f. If the registration is for a business representative certificate, evidence of authorization to represent that business entity.

The information provided during the process of applying for an ACES certificate constitutes the continued information collection activity that is the subject of this Paperwork Reduction Act Notice and request for comments.

B. Description

A detailed description of the current ACES Program is available on the World Wide Web at *http://www.gsa.gov/aces,* or through the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** listed above.

Please note that all ACES identity information collected from the public is covered by the Privacy Act, the Computer Security Act, and related privacy and security regulations, regardless of whether it is provided directly to an agency of the Federal Government or to an authorized ACES Registration Authority providing ACES-related services under a contract with GSA. Compliance with all of the attending requirements is enforced through binding contracts, periodic monitoring by GSA, annual audits by independent auditing firms, and annual re-accreditation by GSA. Only fully accredited Registration Authorities will be permitted to accept and maintain identity information provided by the public.

The identity information collected will be used only to establish and verify the identity and eligibility of applicants for ACES certificates; no other use of the information is permitted.

Participation in the ACES Program is strictly voluntary, but participation will only be permitted upon presentation of identity information by the applicant, and verification of that information by an authorized ACES Registration Authority.

ACES is designed to permit on-line, arms-length registration through the Internet, which significantly reduces the public's reporting burden. Based upon preliminary tests run on similar systems for gathering identity-related information from the public (*e.g.*, U.S. Passports, initial issuance of state-issued driver's license, etc.), the individual reporting burden for providing identity information for the initial ACES certificate is estimated at an average of 15 minutes, including gathering the information together and entering the data into the electronic forms provided by the authorized ACES Registration Authorities.

No reliable information is yet available to support any estimate relating to the number of individuals who will seek to register to participate in the ACES Program. Thus, no estimate of the overall reporting burden is being provided at this time.

C. Purpose

The General Services Administration will be requesting the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to review and approve information collection, 3090–0270, concerning ACES. GSA is responsible for assisting Federal agencies with the implementation and use of digital signature technologies to enhance electronic access to government information and services by all eligible persons. In order to ensure that the ACES program certificates are issued to the proper individuals, GSA will continue to collect identity information from persons who elect to participate in ACES.

D. Annual Reporting Burden

Respondents: 1,000,000.
Annual Responses: 1.
Average Hours Per Response: 0.25.
Burden Hours: 250,000.
Obtaining Copies of Proposal: Requesters may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from the General Services Administration, Regulatory and Federal Assistance Publications Division(MVA), 1800 F Street, NW., room 4035, Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 208–7312. Please cite OMB Control No. 3090–0270, Access Certificates for Electronic Services (ACES).

Dated: March 14, 2003.

Susan White,

Deputy Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 03–6945 Filed 3–21–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820–DH–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The President's Council on Bioethics; Request for Comments; Current Regulation of Assisted Reproduction, Embryo Research, and Human Genetics

AGENCY: The President's Council on Bioethics, HHS.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: The President's Council on Bioethics requests that interested individuals and organizations submit written comments—normative as well as descriptive—on the current regulation of the biotechnologies that touch the beginnings of human life, more specifically on those technologies and practices that exist at the intersection of assisted reproduction, embryo research, and human genetics. The Council is especially interested to know commenters' opinions as to which human goods and values they think should animate any regulatory activities in this area, as well as on how well current practices promote and protect these goods and values. New technologies and practices, such as pre-implantation genetic diagnosis (PGD), greatly expand the power not simply to bring new life into existence in novel ways (as through in vitro fertilization) but also to select or even manipulate its character, fate, and future. The Council is thus deeply interested in how these activities are currently regulated, by whom, and to what effect. In an effort to better understand the contours of the current regulatory landscape, the Council has been studying: The legal authority and institutional competence of the Food and Drug Administration, professional self-regulation by practitioners of assisted reproduction, the current system of protecting human research subjects, and the patentability of human organisms, among other aspects of the subject. To ensure a thorough, accurate, and comprehensive understanding, the Council invites the public to submit written comment on this subject as well.

DATES: Submissions must be received on or before April 15, 2003.

Form of Submission: Submissions should be written, no more than 3,000 words long, and addressed to The President's Council on Bioethics, attention: O. Carter Snead, General Counsel.

ADDRESSES: E-mail (preferred): *submissions@bioethics.gov*. Fax: 202–296–3528. Mail: Suite 600, 1801 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: O. Carter Snead, General Counsel, The President's Council on Bioethics (202/296–4669; *submissions@bioethics.gov*).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The President's Council on Bioethics was created by Executive Order 13237, on November 28, 2001, to advise the President on the ethical and policy questions arising from developments in biomedical science and technology. For more information about the Council, see *http://www.bioethics.gov*.

Dated: March 14, 2003.

Dean Clancy,

Executive Director, The President's Council on Bioethics.

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