

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change, as amended, is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change, as amended, that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of the filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal offices of the Exchange. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-OC-2002-01 and should be submitted by October 22, 2002.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority:⁴⁵

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-24906 Filed 9-30-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3444]

State of Georgia

Seminole County and the contiguous counties of Decatur, Early and Miller in the State of Georgia; Gadsden and Jackson Counties in the State of Florida; and Houston County in the State of Alabama constitute a disaster area due to damages caused by severe storms, flooding, and wind damage caused by Tropical Storm Hanna on September 15, 2002. Applications for loans for physical damage as a result of this disaster may be filed until the close of business on November 25, 2002 and for economic injury until the close of business on June 25, 2003 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations:

Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 2 Office, One Baltimore Place, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30308.

The interest rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners with credit available elsewhere	6.625
Homeowners without credit available elsewhere	3.312
Businesses with credit available elsewhere	7.000
Businesses and non-profit organizations without credit available elsewhere	3.500
Others (including non-profit organizations) with credit available elsewhere	6.375
For Economic Injury:	
Businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere	3.500

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 344411 for Georgia; 344511 for Florida; and 344611 for Alabama. The number assigned to this disaster for economic injury is 9R6000 for Georgia; 9R6100 for Florida; and 9R6200 for Alabama.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Dated: September 25, 2002.

Hector V. Barreto,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 02-24854 Filed 9-30-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Information Quality Guidelines

AGENCY: Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice of availability of final guidelines.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Data Administrator, Office of the Chief Information Officer, (202) 205-6289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Office of Management and Budget "Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by Federal Agencies," effective January 3, 2002 ("OMB Guidelines"), SBA has issued its own information quality guidelines and established an administrative mechanism for affected persons to seek and obtain correction of information maintained and disseminated by SBA that does not comply with the OMB Guidelines or SBA Guidelines. SBA's final guidelines are available to the public on SBA's Web site at <http://www.sba.gov/aboutsba/ifoqualityguidelines.pdf>, or by calling SBA Data Administrator at (202) 205-6289, or writing to the Office of the Chief Information Officer, Data Administrator, U.S. Small Business

Administration, 409 Third Street, SW., Suite 4000, Washington, DC 20416.

Authority: Section 515(a) of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for FY 2001, Public Law 106-554; Office of Management and Budget "Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by Federal Agencies," effective January 3, 2002, 67 FR 8452 (Feb. 22, 2002).

Dated: September 25, 2002.

Lawrence E. Barrett,

Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-24920 Filed 9-30-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Request and Comment Request

The Social Security Administration (SSA) publishes a list of information collection packages that will require clearance by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with Public Law 104-13 effective October 1, 1995, The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collection packages that may be included in this notice are for new information collections, revisions to OMB-approved information collections and extensions (no change) of OMB-approved information collections.

SSA is soliciting comments on the accuracy of the agency's burden estimate; the need for the information; its practical utility; ways to enhance its quality, utility and clarity; and on ways to minimize burden on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Written comments and recommendations regarding the information collection(s) should be submitted to the OMB Desk Officer and the SSA Reports Clearance Officer. The information can be mailed and/or faxed to the individuals at the addresses and fax numbers listed below:

(OMB), Office of Management and Budget, Attn: Desk Officer for SSA, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, 725 17th St., NW., Washington, DC 20503, Fax: 202-395-6974.

(SSA), Social Security Administration, DCFAM, Attn: Reports Clearance Officer, 1338 Annex Building, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, Fax: 410-965-6400.

I. The information collections listed below are pending at SSA and will be submitted to OMB within 60 days from

⁴⁵ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

the date of this notice. Therefore, your comments should be submitted to SSA within 60 days from the date of this publication. You can obtain copies of the collection instruments by calling the SSA Reports Clearance Officer at 410-965-0454, or by writing to the address listed above.

1. Black Lung Student Statement Regarding Resumption of School Attendance and Report of Black Lung Student Beneficiary at End of School Year—0960-0314. 20 CFR subpart C 410.370. The information collected on forms SSA-2602 and SSA-2613 is used by SSA to determine whether or not an entitled student beneficiary will resume

(or has resumed) full-time school attendance at an approved educational institution. If so, the student will be continuously entitled to benefits. The respondents are children of disabled or deceased coal miners and officials of schools they attend.

Type of Request: Extension of an OMB-approved information collection.

	SSA-2602	SSA-2613
Number of Respondents	50	100
Frequency of Response	1	1
Average Burden Per Response (in minutes)	5	7.5
Estimated Annual Burden (hours)	4	12

2. Voluntary Customer Surveys In Accordance with E.O. 12862 within the Social Security Administration—0960-0526. These voluntary customer surveys will be used to ascertain customer satisfaction with the Social Security Administration in terms of timeliness, appropriateness, access, and other measures of quality service. Surveys will involve individuals that are the direct or indirect beneficiaries of SSA services. The average burden per response for these activities is estimated to range from 5 minutes for a simple comment card to 2 hours for participation in a focus group.

Type of Request: Extension of an OMB-approved information collection.

FY 2003

Number of Respondents: 1,530,854.

Frequency of Response: 1.

Average Burden Per Response: Varies (5 minutes to 2 hours).

Estimated Annual Burden: 139,571 Hours.

FY 2004:

Number of Respondents: 1,527,260.

Frequency of Response: 1.

Average Burden Per Response: Varies (5 minutes to 2 hours).

Estimated Annual Burden: 138,229.

FY 2005:

Number of Respondents: 1,529,990.

Frequency of Response: 1.

Average Burden Per Response: Varies (5 minutes to 2 hours).

Estimated Annual Burden: 138,074.

3. Authorization to Disclose Information to Social Security Administration—0960-0623—20 CFR subpart O, 404.1512 and subpart I, 416.912. SSA must obtain sufficient medical evidence to make eligibility determinations for the Social Security disability benefits and supplemental security income (SSI) payments. For SSA to obtain medical evidence, an applicant must authorize his or her

medical source(s) to release the information to SSA. The applicant may use one of the forms SSA-827, SSA-827OP1 or SSA-827 OP2 to provide consent for the release of information. Generally, the State Disability Determination Service completes the form(s) based on information provided by the applicant, and sends the form(s) to the designated medical source(s). The respondents are applicants for Social Security disability benefits and SSI payments.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Number of Respondents: 3,853,928.

Frequency of Response: 4.

Average Burden Per Response: 10 minutes.

Estimated Annual Burden: 2,569,285 hours.

4. Application for Supplemental Security Income—0960-0444—20 CFR subpart C, 416.301-416.360. Form SSA-8001-F5 is the application for SSI payments. The information collected by SSA is used to determine eligibility for SSI and the amount of benefits payable.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Number of Respondents: 872,956.

Frequency of Response: 1.

Average Burden Per Response: 15-18 minutes.

Estimated Annual Burden: 219,549 hours.

II. The information collection listed below has been submitted to OMB for clearance. Your comments on the information collections would be most useful if received by OMB and SSA within 30 days from the date of this publication. You can obtain a copy of the OMB clearance package by calling the SSA Reports Clearance Officer at 410-965-0454 or by writing to the address listed above.

1. Disability Report-Adult—0960-0579—20 CFR subpart O, 404.1512 and subpart I, 416.912. The Social Security Act requires claimants to furnish

medical and other evidence to prove they are disabled. Applicants for disability benefits will complete form SSA-3368. The information will be used, in conjunction with other evidence, by State DDSs to develop medical evidence, to assess the alleged disability, and to make a disability determination. The respondents are applicants for title II and title XVI disability benefits.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Number of Respondents: 2,116,667.

Frequency of Response: 1.

Average Burden Per Response: 60 minutes.

Estimated annual Burden: 2,116,667 hours.

2. State Contribution Return—0960-0041-20 CFR subpart M, 404.1237 and 404.1249. Information collection on form SSA-3961 is used by the Social Security Administration (SSA) to identify and account for all contributions due and paid under section 218 of the Social Security Act. The respondents are State Social Security agencies (one agency in each state, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands) and each of approximately 65 interstate instrumentalities.

Type of Request: Extension of an OMB-approved information collection.

Number of Respondents: 117.

Frequency of Response: 8.5.

Average Burden Per Response: 3 minutes.

Estimated Annual Burden: 50 hours.

3. Report on Individual with Mental Impairment—0960-0058-20 CFR subpart O, 404.1513. and subpart I, 416.913. Information collected on form SSA-824 is used by the Social Security Administration to determine the claimant's medical status prior to making a disability determination. The respondents are physicians, medical directors, medical record librarians and other health professionals.

Type of Request: Extension of an OMB-approved information collection.

Number of Respondents: 50,000.
Frequency of Response: 1.
Average Burden Per Response: 36 minutes.

Estimated Annual Burden: 30,000 hours.

4. Missing and Discrepant Wage Reports Letter and Questionnaire—0960–0432. SSA uses the information on Forms SSA–L93, SSA–95 and SSA–97 to secure the employer information missing from its records (or discrepant with Internal Revenue Service (IRS) records) by contacting the involved employers. When secured, SSA is able to properly post the employee's earnings records. Compliance by employers with SSA requests facilitates proper posting of employees' wage records. SSA makes two efforts to obtain wage information from the employer before the case is turned over to the IRS for penalty assessments. The respondents are employers with missing or discrepant wage reports.

Type of Request: Extension of an OMB-approved information collection.

Number of Respondents: 360,000.
Frequency of Response: 1.

Average Burden Per Response: 30 minutes.

Estimated Annual Burden: 180,000 hours.

5. Employee Verification Service (EVS).

Background

Under Internal Revenue Service regulations, employers are required to provide wage and tax data to SSA using form W–2, Wage and Tax Statement or its electronic equivalent. As part of this process, the employer must furnish the employee's name and Social Security Number (SSN). This information must match SSA's records in order for the employee's wage and tax data to be properly posted to the Earnings Record. Information that is incorrectly provided to the Agency must be corrected by the employer using an amended reporting form, which is a labor-intensive and time-consuming process for both SSA and the employer. Therefore, to help ensure that employers provide accurate name and SSN information on their wage reports, SSA is offering the EVS service whereby employers can verify, via magnetic tape, cartridge, diskette, paper, and telephone, if the reported name and SSN of their employee matches SSA's records.

EVS Collection

SSA will use the information collected through the EVS to verify that the employee name and SSN information, provided by employers, matches SSA records. SSA will respond

to the employer informing them only of matches and mismatches of submitted information. Respondents are employers who provide wage and tax data to SSA who elect to use EVS to verify their employees' names and SSNs.

Type of Request: New information collection.

Number of Respondents: 100,000.

Frequency of Response: 5.

Average Burden Per Response: 10 minutes.

Estimated Annual Burden: 83,333 hours.

6. 20 CFR part 422.527, Private Printing and Modification of Prescribed Applications and Other Forms—0960–NEW. SSA uses the information required by this regulation to process requests from a person, institution or organization (requesting entities) that want to reproduce, duplicate, or privately print any SSA application or other form prescribed by SSA. The requesting entities must obtain prior approval from SSA and make their requests in writing, providing the required information set forth in the regulation. Respondents are the requesting entities that want to reproduce, duplicate, or privately print any SSA application or other form.

Type of Request: New information collection.

Number of Respondents: 4.

Frequency of Response: 1.

Average Burden Per Response: 8 minutes.

Estimated Annual Burden: ½ hour.

7. Medical Source Statement of Ability To Do Work-Related Activities (Physical), Form HA–1151; Medical Source Statement of Ability To Do Work-Related Activities (Mental), Form HA–1152; 20 CFR 404.1513 and 20 CFR 416.913–0960–NEW. SSA's Office of Hearing and Appeals (OHA) uses the HA–1151 (Physical) and its companion form HA–1152 (Mental) to collect information that Administrative Law Judges and the Appeals Council of OHA require to determine the residual functional capacity (RFC) of individuals who are appealing denied claims for benefits based on disability. RFC must be determined to decide cases that cannot be decided based on current work activity or on medical facts alone. Both forms are completed by medical sources that provide medical reports based either on existing medical evidence or on consultative examinations conducted for the purposes of the report. Respondents to these forms are medical sources that provide medical reports.

HA–1151

Type of Request: New information collection.

Number of Respondents: 5,000.

Frequency of Response: 20.

Average Burden Per Response: 15 minutes.

Estimated Annual Burden: 25,000 hours.

HA–1152

Type of Request: New information collection.

Number of Respondents: 5,000.

Frequency of Response: 20.

Average Burden Per Response: 15 minutes.

Estimated Annual Burden: 25,000 hours.

Dated: September 25, 2002.

Elizabeth A. Davidson,

Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.

[FR Doc. 02–24808 Filed 9–30–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191–02–P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility and Integrity of Information Disseminated by Federal Agencies

AGENCY: Social Security Administration (SSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice serves to announce the availability of SSA's information quality guidelines for ensuring and maximizing the quality, objectivity, utility and integrity of disseminated information and mechanisms for seeking correction of information. These guidelines are required by section 515 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2001. On April 29, 2002 we published a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing that our draft guidelines were available on our Web site, and asked for public comments on them. This notice revises our guidelines in response to the comments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This notice is effective October 1, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Brian Greenberg, Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics by telephone at (410) 965–0131, FAX at (410) 965–3308, e-mail at Brian.V.Greenberg@ssa.gov, or mail at Mr. Brian Greenberg, Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics, Room 4–C–15 Operations, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235–6401.