

(7) Disclose information to officials of the Merit Systems Protection Board, the Office of the Special Counsel, the Federal Labor Relations Authority, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, or the Office of Personnel Management when requested in performance of their authorized duties;

(8) Disclose information to a Congressional office in response to an inquiry made at the request of the individual to whom the record pertains, and

(9) Provide information to officials of labor organizations recognized under the Civil Service Reform Act when relevant and necessary to their duties of exclusive representation concerning personnel policies, practices, and matters affecting work conditions.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

STORAGE:

Magnetic media.

RETRIEVABILITY:

Records are indexed by name and Social Security Number.

SAFEGUARDS:

Records are accessed through Internet firewalls by authorized Customs employees through IRE Virtual Private Network (VRN) and a secure connection. The host servers are protected by controlled access procedures, which includes card key entry control and cipher locks.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:

Merit promotion case files are maintained for two years after the closing date of the announcement, or the final disposition of appeals, whichever is later in accordance with National Archives and Records Administration GRS-1.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:

Director, Staffing Policy, Office of Human Resources, U.S. Customs Service, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20229.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:

See Customs Appendix A.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURE:

See Customs Appendix A.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

See Customs Appendix A.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

Job applicants, and present and past employers, and other federal agencies.

EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[PS-74-89]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, PS-74-89 (T.D. 8282), Election of Reduced Research Credit (§ 1.280C-4).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before June 25, 2001 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be directed to Larnice Mack, (202) 622-3179, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Election of Reduced Research Credit.

OMB Number: 1545-1155.

Regulation Project Number: PS-74-89.

Abstract: This regulation relates to the manner of making an election under section 280C(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. This election enables a taxpayer to claim a reduced income tax credit for increasing research activities and thereby avoid a reduction of the section 174 deduction for research and experimental expenditures.

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing regulation.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals and business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 50.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information 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.

Approved: April 12, 2001.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-10160 Filed 4-23-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Revenue Procedure 2000-12

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Revenue Procedure 2000-12, Application Procedures for Qualified Intermediary Status Under Section 1441; Final Qualified Intermediary Withholding Agreement.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before June 25, 2001 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the revenue procedure should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5242, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application Procedures for Qualified Intermediary Status Under Section 1441; Final Qualified Intermediary Withholding Agreement.

OMB Number: 1545-1597.

Revenue Procedure Number: Revenue Procedure 2000-12.

Abstract: This revenue procedure gives guidance for entering into a withholding agreement with the IRS to be treated as a Qualified Intermediary (QI) under regulation section 1.1441-1(e)(5). It describes the application procedures for becoming a QI and the terms that the IRS will ordinarily require in a QI withholding agreement. The objective of a QI withholding agreement is to simplify withholding and reporting obligations with respect to payments of income made to an account holder through one or more foreign intermediaries.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to Revenue Procedure 2000-12 at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeepers: 88,504.

Estimated Time for QI Account Holder: 30 minutes.

Estimated Time for a QI: 2,093 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Reporting/Recordkeeping Hours: 301,018.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information 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.

Approved: April 16, 2001.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-10161 Filed 4-23-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[EE-12-78]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995,

Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, EE-12-78 (TD 7611) Nonbank Trustees (§ 1.408-2(e)).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before June 25, 2001 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be directed to Larnice Mack, (202) 622-3179, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Nonbank Trustees.

OMB Number: 1545-0806.

Regulation Project Number: EE-12-78.

Abstract: Internal Revenue Code section 408(a)(2) permits an institution other than a bank to be the trustee of an individual retirement account. This regulation imposes certain reporting and recordkeeping requirements to enable the IRS to determine whether an institution qualifies to be a nonbank trustee and to insure that accounts are administered according to sound fiduciary principles.

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing regulation.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 23.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 34 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 13.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a