

recognition requests and recognizing an individual or organization as outlined in section IV “Framework for Recognition and Certification?”

3. Are there any criteria for recognition identified in section IV “Framework for Recognition and Certification” of this notice that should be modified? Please provide clear justification and any recommendations for any proposed modifications to criteria listed above and include language for any proposed revision.

4. What are examples of publicly available vetting tools (e.g., background checks, websites, directories, organizational profiles, etc.) that should be leveraged to assist in validating the eligibility of organizations or individuals?

5. VA is planning to recognize organizations and individuals for an initial one-year timeframe, and to allow for annual renewal for up to three total years, provided the organization or individual continues to meet the recognition criteria. After the maximum recognition timeframe, an organization or individual would need to complete a new recognition application to renew their recognition, and the process outlined above would repeat. This would help ensure their information is current and the organization or individual still meets the requirements of section 129 of the Dole Act. Please provide a justification for any feedback you may have on these proposed timeframes.

6. What are examples of supporting documents or evidence organizations or individuals should provide as part of their recognition request to help demonstrate how they meet section 129 of the Dole Act and the proposed criteria for recognition?

B. Assistance in Navigating VHA Programs and Services

1. What are examples of documents an organization or individual should provide as evidence to detail each specific type of assistance or support they provide to veterans, their family members, or their caregivers in navigating VHA programs and services?

2. What are examples of assistance veterans, their families, or their caregivers may need in navigating VHA programs and services?

3. What are examples of assistance that organizations or individuals may provide in navigating VHA programs and services?

4. What activities or training should an organization or individual engage in to ensure they have the critical skills and expertise to assist with navigating VHA programs and services?

C. “No Fee or Compensation” Certification to VA

1. What are examples of documents, attestations, etc., an organization should provide to certify to VA that no fee or compensation of any nature will be charged to any individual for services rendered in providing assistance?

2. What are examples of documents, attestations, etc., an individual should provide to certify to VA that no fee or compensation of any nature will be charged for services rendered in providing assistance?

3. What are examples of publicly available tools, websites, directories, profiles, etc. that could be leveraged to assist in certifying that no fee or compensation of any nature will be charged for services rendered in providing assistance?

4. In the case that a recognized organization or individual charges a fee or requires compensation for services rendered in providing assistance in navigating VHA programs or services, VA would take action to revoke their recognition. Should any other consequences or penalties apply in these circumstances (for example, with respect to future recognition of the organization or individual)?

5. Should organizations or individuals that offer both free and paid services other than those for navigating VHA programs and services be eligible for recognition under section 129 of the Dole Act, or should organizations or individuals that only provide free services be eligible? Please provide clear justification on your recommendation.

D. Oversight

1. What are examples of existing platforms that could be leveraged to allow veterans, their families, or caregivers to provide feedback to VA about recognized organizations and individuals and the assistance they provide in navigating VHA programs or services?

2. In the case that a recognized organization or individual does not provide the assistance they claimed to, or fails to meet the recognition criteria under section 129 of the Dole Act, VA would take action to revoke their recognition. Should any other consequences or penalties apply in these circumstances (for example, with respect to future recognition of the organization or individual)?

Signing Authority

Douglas A. Collins, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, approved this document on September 8, 2026 and authorized the undersigned to sign and

submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Jacquelyn Collins,

*Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0652]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Request for Nursing Home Information in Connection With Claim for Aid and Attendance

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), 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 and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent by October 15, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To submit comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection, please type the following link into your browser: www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain, select “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments”, then search the list for the information collection by Title or “OMB Control No. 2900–0652.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: VA PRA information: Dorothy Glasgow, 202–461–1084, VAPRA@va.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Request for Nursing Home Information in Connection with Claim for Aid and Attendance (VA Form 21–0779).

OMB Control Number: 2900–0652.
<https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRASearch>.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 21–0779 is used to gather the necessary information to

determine eligibility for pension and aid and attendance benefits based on nursing home status. It also requests information regarding Medicaid status and nursing home care charges, so VA can determine the proper rate of payment. Without this information, determination of entitlement would not be possible. The respondent burden decreased since the previous approval due to the decline of the estimated number of receivables averaged over the past year.

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 insert citation date: 91 FR 39723, June 30, 2026.

Affected Public: Private Sector.

Estimated Annual Burden: 2,141 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: example: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 12,847 per year.

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

Shunda Willis,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[Docket No. VA-2025-VACO-0001]

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice of a modified system of records.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Privacy Act of 1974, notice is hereby given that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is modifying the system of records titled “Automated Safety Incident Surveillance and Tracking System (ASISTS)-VA” (99VA13). This system is used to identify specific cases of work-related injuries and illnesses, track and evaluate medical care of and services provided to injured or ill workers, and determine emerging causes, clusters of incidents, and outbreaks.

DATES: Comments on this modified system of records must be received no

later than 30 days after the date of publication in the **Federal Register**. If no public comment is received during the period allowed for comment or unless otherwise published in the **Federal Register** by VA, the modified system of records will become effective a minimum of 30 days after date of publication in the **Federal Register**. If VA receives public comments, VA shall review the comments to determine whether any changes to the notice are necessary.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted through www.regulations.gov under docket number VA-2025-VACO-0001 or mailed to VA Privacy Service (005X6F), 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420. Comments should indicate that they are submitted in response to “Automated Safety Incident Surveillance and Tracking System (ASISTS)-VA” (99VA13). Instructions for accessing agency documents, submitting comments, and viewing the docket are available on www.regulations.gov under “FAQ.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephania Griffin, Veterans Health Administration, Stephania.Griffin@va.gov or 704-245-2492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: VA is modifying the system by revising the System Name; System Number; System Location; System Manager; Authority for Maintenance of the System; Purpose; Categories of Records in the System; Records Source Categories; Routine Uses of Records Maintained in the System; Policies and Practices for Storage of Records; Policies and Practices for Retrieval of Records; Policies and Practices for Retention and Disposal of Records; Administrative, Technical and Physical Safeguards; Record Access Procedures; Contesting Record Procedures; and Notification Procedure.

The System Name will be changed from “Automated Safety Incident Surveillance and Tracking System (ASISTS)-VA” to “Performance Logic-Employee Safety Incident Investigation Platform (ESIIP) Records-VA.”

The System Number will be changed from 99VA13 to 99VA10 to reflect the current VHA organizational routing symbol.

The System Location is being updated to replace the current language with: “Records are maintained electronically or on paper at Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Centers (address locations are listed in VA Appendix 1 of the biennial Privacy Act Issuance publication), Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISN), and VA Data Processing Centers. Information from

these records or copies of these records may be maintained by Performance Logic and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Central Office at 811 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20571. Records are also located at the VA Enterprise Cloud at participating servers in the United States.”

The System Manager is being updated to replace “Office of Public Health and Environmental Hazards (13), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420, Officials maintaining the system: Director at the facility where the employee was associated” with “Director, VHA Office of Occupational Safety and Health, vhaoccsafetyandhealthaction@va.gov, 811 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20571.”

The Authority for Maintenance of the System is being updated to include 29 CFR 1960; 29 CFR 1904; and 29 CFR 1910.1030.

The Purpose is being updated to remove references to Workers’ Compensation as the updated system has no function for submitting Workers’ Compensation claims. This section is being rewritten to state, “The records and information may be used for managing work-related injuries and illnesses by identifying, characterizing, and tracking occupational injuries and illnesses and the progress of injured or ill current and former employees, trainees, contractors, subcontractors, volunteers, and other individuals working with or performing services for VHA.

With respect to occupational safety, information regarding a workplace injury or illness, including the description of the incident, any correction action taken, results of any investigation, and recommendations for employees’ safety and health, is entered into ESIIP by the supervisor of an injured or ill employee and/or the health and safety personnel of the facility. These records are used to identify specific incidents of work-related injuries and illnesses; track and evaluate services and medical care of injured or ill workers; and determine emerging causes, clusters of incidents, and outbreaks. In addition, VHA uses the information to identify system-wide problems and opportunities for focused education; evaluate through statistical analysis the effectiveness health and safety systems; develop and manage the planning, distribution, and utilization of resources; and support further research in the area of occupational medicine. Some of these data are then compiled for reporting to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) of