

DC 20522, who may be reached on (202) 261-8898 or at [deanmm@state.gov](mailto:deanmm@state.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of our functions.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

**Abstract of proposed collection:** Individuals registering for the Foreign Service Written Examination will provide information about their name, age, Social Security Number, contact information, ethnicity, and very brief information on their education and work history. The information will be used to prepare and issue admission to the examination, to help improve future examinations, and to conduct research studies based on the examination results.

**Methodology:** Responses can be submitted via the online registration option or by mail.

Dated: February 28, 2006.

**Ruben Torres,**

*Executive Director, Bureau of Human Resources, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. E6-4315 Filed 3-23-06; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 5350]

### 30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Department of State Forms DS-98, DS-98 E, DS-99 and DS-99 E; Application for Diplomatic Exemption From Taxes; OMB Control Number 1405-0069

**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of State has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

- **Title of Information Collection:** Application for Diplomatic Exemption From Taxes.
- **OMB Control Number:** 1405-0069.
- **Type of Request:** Extension of an approved collection.

- **Originating Office:** Bureau of Diplomatic Security, Office of Foreign Missions, Diplomatic Tax and Customs Office, DS/OFM/VTC/TC.

- **Form Number:** DS-98, DS-98 E, DS-99 and DS-99 E.

- **Respondents:** Eligible foreign diplomatic or consular missions, certain foreign government organizations, and designated international organizations.

- **Estimated Number of Respondents:** 350.

- **Estimated Number of Responses:** Approximately 2419.

- **Average Hours Per Response:** 15 minutes.

- **Total Estimated Burden:** 605 hours.

- **Frequency:** On occasion.

- **Obligation to Respond:** Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

**DATES:** Submit comments to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for up to 30 days from March 24, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct comments and questions to Alex Hunt, the Department of State Desk Officer in the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), who may be reached at 202-395-7860. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- E-mail: [ahunt@omb.eop.gov](mailto:ahunt@omb.eop.gov). You must include the DS form number, information collection title, and OMB control number in the subject line of your message.

- Mail (paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions): Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503.

- Fax: 202-395-6974.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for copies of the proposed information collection and supporting documents, to Ms. Irina Kaufman, DS/OFM/VTC, 3507 International Place, NW., U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20008, who may be reached on 202-895-3683, or by e-mail at [kaufmani@state.gov](mailto:kaufmani@state.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of our functions.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

**Abstract of proposed collection:** Exemption from taxes on the use of public utilities and the purchase of gasoline and other motor fuels is enjoyed by foreign diplomatic and consular personnel on assignment in the United States under the provisions of the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic and Consular Relations and the terms of various bilateral agreements. Under the Foreign Missions Act of 1982 (as amended), 22 U.S.C. 4301 et seq., the Department of State's Office of Foreign Missions (OFM) is given the authority to grant privileges and benefits, based on reciprocity. Forms DS-98, "Application for Diplomatic Exemption From Taxes on Utilities", and DS-99, "Application for Diplomatic Exemption From Taxes on Gasoline", provide OFM with the necessary information to provide and administer the benefit effectively and efficiently.

**Methodology:** Paper copies of the DS-98 and DS-99 are either hand-carried or mailed to OFM. Foreign missions can access both forms on the OFM Web site in Portable Document Format (PDF), which provides a data-input and print feature for clean and legible paper copies. An electronic submission option (DS-98 E and DS-99 E) will also be made available for both forms upon OMB approval.

Dated: January 26, 2006.

**John P. Gaddis,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary of State and Deputy Director, Office of Foreign Missions, Bureau of Diplomatic Security, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. E6-4316 Filed 3-23-06; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 5349]

### 60-Day Notice of Information Collection: DS-3013, Application Under the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, OMB-1405-0076

**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment in the **Federal Register** preceding submission to OMB. We are conducting this process in

accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

- *Title of Information Collection:* Application Under the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.

- *OMB Control No:* 1405-0076.
- *Type of Request:* Revision of a Currently Approved Collection.
- *Originating Office:* Bureau of Consular Affairs. CA/OCS/CI.
- *Form Number:* DS-3013.
- *Respondents:* Individuals.
- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 500 per year.

- *Average Hours Per Response:* 1 hour.
- *Total Estimated Burden:* 500 hours.
- *Frequency:* On occasion.
- *Obligation to Respond:* Required to Obtain or Retain a Benefit.

**DATES:** The Department will accept comments from the public up to 60 days from March 24, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- E-mail: [cholisms@state.gov](mailto:cholisms@state.gov).
- Mail (paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions): Margaret Cholis, CA/OCS/CI, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520-4818.
- Fax: 202-736-9133.
- Hand delivery or Courier: Margaret Cholis, CA/OCS/CI, 4th floor, 2100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20037.

You must include the DS form number, information collection title, and OMB control number in any correspondence.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for copies of the proposed information collection and supporting documents, to Margaret Cholis, CA/OCS/CI, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520-4818, who may be reached on 202-736-9157 or via email at [CholisMS@state.gov](mailto:CholisMS@state.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the Department's functions as the Central Authority.
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

*Abstract of Proposed Collection*

The Application Under the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (DS-3013) is used by parents or legal guardians who are asking the State Department's assistance in seeking the return of, or access to, a child/ or children alleged to be wrongfully removed from or retained outside of the child's habitual residence and currently located in another country that is also party to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (Contracting State). The application requests information regarding the identities of the applicant, the child or children, and the person alleged to have wrongfully removed or retained the child or children. In addition, the application requires that the applicant provide the circumstances of the alleged wrongful removal or retention and the legal justification for the request for return or access. The State Department, as the U.S. Central Authority, uses this information to establish, if possible, the applicants' claims under the Convention; to advise applicants about available remedies under the Convention; and to provide the information necessary to the foreign Central Authority in its efforts to locate the child or children, and to facilitate return of or access to the child or children pursuant to the Convention.

*Methodology*

The CA/OCS/CI contact collects the necessary information via mail, fax, or electronic submission.

Dated: March 6, 2006.

**Catherine Barry,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary, Consular Affairs, Overseas Citizens Services, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. E6-4317 Filed 3-23-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-06-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

#### Availability of Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program Grant Funds

**AGENCY:** Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This document announces the availability of Motor Carrier Safety

Assistance Program (MCSAP) grant funding as authorized by the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). MCSAP is a Federal grant program that provides financial assistance to States to reduce the number and severity of crashes and hazardous materials incidents involving commercial motor vehicles (CMV). The goal of MCSAP is to reduce CMV-involved crashes, fatalities, and injuries through consistent, uniform, and effective CMV safety programs.

**DATES:** Applications for Basic/Incentive grant funding should be sent to the FMCSA Division Office in the State where the applicant is located no later than August 1 of each year. Applications for FY2006 High Priority grant funds or New Entrant Safety Audit funds must be submitted to the FMCSA Division Office in the State where the applicant is located no later than April 28, 2006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Michael J. Lamm, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Office of Safety Programs, State Programs Division (MC-ESS), (202) 366-6830, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### Background

Section 4101 of SAFETEA-LU (Pub. L. 109-59, August 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1144) amends 49 U.S.C. 31104(a) and reauthorizes the FMCSA Motor Carrier Safety Grants funding for FY2006 through FY2009. The authorized level of funding for MCSAP is \$188,000,000 for FY2006, which includes up to \$15,000,000 for High Priority grants and up to \$29,000,000 for New Entrant Safety Audits grants. Funding is subject to reductions resulting from obligation limitations or rescissions as specified in SAFETEA-LU or other legislation.

#### MCSAP Basic and Incentive Funds

All 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are eligible to receive MCSAP Basic funding grants directly from FMCSA. Basic funds are distributed by formula as outlined in 49 CFR 350.323. Incentive funds may be distributed to all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico based upon the safety and program performance factors found in 49 CFR 350.327. The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American