.

Customer Comment Cards: 3,750.

Small Discussion Groups: 5,000.

Qualitative Customer Satisfaction Surveys: 62,500.

In-Person Observation Testing: 7,500.

Patient Surveys: 25,000.

Estimated Average Burden per

Respondent:

Program Satisfaction Surveys: 30 minutes.

Focus Groups: 60 minutes.

Customer Comment Cards: 15 minutes.

Small Discussion Groups: 30 minutes.

Qualitative Customer Satisfaction

Surveys: 30 minutes.

In-Person Observation Testing: 30 minutes.

Patient Surveys: 15 minutes

Frequency of Response: Once.

Estimated Number of Responses:

425,000 total.

Program Satisfaction Surveys:

125,000.

Focus Groups: 35,000.

Customer Comment Cards: 15,000.

Small Discussion Groups: 10,000.

Qualitative Customer Satisfaction

Surveys: 125,000.

In-Person Observation Testing:

15,000.

Patient Surveys: 100,000.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*)

Shunda Willis,

Alternate, VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Information Technology, Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026-15456 Filed 7-30-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0829]

Agency Information Collection

Activity: Income and Asset Statement in Support of Claim for Pension or Parents' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (D.I.C.)

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.**SUMMARY:** Veterans Benefits

Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before September 29, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be submitted through www.regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Program-Specific information: Kendra McCleave, 202-461-9568, kendra.mccleave@va.gov.

VA PRA information: Dorothy Glasgow, 202-461-1084, VAPRA@va.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA. With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Title: 21P-0969, Income and Asset Statement in Support of Claim for Pension or Parents' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (D.I.C.).

OMB Control Number: 2900-0829. <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAsearch> (Once at this link, you can enter the OMB Control Number to find the historical versions of this Information Collection).

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 21P-0969 allows claimants and beneficiaries to report unreimbursed medical expenses to reduce their countable income for

needs-based benefit programs, such as VA Pension and Parents' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC). These expenses are deducted from otherwise countable income to determine eligibility for income-based benefits and the rate payable. Veteran Service Representatives use the information on the form to adjust benefits.

Affected Public: Individuals and households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 22,917 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 55,000.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*)

Shunda Willis,

Alternate, VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Information Technology/Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026-15453 Filed 7-30-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Rehabilitation Research, Development, and Translation (RRDT) Scientific Merit Review Board; Federal Register Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. Ch. 10, that a meeting of the RRDT Scientific Merit Review Board (Board) will be held August 19, 2026, from 1-1:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST), via Webex. The meeting will be open to the public from 1-1:10 p.m. EST. The remainder of the meeting, from 1:10-1:30 p.m. EST, will be closed to the public and used for scientific review and discussion, examination of, and reference to the research applications. Discussions will involve staff and consultant critiques of research proposals. Discussions will also cover the scientific merit of each proposal and the qualifications of the personnel conducting the studies, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Additionally, premature disclosure of research information could significantly obstruct implementation of proposed agency action regarding the research proposals. Therefore, portions of the Board meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4), (6), and (9)(B).

The objective of the Board is to provide for the impartial selection of the most meritorious research projects for

support by VA research funds and to offer advice for research program officials on program priorities and policies. The ultimate objective of the Board is to ensure through recommendations that the VA Office of Research and Development (ORD) RRDT portfolio advances scientific knowledge and fosters innovations to maximize Veterans' functional independence, quality of life, and participation in their lives and community.

The Board evaluates and advises the Acting Deputy Chief Research and Development Officer (Deputy CRADO) for Investigators, Scientific Review, and Management, and the Acting ORD CRADO, on strategies, goals, and direction to support emerging issues and topics in Veteran health care through research and the scientific and technical merit, mission relevance, and protection of human and animal subjects of rehabilitation research proposals. The Board does not consider grants, contracts, or other forms of extramural research.

Members of the public may attend the open portion of the meeting from 1-1:10 p.m. EST via Webex (in listen-only mode, as the time-limited agenda does not allow for public comment or presentations). To attend the open portion of the meeting, the public may dial the Webex phone number (1-833-558-0712) and enter the meeting access code (2825 167 1146).

Written comments from members of the public should be sent to Kristy Benton-Grover, Designated Federal Officer, RRDT, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, or to Kristy.Benton-Grover@va.gov, at least 5 days before the meeting. The written public comments will be shared with the Board members. The public may not attend the closed portion of the meeting.

Dated: July 29, 2026.

LaTonya L. Small,

Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2026-15489 Filed 7-30-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0059]

Agency Information Collection Activity: Statement of Person Claiming to Have Stood in Relation of Parent

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.