

allocations differ for particular loan categories as economic conditions change. Furthermore, all institutions with \$1 billion or more in total assets are subject to regulations requiring them to prepare annual financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.² Accordingly, such institutions should have processes in place to develop the disaggregated ALLL data required to be disclosed by ASU 2010-20, which are comparable to the data specified by Schedule RI-C as modified in response to comments.

To allow institutions sufficient lead time to make any necessary adjustments to their data systems to report this modified disaggregation of their ALLL and the related recorded investment amounts by loan category and impairment measurement method, the agencies will delay implementation of new Schedule RI-C until the March 31, 2013, report date.

Consistent with longstanding practice, for the March 31, 2013, report date, institutions may provide reasonable estimates for any Call Report Schedule RI-C item for which the requested information is not readily available.

Proposed Schedule RC-U—The FFIEC and the agencies have not yet completed their evaluation of this proposed new schedule in light of the comments received. When the FFIEC and the agencies have decided whether and how to proceed with Schedule RC-U, their decision will be addressed in a future **Federal Register** notice and, if applicable, submissions by the agencies will be made to OMB. To allow sufficient lead time for affected institutions to prepare for any resulting new reporting requirements for loan origination data, the collection of such data would not take effect before the June 30, 2013, report date.

Request for Comment

Public comment is requested on all aspects of this joint notice. Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the proposed revisions to the collections of information that are the subject of this notice are necessary for the proper performance of the

agencies' functions, including whether the information has practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the agencies' estimates of the burden of the information collections as they are proposed to be revised, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of information collections on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and

(e) Estimates of capital or start up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Comments submitted in response to this joint notice will be shared among the agencies. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: October 31, 2012.

Michele Meyer,

Assistant Director, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, November 2, 2012.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Secretary of the Board.

Dated at Washington, DC, this 31st day of October 2012.

Robert E. Feldman,

Executive Secretary, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Fiscal Service

Fee Schedule for the Transfer of U.S. Treasury Book-Entry Securities Held on the National Book-Entry System

AGENCY: Bureau of the Public Debt, Fiscal Service, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury (Treasury) is announcing a new fee schedule applicable to transfers of U.S. Treasury book-entry securities maintained on the National Book-Entry

System (NBES) that occur on or after January 2, 2013.

DATES: Effective January 2, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristina Yeh, Bureau of the Public Debt, 202-504-3550.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Treasury has established a fee structure for the transfer of Treasury book-entry securities maintained on NBES. Treasury reassesses this fee structure periodically, based on our review of the latest book-entry costs and volumes.

For each Treasury securities transfer or reversal sent or received on or after January 2, 2013, the basic fee will increase from \$0.48 to \$0.56. The Federal Reserve will maintain its fee for Federal Reserve funds movement at \$0.09. This will result in a combined fee of \$0.65 for each transfer of Treasury book-entry securities. The surcharge for an off-line Treasury book-entry securities transfer will remain at \$40.00. Off-line refers to the sending and receiving of transfer messages to or from a Reserve Bank by means other than on-line access, such as by written, facsimile, or telephone voice instruction. The basic transfer fee assessed to both sends and receives is reflective of costs associated with the processing of securities transfers. The off-line surcharge reflects the additional processing costs associated with the manual processing of off-line securities transfers.

Treasury does not charge a fee for account maintenance, the stripping and reconstitution of Treasury securities, the wires associated with original issues, or interest and redemption payments. Treasury currently absorbs these costs.

The fees described in this notice apply only to the transfer of Treasury book-entry securities held on NBES. Information concerning fees for book-entry transfers of Government Agency securities, which are priced by the Federal Reserve System, is set out in a separate **Federal Register** notice published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The following is the Treasury fee schedule that will take effect on January 2, 2013, for book-entry transfers on NBES:

² 12 CFR part 363, Annual Independent Audits and Reporting Requirements.

TREASURY—NBES FEE SCHEDULE ¹

[Effective January 2, 2013 (in dollars)]

Transfer type	Basic fee	Off-line surcharge	Funds ² movement fee	Total fee
On-line transfer originated	0.56	N/A	0.09	0.65
On-line transfer received	0.56	N/A	0.09	0.65
On-line reversal transfer originated	0.56	N/A	0.09	0.65
On-line reversal transfer received	0.56	N/A	0.09	0.65
Off-line transfer originated	0.56	40.00	0.09	40.65
Off-line transfer received	0.56	40.00	0.09	40.65
Off-line account switch received	0.56	0.00	0.09	0.65
Off-line reversal transfer originated	0.56	40.00	0.09	40.65
Off-line reversal transfer received	0.56	40.00	0.09	40.65

¹ Treasury does not charge a fee for account maintenance, the stripping and reconstituting of Treasury securities, the wires associated with original issues, or interest and redemption payments. Treasury currently absorbs these costs.

² The funds movement fee is not a Treasury fee, but is charged by the Federal Reserve for the cost of moving funds associated with the transfer of a Treasury book-entry security.

Authority: 31 CFR 357.45.

Dated: October 16, 2012.

Richard L. Gregg,

Fiscal Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2012-26869 Filed 11-7-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VA Directive 0005 on Scientific Integrity

AGENCY: Office of Policy and Planning, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This **Federal Register** notice announces the adoption of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Directive 0005 on Scientific Integrity and responds to public comments about the draft version of this Directive, which was originally announced in the **Federal Register** on April 9, 2012 (77 FR 21158).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Billy E. Jones, M.D., Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning (008), Department of Veterans Affairs, at 202-461-5762. (This is not a toll-free number.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Presidential Memorandum on Scientific Integrity and the Office of Science and Technology Policy's 2010 guidance memorandum on scientific integrity call for ensuring the highest level of integrity in all aspects of the Executive Branch's involvement with scientific and technological processes.

VA Policy on Scientific Integrity

VA Directive 0005 on Scientific Integrity, adopted on July 10, 2012, is available on the VA Publications Web

site at <http://www1.va.gov/vapubs/>. Directive 0005 establishes VA policies that:

- Foster a culture of transparency, integrity, and ethical behavior in the development and application of scientific and technological findings in VA;
- Protect the development, application, and dissemination of scientific and technological information from political or commercial influence;
- Prohibit suppression or alteration of scientific and technological findings for political purposes;
- Afford whistleblower protections to employees who have scientific integrity concerns;
- Uphold professional and Governmental standards for the conduct for research;
- Promote free flow and exchange of scientific and technological information;
- Ensure that clinical care, health care operations, and public health decisions are informed by scientific data and analysis;
- Uphold the independence, transparency, and diversity of Scientific Advisory Committees; and
- Encourage full participation of employees in scientific and professional activities.

Public Comments on VA Draft Policy on Scientific Integrity

VA adopted Directive 0005 on Scientific Integrity after carefully reviewing and considering public comments that were received on the draft version of this Directive, which was announced in the **Federal Register** on April 9, 2012 (77 FR 21158). All of the public comments have been grouped together by the paragraph of the Directive that they address, and VA has organized our discussion of the comments accordingly. All comments

are available for public inspection between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Room 1063B, Washington, DC 20420. Call (202) 461-4902 for an appointment.

Comments

A. Purpose, Responsibilities, and Definitions (VA Directive 0005, §§ 1-3)

Comment Summary: The Directive should apply to all VA employees, including VA scientists, managers, supervisors, visiting scientists, political appointees. The Directive should also apply to VA contractors.

VA Response: VA has amended the note in Directive 0005, ¶ 1, so that it clarifies that the Directive applies to all VA employees, thereby including all VA scientists, managers, supervisors, visiting scientists, and political appointees. All VA contracts are managed by VA employees. VA may share this Directive with the agency's contractors and may incorporate the policies in this Directive in applicable future contracts or when renewing existing contracts.

Comment Summary: The Directive should clearly define what constitutes a conflict of interest to strengthen disclosure of and reduce conflict of interest among, employees, and reviewers. Conflict of interest policies should apply to research staff as well as research investigators.

VA Response: As stated under Directive 0005, ¶ 5.a.(3), VA is currently developing conflict of interest requirements specifically applicable to research. These requirements will define what constitutes a research conflict of interest and who is required to follow VA's conflict of interest