

PTO/437–KR) for each pilot the applicant wishes to utilize.

Combined petition form PTO/437–JP must either be directly filed in the U.S. application or directly with the JPO for the USPTO/JPO pilot program, and combined petition form PTO/437–KR must either be directly filed in the U.S. application or directly with the KIPO for the USPTO/KIPO pilot program. If the combined petition form is directly filed in the U.S. application, the applicant must file it using either EFS-Web or Patent Center. If the applicant directly files the combined petition form with the partner IP office, the combined petition form must be accompanied by supporting documents (*e.g.*, an English translation of the claims from the counterpart application; a machine translation of the claims is acceptable). The corresponding partner IP office will then transmit the combined petition form and supporting documents to the USPTO. The applicant should not file the combined petition form directly with both the USPTO and the corresponding partner IP office.

Based on the agreements between the USPTO and the partner IP offices, if the applicant directly files the combined petition form with the USPTO, then the USPTO must transmit the completed form and any accompanying supporting documents, along with the date of receipt, to the corresponding partner IP office. Additionally, if the applicant files the combined petition form directly with the JPO or the KIPO, then the office that received the filing must transmit the form and the accompanying supporting documents, along with its date of receipt, to the USPTO. The USPTO will place the combined petition form and the accompanying supporting documents in the file of the U.S. application. Incomplete combined petition forms will not be forwarded to the corresponding partner IP office and will be dismissed in accordance with the respective Memorandums of Cooperation between partner IP offices.

Under the combined petition option, the IP partner offices have agreed to transmit the combined petition form to the corresponding partner IP office within 15 days of receipt from the applicant. This reduces the risk of the counterpart application being acted upon by an examiner in the partner IP office before that application enters the pilot program, which would result in both applications being denied entry into the Expanded CSP program. The request for participation in the Expanded CSP program must be granted by both the IP office in which the request is directly filed and the partner

IP office for both applications prior to any examination in either office.

To the extent that the combined petition form forwarded to the USPTO from the partner IP office does not comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.4(d)(2) and (d)(3), and 1.6(a), these requirements are waived for certain elements. Specifically, with respect to 37 CFR 1.4(d)(2), a forwarded combined petition form containing an S-signature will not be required to be filed by facsimile transmission, via the USPTO's electronic filing system (*i.e.*, EFS-Web or Patent Center), or on paper. With respect to 37 CFR 1.4(d)(3), a forwarded combined petition form containing a graphic representation of a handwritten signature or an S-signature will not be required to be filed via the USPTO's electronic filing system. With respect to 37 CFR 1.6(a), a forwarded combined petition form will be accorded a receipt date even though it was not received at the USPTO by mail, filed via the USPTO's electronic filing system, or hand-delivered to the USPTO. The U.S. receipt date of the combined petition form will either be the actual date that the combined petition form is received at the USPTO via the USPTO's electronic filing system or the date the combined petition form is transmitted to the USPTO from the partner IP office, which may not be the same as the receipt date in the partner IP office.

IV. Requirements for Participation in the Expanded CSP

To be accepted into the Expanded CSP program, applicants who use the combined petition option must meet all the requirements of the program that are set forth in section III of the Expanded CSP extension notice, except with the following modifications.

Under the combined petition option, the combined petition form PTO/437–JP or PTO/437–KR must be used instead of form PTO/SB/437, and the combined petition form, as discussed above, must be submitted to either the USPTO or the partner IP office (the JPO or the KIPO). Separate petitions are not required to be filed in both the USPTO and the partner IP office. The combined petition form PTO/437–JP or PTO/437–KR also includes an express written consent under 35 U.S.C. 122(c) for the USPTO to receive the combined petition form (if filed directly with the corresponding partner IP office) and to accept and consider prior art references and comments from the designated partner IP office during the examination of the U.S. application. The combined petition form also includes written authorization for the USPTO to forward the form (if filed directly with the USPTO) to the

corresponding partner IP office and to provide to the designated IP partner office, before a first office action on the merits, access to the participating U.S. application's bibliographic data and search results, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 122(a) and 37 CFR 1.14(c). No other consents are required.

V. Treatment of a Combined Petition Form

The combined petition form filed directly or indirectly in the U.S. application will be treated in the manner set forth in section IV of the Expanded CSP extension notice.

VI. Requirement for Restriction

The requirement for restriction set forth in section V of the Expanded CSP extension notice remains the same for the combined petition option.

VII. First Action on the Merits

Under the Expanded CSP program, the USPTO examiner will consider all exchanged search results. However, search results that are not received by the USPTO within four months from the date the USPTO granted the petition may not be included in the first action on the merits (FAOM). The examiner will prepare and issue an Office action and notify the applicant if any designated partner IP office did not provide search results prior to the issuance of the Office action. Once an FAOM issues, the application will no longer be treated as special under the Expanded CSP program.

The USPTO will continue to cooperate with applicants, IP stakeholders, and partner IP offices to improve the CSP process. More information on the CSP is available at www.uspto.gov/CollaborativeSearch.

Andrew Hirshfeld,

Commissioner for Patents, Performing the Functions and Duties of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2022–06602 Filed 3–28–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION

[Docket No. CFPB–2022–0003]

Notice and Request for Comment Regarding Fees Imposed by Providers of Consumer Financial Products or Services

AGENCY: Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

ACTION: Notice; request for public comment; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On January 26, 2022, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Bureau or CFPB) requested comment from the public related to fees that are not subject to competitive processes that ensure fair pricing. The request for comment was published in the **Federal Register** on February 2, 2022, in a document titled, “Request for Information Regarding Fees Imposed by Providers of Consumer Financial Products or Services.” The Bureau has determined that extension of the comment period until April 11, 2022, is appropriate.

DATES: The end of the comment period for the document titled, “Request for Information Regarding Fees Imposed by Providers of Consumer Financial Products or Services,” published on February 2, 2022 (87 FR 5801), is extended from March 31, 2022, until April 11, 2022.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. CFPB–2022–0003, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Email:* CFPB_FederalRegisterComments@cfpb.gov. Include Docket No. CFPB–2022–0003 in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier:* Comment Intake—Fee Assessment, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552. Please note that due to circumstances associated with the COVID–19 pandemic, the CFPB discourages the submission of comments by hand delivery, mail, or courier.

Instructions: The CFPB encourages the early submission of comments. All submissions should include document title and docket number. Because paper mail in the Washington, DC area and at the CFPB is subject to delay, commenters are encouraged to submit comments electronically. In general, all comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>. In addition, once the CFPB’s headquarters reopens, comments will be available for public inspection and copying at 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern Time. At that time, you can make an appointment to inspect the documents by telephoning 202–435–7275. All comments, including attachments and other supporting materials, will become part of the public record and subject to public disclosure.

Proprietary information or sensitive personal information, such as account numbers or Social Security numbers, or names of other individuals, should not be included. Comments will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brian Shearer, Senior Advisor; Grace Bouwer, Advisor, Public Engagement, Director’s Front Office, Office of the Director at 202–435–7700. If you require this document in an alternative electronic format, please contact CFPB_Accessibility@cfpb.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 26, 2022, the Bureau issued a Request for Information regarding fees that are not subject to competitive processes that ensure fair pricing.¹ The information will help the CFPB and policymakers in exercising their enforcement, supervision, regulatory and other authorities to create a fairer, more transparent, and competitive consumer financial marketplace. As of mid-March, the CFPB has received more than 1,400 comments to the RFI, indicating a high level of public interest in this topic. Allowing an additional comment period will provide additional opportunity for the public to prepare comments related to this inquiry. Therefore, the Bureau is extending the comment period for this request until April 11, 2022.

Dani Zylberberg,

*Counsel and Federal Register Liaison,
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.*

[FR Doc. 2022–06581 Filed 3–28–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810–AM–P

COUNCIL OF THE INSPECTORS GENERAL ON INTEGRITY AND EFFICIENCY

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE).

ACTION: Notice of a new system of records.

SUMMARY: CIGIE proposes to establish a system of records that is subject to the Privacy Act of 1974. CIGIE proposes this system of records to more efficiently track records in furtherance of its statutory mandate to maintain one or more academies for the professional training of auditors, inspectors, evaluators, and other personnel of the various offices of Inspector General per

the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended.

DATES: This proposal will be effective without further notice on April 28, 2022 unless comments are received that would result in a contrary determination.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments identified by “CIGIE–7” by any of the following methods:

1. *Mail:* Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, 1717 H Street NW, Suite 825, Washington, DC 20006. ATTN: Atticus Reaser/CIGIE–7, Notice of New System of Records.

2. *Email:* comments@cigie.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Atticus Reaser, General Counsel, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, (202) 292–2600 or comments@cigie.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In 2008, Congress established CIGIE as an independent entity within the executive branch in order to address integrity, economy, and effectiveness issues that transcend individual Government agencies; and increase the professionalism and effectiveness of personnel by developing policies, standards, and approaches to aid in the establishment of a well-trained and highly skilled workforce in the offices of the Inspector General. CIGIE’s membership is comprised of all Inspectors General whose offices are established under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, 5 U.S.C. app (IG Act), as well as the Controller of the Office of Federal Financial Management, a designated official of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Director of the Office of Government Ethics, the Special Counsel of the Office of Special Counsel, the Deputy Director of the Office of Personnel Management, the Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the Inspectors General of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, Central Intelligence Agency, Library of Congress, Capitol Police, Government Publishing Office, Government Accountability Office, and the Architect of the Capitol. The Deputy Director for Management of OMB serves as the Executive Chairperson of CIGIE.

The new system of records described in this notice, the Training Institute and Education Records System (CIGIE–7), will enable CIGIE to more efficiently track training records associated with those who seek, receive, or provide training through CIGIE. In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552a(r), CIGIE has provided a report of this new system of

¹ See 87 FR 5801 (Feb. 2, 2022).