

expenses when it determines SSI eligibility and payment amount. In some cases, this permits SSI eligibility where it would otherwise not exist.

- Eligibility for SSI generally results in eligibility for Medicaid, as well. Medicaid can cover the cost of medicines and other items not presently covered by Medicare.

- If an individual is eligible for SSI, a PASS may permit a higher benefit.
- Income excluded under a PASS also is excluded from consideration in determinations of eligibility for Food Stamps and Federal housing assistance.

An important way in which a PASS can help pay for a major purchase is by its use to obtain and pay off a loan. People with disabilities who have little income or credit rarely have the option to save for a major purchase or obtain financing. Approval of a PASS that has loan payments built into it has made it possible for some individuals to obtain financing for major purchases. This can have the added advantage of enabling someone to establish or rebuild credit, which can be critical to running a business.

Who May Participate in the Work Incentives for Participants in the Florida Freedom Initiative Demonstration?

To take part in the Work Incentives for Participants in the Florida Freedom Initiative, an individual must be receiving SSI benefits based on disability or blindness and be enrolled in the Florida Freedom Initiative demonstration.

Consent Required

The consent of an SSI beneficiary to participate in this demonstration project is required under section 1110(b)(2)(b) of the Act and 20 CFR 416.250(d). The State of Florida will obtain written consent from every participant who is an SSI beneficiary. The consent will ensure that participation is voluntary and participants will be informed that they can stop participating at any time.

New or Additional Program Costs

We anticipate that the Work Incentives for Participants in the Florida Freedom Initiative demonstration will involve no, or minimal, new or additional program costs to the Federal government under title XVI of the Act or to the State of Florida under section 1616 of the Act. If the Commissioner decided not to exercise her authority under section 1110(b) of the Act to provide the waivers described in this announcement, we believe that few if any SSI beneficiaries would participate in the Florida Freedom Initiative since

to do so could result in a reduction or loss of SSI benefits. Continued SSI eligibility for beneficiaries who choose to participate in the demonstration project is not a new or additional cost related to the Commissioner's demonstration project.

Statutory and Regulatory Provisions Waived: The Commissioner waives for the duration of an individual's participation in the Cash and Counseling demonstration project certain SSI resources counting rules where application of those rules would otherwise affect the eligibility of an individual for SSI. The specific statutory and regulatory provisions waived are those described in the preceding section.

Authority: Section 1110(b) of the Social Security Act.

Dated: January 30, 2004.

Jo Anne B. Barnhart,

Commissioner of Social Security.

[FR Doc. 04-2561 Filed 2-4-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

[Public Notice: 4613]

30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Recordkeeping, Reporting and Data Collection Requirements Under 22 CFR Part 62—the Exchange Visitor Program, Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS); OMB #1405-0147

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of State has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Comments should be submitted to OMB within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

The following summarizes the information collection proposal submitted to OMB:

Type of Request: Revision and Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.

Originating Office: Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Title of Information Collection: Recordkeeping, Reporting, and Data Collection Requirements Under 22 CFR 62—the Exchange Visitor Program, Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS).

Frequency: Continuous.

Form Number: N/A.

Respondents: Designated program sponsors, potential sponsors, exchange visitors, foreign governments, and U.S. medical schools.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 190,205 respondents.

Average Hours Per Response: 5.5 hours. (The time burden per response ranges from 5 minutes to 20 hours depending on the requirement.)

Total Estimated Burden: 11,050,170 hours.

Public comments are being solicited to permit the agency to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility.
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Copies of the proposed information collection and supporting documents may be obtained from Mr. Stanley Colvin, 301 4th Street, SW., Room 734, Washington, DC 20547, or at (202) 401-9810. Public comments and questions should be directed to the State Department Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington, DC 20530, who may be reached on (202) 395-7860.

Dated: August 8, 2003.

Patricia S. Harrison,
Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.
[FR Doc. 04-2489 Filed 2-4-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4615]

Culturally Significant Objects Imported for Exhibition; Determinations: "Verrocchio's David Restored: A Renaissance Bronze From the National Museum of Bargello, Florence"

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Notice; correction.

SUMMARY: On October 16, 2003, notice was published on page 59673 of the