

The licensee's request for exemption under the special circumstances of 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii) was found to be appropriate. Application of the regulation is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule for the reasons stated in the staff Safety Evaluation, dated August 9, 1999.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that granting of this exemption will have no significant effect on the quality of the human environment (64 FR 43228).

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

Dated at Rockville, MD, this 9th day of August 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Suzanne C. Black,

Deputy Director, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 99-21054 Filed 8-12-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

OMB Circular A-127, "Financial Management Systems"

AGENCY: Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President.

ACTION: Final revision.

SUMMARY: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is adopting the interim final revision to OMB Circular A-127, "Financial Management Systems," that changes the process for acquiring software to meet core financial system requirements by eliminating the restriction to only acquire the software and related services from the FMSS Schedule, and to provide for software testing that is independent of the procurement process. These changes will result in the revision of Sections 8d and 9b, as well as adding a new Section 9a(3) and 9c. These changes are shown below.

DATES: Effective September 13, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jean Holcombe, Federal Financial Systems Branch, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget, (202) 395-3993. The revisions to the Circular are available on the OMB Home Page at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/OMB>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 1, 1999 (64 FR 35701), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued an interim final revision to OMB Circular A-127, "Financial Management Systems." The interim final revision made changes to Sections 8d and 9b, as

well as adding a new Section 9a(3) and 9c to Circular A-127, in order to eliminate the restriction to only acquire the software and related services from the FMSS Schedule, and to provide for software testing that is independent of the procurement process. No comments were received in response to the interim final revision. Accordingly, OMB is adopting in final form, without change, the interim final revision to Circular A-127 which was published at 64 FR 35701 on July 1, 1999.

Issued in Washington, DC, August 9, 1999.

Norwood J. Jackson, Jr.,
Acting Controller.

OMB Revises Circular A-127 as Follows

1. *Section 8d of the current Circular should be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:*

8d(1). *Use of "Off-the-Shelf"*

Software. Agencies replacing software to meet core financial system requirements are required to use the GSA FMSS Multiple Award Schedule until its expiration on September 30, 1999. As of October 1, 1999 agencies replacing software to meet core financial system requirements are no longer required to use the GSA FMSS Multiple Award Schedule; they must use "off-the-shelf" software that has been tested and certified through the JFMIP software certification process as meeting JFMIP Core Financial Management System Requirements. Agencies may purchase this software using the strategy and procurement vehicle they believe will best enable them to meet their needs in a timely and effective manner following the competition requirements associated with the procurement vehicle being used to conduct the acquisition.

In addition, agencies will notify JFMIP that a core financial management software procurement is planned—preferably prior to, or in the early phases of, acquisition planning. JFMIP will electronically post a public message to permit interested certified system vendors to market agencies. The sole purpose of this message is to facilitate agency market research. This message is not intended to, and shall not, serve as an invitation for offerors to submit bids, proposals, or quotes.

OMB policy pertaining to using "off-the-shelf" software is contained in OMB Circular A-130 and must be followed when replacing financial management systems.

8d(2). *Software Certification Testing.* "Off-the-shelf" software will be tested to ensure that it meets core financial system requirements as defined in the *Core Financial System Requirements*

document published by JFMIP. JFMIP will coordinate the testing process and issue software certifications. Information on the details of the certification testing process and its results will be available to any interested Federal agency for any certified software package.

2. *A new section 9a(3) is being added to the current Circular as follows:*

9a.(3). *Notify JFMIP on Plans to Acquire Core Financial System Software.* Agencies shall notify JFMIP on plans to acquire software supporting core financial system functions.

3. *Section 9b of the current Circular is revised to read as follows:*

9b. *GSA Responsibilities.* GSA is responsible for continuing to support existing contracts under the FMSS Schedule until their completion. GSA also will make procurement vehicles available to agencies for acquiring software which has been certified according to the processes in Section 8d(2).

4. *A new Section 9c is being added and will read as follows:*

9c. *JFMIP Responsibilities.* JFMIP will establish processes for testing "off-the-shelf" software supporting core financial system requirements which include:

—Developing and administering the certification test.

—Notifying GSA when a software package successfully completes the certification test.

—Providing interested parties with information on the core financial system requirements and their related testing scenarios.

—Providing interested parties with details on the results of the certification tests for certified software packages.

—Posting a public notice on planned core financial system procurements.

[FR Doc. 99-20930 Filed 8-12-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3110-01-P

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

Interest Assumption for Determining Variable-Rate Premium; Interest Assumptions for Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of interest rates and assumptions.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of the interest rates and assumptions to be used under certain Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation regulations. These rates and assumptions are published

elsewhere (or are derivable from rates published elsewhere), but are collected and published in this notice for the convenience of the public. Interest rates are also published on the PBGC's web site (<http://www.pbgc.gov>).

DATES: The interest rate for determining the variable-rate premium under part 4006 applies to premium payment years beginning in August, 1999. The interest assumptions for performing multiemployer plan valuations following mass withdrawal under part 4281 apply to valuation dates occurring in September, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Harold J. Ashner, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005, 202-326-4024. (For TTY/TDD users, call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4024.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Variable-Rate Premiums

Section 4006(a)(3)(E)(iii)(II) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and § 4006.4(b)(1) of the PBGC's regulation on Premium Rates (29 CFR part 4006) prescribe use of an assumed interest rate in determining a single-employer plan's variable-rate premium. The rate is the "applicable percentage" (currently 85 percent) of the annual yield on 30-year Treasury securities for the month preceding the beginning of the plan year for which premiums are being paid (the "premium payment year"). The yield figure is reported in Federal Reserve Statistical Releases G.13 and H.15.

The assumed interest rate to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning in August 1999 is 5.08 percent (*i.e.*, 85 percent of the 5.98 percent yield figure for July 1999).

The following table lists the assumed interest rates to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning between September 1998 and August 1999.

For premium payment years beginning in	The assumed interest rate is
September 1998	4.71
October 1998	4.42
November 1998	4.26
December 1998	4.46
January 1999	4.30
February 1999	4.39
March 1999	4.56
April 1999	4.74
May 1999	4.72
June 1999	4.94
July 1999	5.13

For premium payment years beginning in	The assumed interest rate is
August 1999	5.08

Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal

The PBGC's regulation on Duties of Plan Sponsor Following Mass Withdrawal (29 CFR part 4281) prescribes the use of interest assumptions under the PBGC's regulation on Allocation of Assets in Single-employer Plans (29 CFR part 4044). The interest assumptions applicable to valuation dates in September 1999 under part 4044 are contained in an amendment to part 4044 published elsewhere in today's **Federal Register**. Tables showing the assumptions applicable to prior periods are codified in appendix B to 29 CFR part 4044.

Issued in Washington, DC, on this 6th day of August, 1999.

David M. Strauss,

Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. 99-20926 Filed 8-12-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7708-01-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Review of a Revised Information Collection: SF 2823

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) intends to submit to the Office of Management and Budget a request for review of a revised information collection. SF 2823, Designation of Beneficiary for Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance, is used by any Federal employee or retiree covered by the Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Program to instruct the Office of Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance how to distribute the proceeds of his or her life insurance when the statutory order of precedence does not meet his or her needs.

Comments are particularly invited on: —Whether this information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the Office of Personnel Management, and whether it will have practical utility;

—Whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; —And ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

We estimate 1,000 SF 2823 forms are completed annually by annuitants. Each form takes approximately 15 minutes to complete for an annual estimated burden of 250 hours.

For copies of this proposal, contact Mary Beth Smith-Toomey on (202) 606-8358, or E-mail to mbtoomey@opm.gov

DATES: Comments on this proposal should be received on or before October 12, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Send or deliver comments to—Laura Lawrence, Senior Insurance Benefits Specialist, Insurance Planning & Evaluation Division, Retirement and Insurance Service, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW, Room 3415, Washington, DC 20415.

FOR INFORMATION REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATION—CONTACT:

Cyrus S. Benson, Senior Management Analyst, Budget & Administrative Services Division, (202) 606-0623. Office of Personnel Management.

Janice R. Lachance,

Director.

[FR Doc. 99-20969 Filed 8-12-99; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request for Review of a Revised Information Collection: RI 25-15

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for review of a revised information collection. RI 25-15, Notice of Change in Student's Status, collects information from adult children of deceased Federal employees or annuitants to assure that the child continues to be eligible for payments from OPM.