

language assistance services and how to get them.

- Including notices in local newspapers in languages other than English.
- Providing notices on non-English-language radio and television stations about the available language assistance services and how to get them.
- Presentations and/or notices at schools and religious organizations.

(5) Monitoring and Updating the LEP Plan

Recipients should, where appropriate, have a process for determining, on an ongoing basis, whether new documents, programs, services, and activities need to be made accessible for LEP individuals, and they may want to provide notice of any changes in services to the LEP public and to employees. In addition, recipients should consider whether changes in demographics, types of services, or other needs require annual reevaluation of their LEP plan. Less frequent reevaluation may be more appropriate where demographic services, and needs are more static. One way to evaluate the LEP plan is to seek feedback from the community.

In their reviews, recipients may want to consider assessing changes in:

- Current LEP populations in service area or population affected or encountered;
- Frequency of encounters with LEP language groups;
- Nature and importance of activities to LEP persons;
- Availability of resources, including technological advances and sources of additional resources, and the costs imposed;
- Whether existing assistance is meeting the needs of LEP persons;
- Whether staff knows and understands the LEP plan and how to implement it; and
- Whether identified sources for assistance are still available and viable.

In addition to these five elements, effective plans set clear goals, management accountability, and opportunities for community input and planning throughout the process.

VIII. Voluntary Compliance Effort

The goal for Title VI regulatory enforcement is to achieve voluntary compliance. The requirement to provide meaningful access to LEP persons is enforced and implemented by the NRC through the procedures identified in the Title VI regulations. These procedures include complaint investigations, compliance reviews, efforts to secure voluntary compliance, and technical assistance.

The Title VI regulations provide that the NRC will investigate whenever it receives a complaint, report, or other information that alleges or indicates possible noncompliance with Title VI or its regulations. If the investigation results in a finding of compliance, the NRC will inform the recipient in writing of this determination, including the basis for the determination. The NRC uses voluntary mediation to resolve most complaints. However, if a case is fully investigated and results in a finding of noncompliance, the NRC must inform the recipient of the noncompliance through a Letter of Findings that sets out the areas of noncompliance and the steps that must be taken to correct the noncompliance. It must attempt to secure voluntary compliance through informal means. If the matter cannot be resolved informally, the NRC must secure compliance through the termination of Federal assistance after the recipient has been given an opportunity for an administrative hearing and/or by referring the matter to a DOJ litigation section to seek injunctive relief or pursue other enforcement proceedings. The NRC engages in voluntary compliance efforts and provides technical assistance to recipients at all stages of an investigation. During these efforts, the NRC proposes reasonable timetables for achieving compliance and consult with and assist recipients in exploring cost-effective ways of coming into compliance. In determining a recipient's compliance with the Title VI regulations, the NRC's primary concern is to ensure that the recipient's policies and procedures provide meaningful access for LEP persons to the recipient's programs and activities.

While all recipients must work toward building systems that will ensure access for LEP individuals, the NRC acknowledges that the implementation of a comprehensive system to serve LEP individuals is a process and that a system will evolve over time as it is implemented and periodically reevaluated. As recipients take reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to federally assisted programs and activities for LEP persons, the NRC will look favorably on intermediate steps recipients take that are consistent with this guidance, and that, as part of a broader implementation plan or schedule, move their service delivery system toward providing full access to LEP persons. This does not excuse noncompliance but instead recognizes that full compliance in all areas of a recipient's activities and for all potential language

minority groups may reasonably require a series of implementing actions over a period of time. However, in developing any phased implementation schedule, recipients should ensure that the provision of appropriate assistance for significant LEP populations or with respect to activities having a significant impact on the health, safety, legal rights, or livelihood of beneficiaries is addressed first. Recipients are encouraged to document their efforts to provide LEP persons with meaningful access to federally assisted programs and activities.

In determining a recipient entity's compliance with Title VI, the NRC's primary concern is to ensure that the entity's policies and procedures overcome barriers resulting from language differences that would deny LEP persons a meaningful opportunity to participate in and access programs, services, and benefits. A recipient entity's appropriate use of the methods and options discussed in this policy guidance is viewed by the NRC as evidence of that entity's willingness to comply voluntarily with its Title VI obligations.

[FR Doc. 04-4672 Filed 3-2-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for the Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection, SF 2809

AGENCY: Office of Personnel
Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) intends to submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for the extension of a currently approved information collection. SF 2809, Employee Health Benefits Election Form, is used by Federal employees, certain separated former Federal employees, and former dependents of Federal employees, to enroll for health insurance coverage under the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program. Certain former spouses who are eligible for enrollment under the Spouse Equity Act of 1984 (Pub. L. 98-615), and former employees and former dependents who are eligible for enrollment under the Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC)

provisions of FEHB law (5 U.S.C. 8905a) also use this form.

Approximately 9,000 SF 2809 forms are completed annually. Each form takes approximately 30 minutes to complete. The annual estimated burden is 4,500 hours.

Comments are particularly invited on: whether this information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the Office of Personnel Management, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

For copies of this proposal, contact Mary Beth Smith-Toomey on (202) 606-2150, or E-mail to mbtoomey@opm.gov. Please include a mailing address with your request.

DATES: Comments on this proposal should be received within 60 calendar days from the date of this publication.

ADDRESSES: Send or deliver comments to: Frank D. Titus, Assistant Director, Insurance Services Programs, Center for Retirement & Insurance Services, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 3400, Washington, DC 20415.

For Information Regarding Administrative Coordination Contact: Cyrus S. Benson, Team Leader, Publications Team, Administrative Services Branch, (202) 606-0623.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Kay Coles James,
Director.

[FR Doc. 04-4735 Filed 3-2-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-50-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Review of an Expiring Information Collection, SF 2809-1

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management intends to submit to the Office of Management and Budget a request for an expiring collection. SF 2809-1, Annuitant/OWCP Health

Benefits Election Form, is used by annuitants of Federal retirement systems other than the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS), including the Foreign Service Retirement System and the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP), and certain former dependents of these individuals. These former dependents include certain former spouses who are eligible for enrollment under the Spouse Equity Act of 1984 (Pub. L. 98-615), and certain former dependents who are eligible for enrollment under the Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC) provisions of FEHB law (5 U.S.C. 8905a).

Approximately 9,000 SF 2809-1 forms are completed annually. Each form takes approximately 30 minutes to complete. The annual estimated burden will be 4,500 hours.

Comments are particularly invited on: Whether this information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the Office of Personnel Management, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

For copies of this proposal, contact Mary Beth Smith-Toomey on (202) 606-8358, FAX (202) 418-3251 or E-mail to mbtoomey@opm.gov. Please be sure to include a mailing address with your request.

DATES: Comments on this proposal should be received within 60 calendar days from the date of this publication.

ADDRESSES: Send or deliver comments to: Frank D. Titus, Assistant Director, Insurance Services Program, Center for Retirement & Insurance Services, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 3400, Washington, DC 20415.

For Information Regarding Administrative Coordination Contact: Cyrus S. Benson, Team Leader, Publications Team, Administrative Services Branch, (202) 606-0623.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Kay Coles James,
Director.

[FR Doc. 04-4736 Filed 3-2-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-38-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Review of a Revised Information Collection: RI 25-14 and RI 25-14A

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) intends to submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for review of a revised information collection. RI 25-14, Self-Certification of Full-Time School Attendance For The School Year, is used to survey survivor annuitants who are between the ages of 18 and 22 to determine if they meet the requirements of Section 8341(a)(4)(C), and Section 8441, title 5, U.S. Code, to receive benefits as a student. RI 25-14A, Information and Instructions for Completing the Self-Certification of Full-Time School Attendance, provides instructions for completing the Self-Certification of Full-Time School Attendance For The School Year survey form.

Comments are particularly invited on: whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the Office of Personnel Management, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Approximately 14,000 RI 25-14 forms are completed annually. We estimate it takes approximately 12 minutes to complete the form. The annual burden is 2,800 hours.

For copies of this proposal, contact Mary Beth Smith-Toomey on (202) 606-8358, FAX (202) 418-3251 or via E-mail to mbtoomey@opm.gov. Please include a mailing address with your request.

DATES: Comments on this proposal should be received within 60 calendar days from the date of this publication.

ADDRESSES: Send or deliver comments to— Ronald W. Melton, Chief, Operations Support Group, Center for Retirement and Insurance Services, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E