

Although each application for the 2024 supplemental grant will be given due consideration, the IRS is especially interested in receiving applications from organizations providing services in these underserved geographic areas. For organizations that intend to refer low-income taxpayers in controversies with the IRS to other qualified representatives rather than providing representation directly to low-income taxpayers, priority will be given to established organizations that can help provide coverage to underserved geographic areas. For the ESL Education Pilot Program, special consideration will be given to established organizations with existing community partnerships that can swiftly implement and deliver services to the target audiences.

As in prior years, the IRS will consider a variety of factors in determining whether to award a supplemental grant, including: (1) the number of taxpayers who will be assisted by the organization, including the number of ESL taxpayers in that geographic area; (2) the existence of other LITCs assisting the same population of low-income and ESL taxpayers; (3) the quality of the program offered by the organization, including the qualifications of its administrators and qualified representatives, and its record in providing services to low-income taxpayers; (4) the quality of the organization, including the reasonableness of the proposed budget; (5) the organization's compliance with all Federal tax obligations (filing and payment); (6) the organization's compliance with all Federal nontax obligations (filing and payment); (7) whether debarment or suspension (31 CFR part 19) applies or whether the organization is otherwise excluded from or ineligible for a Federal award; and (8) alternative funding sources available to the organization, including amounts received from other grants and contributors and the endowment and resources of the institution sponsoring the organization.

For programs where all or the majority of cases will be placed with volunteers, we will also consider the following: (1) the qualifications of the representatives (attorneys, certified public accountants, or enrolled agents) who have agreed to accept taxpayer case referrals from an LTC and provide representation or consultation services free of charge; and (2) the ability of the organization to monitor referrals and ensure that the *pro bono* representatives are handling the cases properly, including taking timely case actions and ensuring services are offered for free.

The final funding decisions are made by the National Taxpayer Advocate, unless recused. The costs of preparing and applying for the grant are the responsibility of each applicant. Applications may be released in response to Freedom of Information Act requests after any necessary redactions are made. Therefore, applicants must not include any individual taxpayer information. The IRS will notify each applicant in writing once funding decisions have been made.

Erin Collins,

National Taxpayer Advocate.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; State Small Business Credit Initiative

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, U.S. Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. The public is invited to submit comments on these requests.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before March 27, 2024 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Copies of the submissions may be obtained from Spencer W. Clark by emailing PRA@treasury.gov, calling (202) 927-5331, or viewing the entire information collection request at www.reginfo.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: State Small Business Credit Initiative.

OMB Control Number: 1505-0227.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Description: This information collection captures information related

to the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI). The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) reauthorized and amended the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 (SSBCI statute) to fund the SSBCI as a response to the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.ⁱ SSBCI is a Federal program administered by the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) that was created to strengthen the programs of jurisdictions (*i.e.*, States, the District of Columbia, Territories, Tribal governments) that support private financing for small businesses. SSBCI includes the Capital Program, through which Treasury provides funding to jurisdictions to expand access to capital for small businesses, and the Technical Assistance (TA) Program, through which jurisdictions provide legal, accounting, and financial advisory services (TA services) to very small and underserved businesses that are applying for SSBCI Capital Program funding and other governmental programs that support small businesses (eligible beneficiaries). The TA Program includes an allocation-formula based TA Grant Program, as well as the competitive grant SSBCI Investing in America Small Business Opportunity Program (SBOP), which Treasury recently announced via a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). Treasury is updating the burden estimate for OMB Control Number 1505-0227 to better account for applications received under the SBOP, as well as proposed SBOP reporting requirements.ⁱⁱ

Form: Treasury's portal, various templates.

Affected Public: State, Territorial and Tribal governments, small businesses.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 100 for application submission; 15 for reporting.

ⁱ ARPA, Public Law 117-2, sec. 3301, codified at 12 U.S.C. 5701 *et seq.* SSBCI was originally established in title III of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010.

ⁱⁱ The draft SSBCI Investing in America SBOP application, including related templates and other application materials, is available on Treasury's website at <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/small-business-programs/state-small-business-credit-initiative-ssbci/2021-ssbci/program-materials/application-materials>. If awarded a grant under the SBOP, Treasury anticipates that SBOP recipients will be required to submit progress performance reports annually and financial reports via Form SF-425 semi-annually, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.328 and 200.329 and the terms and conditions of the grant. For progress performance reporting, SBOP recipients will be required to track and submit data on Treasury-specific data elements. Treasury proposes to require reports for the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP in substantially the form of the reporting guidance used for the formula-based TA Grant Program, which may be found on Treasury's website at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SSBCI-Technical-Assistance-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>.

Frequency of Response: For application submission: one time; for grant award modifications: on occasion; for reporting: annually and semiannually.

Estimated Total Number of Annual Responses: The current estimate for OMB Control Number 1505–0227 is 112,376. Treasury estimates the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP will increase this estimate by 6,115 to 118,491.

Estimated Time per Response: For the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP, depending on the type of collection Treasury estimates that responses will take 9 minutes up to 6 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: The current estimate for OMB Control Number 1505–0227 is 24,877. Treasury estimates the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP will increase this estimate by 1,530 hours to 26,407.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

Spencer W. Clark,
Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.

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UNIFIED CARRIER REGISTRATION PLAN

Sunshine Act Meetings

TIME AND DATE: February 29, 2024, 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Eastern Time.

PLACE: This meeting will be accessible via conference call and via Zoom Meeting and Screenshare. Any interested person may call (i) 1–929–205–6099 (US Toll) or 1–669–900–6833 (US Toll), Meeting ID: 997 0103 4622, to listen and participate in this meeting. The website to participate via Zoom Meeting and Screenshare is <https://kellen.zoom.us/j/99701034622>.

STATUS: This meeting will be open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The Unified Carrier Registration Plan Board of Directors (the “Board”) will continue its work in developing and implementing the Unified Carrier Registration Plan and Agreement. The subject matter of this meeting will include:

Proposed Agenda

I. Welcome and Call to Order—UCR Board Chair

The UCR Board Chair will welcome attendees, call the meeting to order, call roll for the Board, confirm the presence of a quorum, and facilitate self-introductions.

II. Verification of Publication of Meeting Notice—UCR Executive Director

The UCR Executive Director will verify publication of the meeting notice on the UCR website and distribution to the UCR contact list via email, followed by subsequent publication of the notice in the **Federal Register**.

III. Review and Approval of Board Agenda—UCR Board Chair

For Discussion and Possible Board Action

The proposed Agenda will be reviewed. The Board will consider action to adopt.

Ground Rules

➤ Board actions taken only in designated areas on the agenda.

IV. Approval of Minutes of the January 18, 2024 UCR Board Meeting—UCR Board Chair

For Discussion and Possible Board Action

Draft Minutes from the January 18, 2024, UCR Board meeting will be reviewed. The Board will consider action to approve.

V. Approval of Minutes of the February 1, 2024 UCR Board Meeting—UCR Board Chair

For Discussion and Possible Board Action

Draft Minutes from the February 1, 2024, UCR Board meeting will be reviewed. The Board will consider action to approve.

VI. Report of FMCSA—FMCSA Representative

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) will provide a report on any relevant agency activity, including the status of the FMCSA’s Notice of Proposed Rulemaking concerning the 2025 UCR Fee Rulemaking and its publication in the **Federal Register**.

VII. Engagement Letter Between the UCR Plan and the Bradley Arant Law Firm—UCR Board Chair and UCR Executive Director

For Discussion and Possible Board Action

An engagement letter between the UCR Plan and the Bradley Arant law firm will be presented to the Board for consideration and approval covering legal services provided by the Bradley Arant law firm in representing the UCR Plan before the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the trademark

cancellation proceeding filed by the Small Business in Transportation Coalition. The Board may take action to approve the engagement letter on the terms outlined in the engagement letter.

VIII. UCR Plan Legal Counsel Report—UCR Plan Legal Counsel

UCR Plan Legal Counsel will report on his activities as UCR Plan Legal Counsel since the last Board of Directors meeting including, the issuance of trademark licenses to participating states, developing a procedure to amend the UCR Agreement and responding to comments received by the FMCSA in connection with the 2025 UCR Fee Rule making.

IX. Subcommittee Reports

Audit Subcommittee—UCR Audit Subcommittee Chair, UCR Audit Subcommittee Vice-Chair

A. Updates to the UCR Handbook—UCR Audit Subcommittee Chair, UCR Audit Subcommittee Vice-Chair

For Discussion and Possible Board Action

The UCR Audit Subcommittee Chair and Vice Chair will lead a discussion on steps to update the UCR Handbook in order to reduce confusion and eliminate conflicting guidance in the Handbook. The proposed amendments relate to the following sections of the Handbook:

- “Leasing Companies” page 10
- “Effect of IRP Registration” page 27
- “Entities Performing More Than One Function” “Businesses Operating More Than One Motor Carrier” pages 10 and 11

The Board may take action to amend the UCR Handbook in the sections listed above.

Finance Subcommittee—UCR Finance Subcommittee Chair and UCR Depository Manager

A. Financial Update—UCR Depository Manager

The UCR Depository Manager will provide an update on the financial status of the administrative fund. An update on fees collected for the 2024 registration year will also be provided.

B. The Finance Subcommittee Recommendation to the UCR Board for the Selection of External Auditor To Audit the Unified Carrier Registration Plan Depository for the Year Ended December 31, 2022—UCR Finance Subcommittee Chair

For Discussion and Possible Board Action

The UCR Finance Subcommittee Vice-Chair and the UCR Depository Manager