

Comment: The commenter supports the USPTO's decision to discontinue the TC Index and encourages the USPTO to redirect the resulting cost savings to assist users in electronic environments such as the Trademark Next Generation program.

Response: Eliminating the TC Index coding will allow the USPTO to devote more of its limited resources to the maintenance and improvement of the USPTO Design Classification system, which provides the public with more precise search parameters than are possible with the TC Index codes. It will also allow the USPTO to devote more resources to enhancing electronic communications through the Trademarks Next Generation information technology initiative. In connection with this initiative, the USPTO is currently reviewing suggestions for improvements to the electronic systems and will begin implementing many of them in the coming months.

The USPTO invests heavily in its publicly available electronic search systems to ensure their maintenance, and commits considerable resources to enhancing and improving electronic search capabilities. The USPTO is dedicated to ensuring the quality and accuracy of design coding under the USPTO Design Classification system. The USPTO Design Classification codes will continue to be subject to internal quality review and external review by applicants, registrants and the public, which further ensures correct design coding.

Accordingly, the USPTO hereby gives notice that the USPTO is discontinuing coding design marks with paper search designations.

Dated: February 24, 2011.

David J. Kappos,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2011-4618 Filed 3-1-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[FAR-N-2011-01; Docket No. 2011-0083; Sequence 1]

Federal Transition To Secure Hash Algorithm (SHA)-256

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD), General Services Administration (GSA),

and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Civilian Agency Acquisition Council, and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils), are hosting the first of at least two public meetings to start a dialogue with industry and Government agencies about ways for the acquisition community to transition to Secure Hash Algorithm SHA-256. SHA-256 is a cryptographic hash function that is used in digital signatures, and authentication protocols.

DATES: *Public Meeting:* A public meeting will be held on March 18, 2011, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. EST. Attendees should register for the public meeting at least 1 week in advance to ensure adequate room accommodations.

Registrants will be given priority if room constraints require limits on attendance. At the March 18th meeting, two briefings will be provided on SHA-256. One will be at the agency level, and the other at the Federal level. Public comments will be solicited after a subsequent second public meeting.

Special Accommodations: The public meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Edward Loeb, telephone (202) 501-0650, at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

ADDRESSES: *Public Meeting:* The public meeting will be held in the General Services Administration (GSA) Multipurpose Room, 2nd floor, One Constitution Square, 1275 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20417. Interested parties may register by faxing the following information to the GSA at (202) 501-4067, or e-mail edward.loeb@gsa.gov by March 11, 2011:

- (1) Company or Organization Name;
- (2) Names of persons attending; and
- (3) Last four digits of the social

security number of persons attending. Please cite "Federal Transition to Secure Hash Algorithm SHA-256" in all correspondence related to this public meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For clarification of content, contact Mr. Edward Loeb, Procurement Analyst, at (202) 501-0650. For information pertaining to status or publication schedules, contact the Regulatory Secretariat at (202) 501-4755. Please cite "Federal Transition to Secure Hash Algorithm SHA-256."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal environment uses SHA-1 for

generating digital signatures. Current information systems, Web servers, applications and workstation operating systems were designed to process, and use SHA-1 generated signatures. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) SP (Special Publication) 800-57, Recommendation for Key Management—Part 1, (the first document); and NIST SP 800-78-3, Cryptographic Algorithms and Key Sizes for Personal Identification Verification (PIV), at <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/PubsSPs.html>, provide for the use of SHA-256 in all digital signatures generated. NIST has issued guidance for transition to stronger cryptographic keys, and more robust algorithms by December 2013.

Government systems may begin to encounter certificates signed with SHA-256, and in most cases it is unclear whether the Government systems will continue to function correctly.

Dated: February 24, 2011.

Millisa Gary,

Acting Director, Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy.

[FR Doc. 2011-4662 Filed 3-1-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-EP-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Education (the Department), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the reporting burden on the public and helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. The Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 2, 2011.

ADDRESSES: 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, DC 20202-4537. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

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 Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information 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.

Dated: February 24, 2011.

Darrin A. King,

Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.

Institute of Education Sciences

Type of Review: Revision.

Title of Collection: Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS 2011/12) Full Scale Data Collection.

OMB Control Number: 1850-0598.

Agency Form Number(s): N/A.

Frequency of Responses: Once.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Government, State Educational Agencies or Local Educational Agencies.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 215,553.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 91,226.

Abstract: The Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS) is an in-depth, nationally-representative survey of first through twelfth grade public and private school teachers, principals, schools, library media centers, and school districts. Kindergarten teachers in schools with at least a first grade are also surveyed. For traditional public school districts, principals, schools, teachers and school libraries, the survey

estimates are State-representative. For public charter schools, principals, teachers, and school libraries, the survey estimates are nationally-representative. For private school principals, schools, and teachers, the survey estimates are representative of private school types. There are two additional components within SASS's 4-year data collection cycle: the Teacher Follow-up Survey and the Principal Follow-up Survey, which are conducted a year after the SASS main collection, and the approval for which will be sought at a later date. SASS respondents include public and private school principals, teachers, and school and school district staff. Topics covered include, but are not limited to, demographic characteristics of teachers and principals, school staffing, school programs and services, school library staffing, school library usage, teacher professional development, district policies on teacher recruitment and retention, and teacher certification. This submission for SASS 2011/12 requests Office of Management and Budget approval for full-scale data collection activities to take place during school year 2011-12. These data collection activities include administering the teacher listing form for teacher sampling, and collection of all survey questionnaires for districts, schools, principals, teachers, and school libraries.

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 4528. 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, DC 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.

[FR Doc. 2011-4621 Filed 3-1-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Arbitration Panel Decision Under the Randolph-Sheppard Act

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Education (Department) gives notice that, on September 28, 2010, an arbitration panel rendered a decision in the matter of *Calvette Brown v. Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitative Services, Case no. R-S/09-3*. This panel was convened by the Department under 20 U.S.C. 107d-1(a), after the Department received a complaint filed by the petitioner, Calvette Brown.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: You may obtain a copy of the full text of the arbitration panel decision from Suzette E. Haynes, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 5022, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-2800. Telephone: (202) 245-7374. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll-free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under section 6(c) of the Randolph-Sheppard Act (Act), 20 U.S.C. 107d-2(c), the Secretary publishes in the **Federal Register** a synopsis of each arbitration panel decision affecting the administration of vending facilities on Federal and other property.

Background

Calvette Brown (Complainant) alleged violations by the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitative Services, the State licensing agency (SLA), under the Act and implementing regulations in 34 CFR part 395. Specifically, Complainant alleged that the SLA improperly administered the transfer and promotion policies and procedures of the Illinois Randolph-Sheppard Vending Facility Program in violation of the Act, implementing regulations under the Act, and State rules and regulations in Complainant's bid to manage the vending machine facility at the United States Postal Service facility (USPS facility) on Northwest Highway in Palatine, Illinois.

On January 28, 2009, Complainant participated in an interview process with the SLA concerning the USPS facility. On February 10, 2009, Complainant was selected as the successful bidder and awarded a vending contract at the USPS facility.