

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**United States Patent and Trademark Office****Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

Title: Required and Optional Search Criteria for Computer Implemented Business Method Patent Applications in Class 705.

Form Numbers: No Forms Associated.

Agency Approval Number: 0651-00XX.

Type of Request: New Information Collection.

Burden: 150 hours.

Number of Respondents: 100 responses.

Avg. Hours Per Response: Based on estimates from surveys, the USPTO estimates that it will take the public one and a half hours (1.5 hours) to gather, prepare, and submit comments recommending a database to the USPTO for evaluation.

Needs and Uses: There are no specific statutes or regulations requiring the USPTO to collect the database recommendations solicited in the Notice. The USPTO is collecting the information as part of its continuing efforts to improve customer service, to improve the quality of patent examination, and to decrease the amount of time that it takes to examine a patent application and issue it as a patent. The USPTO is soliciting comments from the public on various aspects of the database, such as the type and amount of information that it contains, the search interface, cost, and accessibility so that they can evaluate the resources that are currently in use, and evaluate possible new resources to add to the existing ones in use. The public will use this information collection to recommend databases to the USPTO for evaluation and to provide information that the USPTO needs to effectively evaluate the items such as database content, database identification, accessibility, technical support, continuity, and mode of access. In addition to evaluating the databases, the USPTO also uses this information to determine whether the database qualifies as a mandatory or supplemental search tool.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, businesses or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions, farms, Federal government, and state, local or tribal government.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Data Administration Division, Office of Data Management, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Crystal Park 3, 3rd Floor, Suite 310, Washington, DC 20231, by phone at (703) 308-7400, or via the Internet at susan.brown@uspto.gov.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent on or before February 1, 2001 to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: December 22, 2000.

Susan K. Brown,

Records Officer, Data Administration Division, Office of Data Management.

[FR Doc. 00-33375 Filed 12-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1996.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before February 1, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Lauren Wittenberg, Acting Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Lauren_Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information

collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: December 26, 2000.

John Tressler,

Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Type of Review: Extension

Title: Streamlined Clearance Process for Discretionary Grant Information Collections

Frequency: Annually

Affected Public: Individuals or household; Businesses or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 1

Burden Hours: 1

Abstract: The information collection plan provides the U.S. Department of Education with the option of submitting its discretionary grant information collections through a streamlined Paperwork Reduction Act clearance process. This streamlined clearance process will begin when the Department submits the information collection to the OMB and, at the same time, publishes a 30-day public comment period notice in the **Federal Register**. OMB will then have 60 days after the start of the public comment period to reach a decision on the information collection.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional