



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Evaluation of State Vocational Rehabilitation Agency Administration of Supported Employment Programs

SUMMARY: The Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program provides a wide range of services to help individuals with disabilities to prepare for and engage in gainful employment. Eligible individuals are those who have a physical or mental impairment that results in a substantial impediment to employment, who can benefit from VR services for employment, and who require VR services.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before [insert the 30th day after publication of this notice].

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be electronically mailed to ICDocketMgr@ed.gov or mailed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, LBJ, Washington, D.C. 20202-4537. Copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 04796. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, LBJ, Washington, D.C. 20202-4537. Requests may also be electronically mailed to ICDocketMgr@ed.gov or faxed to 202-401-0920. **Please specify the complete title of the information collection and OMB Control Number when making your request.**

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that Federal agencies provide interested parties an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Privacy, Information and Records Management Services, Office of Management, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: Evaluation of State Vocational Rehabilitation Agency Administration of Supported Employment Programs

OMB Control Number: Pending

Type of Review: New

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 80

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 249

Abstract: If a State is unable to serve all eligible individuals, priority must be given to serving individuals with the most significant disabilities. The program is funded through formula-based grants awarded by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) to State VR agencies to receive funding from the basic Title I formula grant program.

The Supported Employment (SE) Grant Program provides funding to assist States in developing and implementing collaborative programs with appropriate entities to provide SE services to individuals with the most significant disabilities who require SE services to achieve employment outcomes under Title VI Part B of the Rehabilitation Act for the SE State Grants Program. SE funds are used to supplement funds provided under the State VR grants program for the cost of providing SE services. Funds cannot be used to provide extended services necessary to maintain individuals in employment after the end of SE services, which usually do not exceed 18 months.

RSA proposes to conduct a national survey of all 80 state VR agencies. RSA seeks to evaluate how State VR agencies implement supported employment services for individuals with disabilities, how state VR agencies use Title VI Part B funds in conjunction with Title I funds to fund supported employment programs, and whether State VR agencies are effective in obtaining supported employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities. The evaluation also seeks to identify the factors that contribute to successful supported employment outcomes.

RSA will address the following objectives:

- Identify agency practices with respect to providing SE services;
- Determine how agencies use Title VI-B, Title I and other funds to provide SE; and
- Determine how agency practices affect the achievement of SE outcomes.

Dated: April 13, 2012

Tomakie Washington, Acting Director
Information Collection Clearance Division
Privacy, Information and Records Management Services
Office of Management

