

Office in solvency studies, cost estimating and modeling, and assessment of State benefit formulas.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

Currently, the Department of Labor is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension for the collection of the ETA 218, Benefit Rights and Experience report. Comments are requested 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

proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed above in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

III. Current Actions

Type of Review: Extension without change.

Agency: Employment and Training Administration, Office of Workforce Security.

Title: Benefit Rights and Experience.

OMB Number: 1205-0177.

Agency Number: ETA 218.

Recordkeeping: 3 year record retention.

Affected Public: State governments.

Cite/Reference/Form/etc: Social Security Act, Section 303(a)(6).

Total Respondents: 53.

Frequency: Quarterly.

Total Responses: 216.

Average Time per Response: .5 hour.

Estimated Burden Hours:

Cite/reference	Total respondents	Frequency	Total responses	Average time per response	Burden
ETA 218 Regular	53	Quarterly	212	.5 hour	106 hrs.
ETA 218 Extended Benefits	2	Quarterly	4	.5 hour	2 hrs.
Totals			216		108 hrs.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining): \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 6, 2006.

Cheryl Atkinson,

Administrator, Office of Workforce Security.

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BILLING CODE 4510-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Design of Federal YouthBuild Grants

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments and announcement of public meetings.

SUMMARY: On September 22, 2006, President Bush signed into law the YouthBuild Transfer Act (Pub. L. 109-281) which transfers the YouthBuild program from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to the Department of Labor (DOL). YouthBuild provides education and occupational skills training for at-risk youth age 16-24. The purpose of this Notice is to announce public meetings

and a Webinar¹ to discuss the transition of the YouthBuild program to DOL and to announce an open comment period for comments on a variety of issues about YouthBuild program design. The purposes of the public meetings and the Webinar are twofold: To provide basic information on the legislative changes to the YouthBuild program and DOL program management of YouthBuild; and to collect feedback on several program design elements listed below.

KEY DATES: Submit comments on or before December 15, 2006.

The public meeting dates are:

1. November 30, 2006 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Los Angeles, CA.
2. December 6, 2006 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Pittsburgh, PA.
3. December 13, 2006 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. EST, a Webinar.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments by e-mail to youth.build@dol.gov. Comments can also be mailed or hand delivered to the Employment and Training Administration, Office of Workforce Investment, Division of Youth Services, Room N-4511, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. A summary of all comments received will be made available to the public on the Employment and Training Administration's Web site at <http://www.doleta.gov>.

The meeting locations are:

1. Los Angeles—Westin Bonaventure Hotel, 404 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

2. Pittsburgh—Omni William Penn, 530 William Penn Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.

3. Webinar—For additional details on the Webinar, please visit <http://www.workforce3one.org/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Anne Stom via e-mail at stom.anne@dol.gov or via telephone at (202) 693-3377. This is not a toll free number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Meeting Information

A small block of hotel rooms for both of these events has been reserved under DOL YouthBuild. More information on these meetings can be found at http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services. These meetings are open to the public. However, attendees must register in advance at http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services.

B. Background

In 1978, YouthBuild began in East Harlem, NY, as a program to teach youth construction skills while renovating and building homes for low-income families. It was replicated in five locations in New York City during the 1980s. In 1990, YouthBuild USA was founded to implement YouthBuild nationally. In 1993, the YouthBuild program was established by federal statute and HUD was designated as the agency

¹ A Webinar is an interactive seminar or meeting conducted over the Internet.

responsible for administering the program.

In addition to teaching construction skills to youth, YouthBuild is an alternative education program that assists youth who are often significantly behind in basic skills with obtaining a high school diploma or GED credential. The primary target populations for YouthBuild are youth offenders, youth in or aging out of foster care, and out-of-school youth. There are currently over 200 YouthBuild programs operating throughout the United States. YouthBuild grants administered by HUD have funded approximately 120 programs through annual competitions.

In 2003, the *White House Task Force Report on Disadvantaged Youth* recommended that the YouthBuild program be transferred from HUD to DOL for greater consistency of agency mission and other efficiencies. The federal departments agreed and enactment of the YouthBuild Transfer Act represents the successful implementation of that recommendation. DOL will run its first YouthBuild competition for funds appropriated for YouthBuild in Fiscal Year (FY) 2007. This grant competition represents the first funding cycle for which DOL assumes full responsibility of the YouthBuild program. Grants awarded prior to FY 2007 will continue to be administered by HUD until the authority to expend the funds has expired. The President's FY 2007 budget request for the YouthBuild program is \$50 million.

In administering the YouthBuild program, DOL expects to: (1) increase coordination between YouthBuild sites and the workforce investment system; (2) align the program with the Federal Shared Youth Vision² which emphasizes strong educational and employment outcomes; and (3) promote the YouthBuild model for other youth programs. In order to ensure that programs are designed to reach these goals, DOL is seeking public input and observations on the YouthBuild program, particularly in the following areas:

1. *Awards:* As we consider the length and amount of YouthBuild awards, we are interested in comments and observations on the optimal length of an award (for example one-year grants v. multi-year funding), the optimal amount of an award, and the minimal amount of funding necessary to sustain a viable local program. As we consider the criteria to be applied to the selection of

YouthBuild grantees, we are interested in comments and observations on the organizational attributes required for operating an effective YouthBuild program, including prior program experience.

2. *Outcomes:* We are interested in comments and observations on ways to ensure that YouthBuild programs meet educational and employment outcomes and on ways to measure those outcomes. Given the outcomes that YouthBuild programs will be required to meet as part of DOL's Common Measures for employment and training programs (gains in literacy and numeracy skills; successful placement in post-secondary education or employment; and diploma and industry recognized certificate attainment), we seek public input into the types of DOL technical assistance that will support programs in improving these educational and career track employment outcomes for YouthBuild participants, and in ways to strengthen the connections that YouthBuild programs make with apprenticeship programs, construction firms, and other high-growth, high-demand jobs. We are interested in comments and observations on methods to support increased placements of YouthBuild participants into apprenticeship programs, construction firms, and other high-growth, high-demand jobs.

3. *Capacity Building:* In the past, through the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993, HUD has awarded a separate set of YouthBuild grants for capacity building. We are interested in learning whether the capacity building grants awarded by HUD helped to strengthen YouthBuild programs. In addition, we are interested in comments and observations on ways that capacity building grants can be used to support shifting YouthBuild programs to diploma granting programs, or adding new career tracks in industries other than construction, and are interested in other ideas for uses of capacity building grants.

4. *Other Comments:* DOL welcomes comments and suggestions on improving any other aspects of the federal YouthBuild program.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 6th day of November, 2006.

Emily Stover DeRocco,

Assistant Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment Standards Administration

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employment Standards Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed collection: Certification by School Official (CM-981). A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addresses section of this Notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before January 16, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Ms. Hazel M. Bell, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Room S-3201, Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 693-0418, fax (202) 693-1451, Email bell.hazel@dol.gov. Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or Email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In order to qualify as a dependent that is eligible for black lung benefits, a child aged 18 to 23 must be a full-time student as described in the Black Lung Benefits Act, 30 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.* and attending regulations 20 CFR 725.209. The CM-981 is partially completed by the appropriate district office so that the school official or registrar's office will know for which student and time period the information is being requested and is also used to verify the full-time student status. This information collection is currently approved for use through May 31, 2007.

²Information on the Federal Shared Youth Vision is available at <http://www.doleta.gov/ryf/WhiteHouseReport/VMO.cfm>.