

Justification
Supplement to Claim of Person Outside the United States
RRB Form G-45

1. Circumstances of information collection - Under the Social Security Amendments of 1983 (Public Law 98-21), which amends Section 202(t) of the Social Security Act, the Tier I or the O/M (overall minimum) portion of an annuity and Medicare benefits payable under the Railroad Retirement Act to certain beneficiaries living outside the United States may be withheld effective January 1, 1985.

The benefit withholding provision of P.L. 98-21 applies to divorced spouses, spouses, minor or disabled children, students and survivors of railroad employees who (1) initially became eligible for Tier I amounts, O/M shares, and Medicare benefits after December 31, 1984; (2) are not U.S. citizens or U.S. nationals; and (3) have resided outside the U. S. for more than six consecutive months starting with the annuity beginning date. The benefit withholding provision does not apply, however, to a beneficiary who is exempt under either a treaty prior to August 1, 1956, or a totalization agreement between the U. S. and the country in which the beneficiary resides or an individual who is exempt under other criteria specified in P.L. 98-21.

2. Purposes of collecting/consequences of not collecting the information

Form G-45, Supplement to Claim of Person Outside the United States, is used by the RRB to obtain the information needed to determine applicability of the withholding provision of P.L. 98-21.

The form is used:

- as a supplement to a benefit application from a non-U.S. citizen to whom the non-payment provision may apply, or
- as an independent vehicle when a beneficiary informs the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) of a change in country of residence, which may involve application of the benefit withholding provision of P.L. 98-21.

Completion of Form G-45 is self-explanatory. The identifying information requested in the upper right-hand corner of the form is pre-filled before the form is released. When mailed to an applicant or beneficiary, the RRB includes a pre-addressed return envelope.

Form G-45 is patterned after the Social Security Administration's Form SSA-21, Supplement to Claim of Person Outside the United States, OMB No. 0960-0051.

The RRB proposes no changes to Form G-45.

3. Planned use of improved information technology or technical/legal impediments to further burden reduction – None at this time. Not cost effective due to low volume. Sent by RRB with pre-filled data.
4. Efforts to identify duplication - This information collection does not duplicate any other information collection.
5. Small business respondents - N.A.
6. Consequences of less frequent collection - Not applicable since the information is requested only once for each incident involving a change in the country of residence by an applicant or beneficiary.
7. Special circumstances - None
8. Public comments/consultations outside the agency - In accordance with 5 CFR 1320.8(d), comments were invited from the public regarding the information collection. The notice to the public was published on pages 13540 of the March 22, 2007, Federal Register. No comments or requests for additional information were received.
9. Payments or gifts to respondents - None.
10. Confidentiality - Privacy Act System of Records, RRB-22, Railroad Retirement, Survivor and Pensioner Benefit System.
11. Sensitive questions - N.A.
12. Estimate of respondent burden - The estimated annual burden for the collection remains unchanged. We estimate that 100 Form G-45's are completed annually. Our estimated average completion time for the form is 10 minutes resulting in a reporting burden of 17 hours annually.
13. Estimated annual cost to respondents or record keepers - N.A.
14. Estimate of cost to Federal Government - N.A.
15. Explanation for change in burden - N.A.
16. Time schedule for publication - The results of this collection will not be published.
17. Request not to display OMB expiration date - The form associated with this collection is seldom revised. Given the costs associated with redrafting, reprinting, and distributing the form in order to keep the appropriate OMB expiration date in place, the RRB requests the authority to not display the OMB expiration date on the form.

18. Exceptions to Certification Statement - None