

**Supporting Statement for Form SSA-454-BK  
Continuing Disability Review Report  
20 CFR 404.1589 & 416.989  
OMB No. 0960-0072**

**A. Justification**

**1. Introduction/Authoring Laws and Regulations**

Sections 205(a) and 1631(e)(1)(A) of the *Social Security Act (Act)* provide the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration (SSA) with full power and authority to make rules and regulations, establish procedures, and adopt reasonable and proper procedures governing the nature and extent of the evidence (as well as the methods of taking and furnishing the same) to determine whether an individual continues to be disabled. Sections 223(d)(5)(A) and 1614(a)(3)(H)(i) of the *Act*, as amended, provide that claimants furnish such medical and other evidence required by the Commissioner to prove they continue to be disabled. Sections 221(i), 1614(a)(3)(H)(ii)(I) and 1633 (c)(1) of the *Act* require us to periodically review the cases of individuals who receive benefits under Title II or Title XVI of the *Act*, based on disability, to determine if disability continues. As provided in 20 CFR 404.1589 and 20 CFR 416.989 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, we may conduct a review to determine whether benefit entitlement or eligibility continues for individuals receiving disability benefits.

**2. Description of Collection**

SSA uses the Form SSA-454-BK (Continuing Disability Review Report) to complete a mandatory review for the continue disability review (CDR). SSA considers adults eligible for payment if they continue to be unable to do substantial gainful activity because of their impairments, and we consider Title XVI children eligible for payment if they have marked and severe functional limitations because of their impairments. SSA also use the Form SSA-454-BK to obtain information on sources of medical treatment; participation in vocational rehabilitation programs (if any); attempts to work (if any); and if individuals believe their conditions are improved. When a disabled individual requires a CDR, a claims representative (CR) will mail Form SSA-454-BK, the respondent completes the form and sends it back to SSA, or the CR will interview the respondent and enters the information into the Electronic Disability Collection System (EDCS). EDCS electronically stores the information of the paper version of the Form SSA-454-BK. The respondents are Title II or Title XVI disability recipients or their representatives.

**3. Use of Information Technology to Collect the Information**

In accordance with the agency's Government Paperwork Elimination Act plan, SSA created an Intranet version of form SSA-454-BK. Based on our data, we estimate approximately 50% of respondents under this OMB number use the electronic version.

**4. Why We Cannot Use Duplicate Information**

The nature of the information we collect and the manner we collect it preclude duplication. SSA does not use another collection instrument to obtain similar data.

**5. Minimizing Burden on Small Respondents**

This collection does not affect small businesses or other small entities.

**6. Consequence of Not Collecting Information or Collecting it Less Frequently**

If we did not use Form SSA-454-BK, we would be unable to make a timely determination regarding if and when recipients should stop receiving disability payments (either because adults are able to work or Title XVI children no longer have marked and severe functional limitations). Because we collect the information on an as needed basis, we cannot collect it less frequently. There are no technical or legal obstacles to burden reduction.

**7. Special Circumstances**

There are no special circumstances that would cause SSA to conduct this information collection in a manner inconsistent with 5 *CFR* 1320.5.

**8. Solicitation of Public Comment and Other Consultations with the Public**

The 60-day advance Federal Register Notice published on October 3, 2016, at 81 FR 68088, and we received no public comments. The 30-day FRN published on December 29, 2016 at 81 FR 96160. If we receive any comments in response to this Notice, we will forward them to OMB. We did not consult with the public in the revision or maintenance of this Form SSA-454-BK.

**9. Payment or Gifts to Respondents**

SSA does not provide payments or gifts to the respondents.

**10. Assurances of Confidentiality**

SSA protects and holds confidential the information it collects in accordance with 42 *U.S.C.* 1306, 20 *CFR* 401 and 402, 5 *U.S.C.* 552 (Freedom of Information Act), 5 *U.S.C.* 552a (Privacy Act of 1974), and OMB Circular No. A-130.

**11. Justification for Sensitive Questions**

The information collection does not contain any questions of a sensitive nature.

**12. Estimates of Public Reporting Burden**

<b>Modality of Completion</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Frequency of Response</b>	<b>Average Burden per Response (minutes)</b>	<b>Estimated Total Annual Burden (hours)</b>
SSA-454- BK (Paper version)	270,500	1	60	270,500
EDCS	270,500	1	60	270,500

<b>Totals</b>	<b>541,000</b>			<b>541,000</b>
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The total burden for this ICR is 541,000 hours. This figure represents burden hours, and we did not calculate a separate cost burden.

**13. Annual Cost to the Respondents (Other)**

This collection does not impose a known cost burden on the respondents.

**14. Annual Cost To Federal Government**

The annual cost to the Federal Government is approximately \$14,465,629.00. This estimate is a projection of the costs for printing and distributing the collection instrument and collecting the information. It includes keying costs for the Electronic Disability Collect System.

**15. Program Changes or Adjustments to the Information Collection Request**

There are no changes to the public reporting burden.

**16. Plans for Publication Information Collection Results**

SSA will not publish the results of the information collection.

**17. Displaying the OMB Approval Expiration Date**

OMB granted SSA an exemption from the requirement to print the OMB expiration date on its program forms. SSA produces millions of public-use forms with life cycles exceeding those of an OMB approval. Since SSA does not periodically revise and reprint its public-use forms (e.g., on an annual basis), OMB granted this exemption so SSA would not have to destroy stocks of otherwise useable forms with expired OMB approval dates, avoiding Government waste.

**18. Exceptions to Certification Statement**

SSA is not requesting an exception to the certification requirements at 5 *CFR* 1320.9 and related provisions at 5 *CFR* 1320.8(b) (3).

**B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods**

SSA does not use statistical methods for this information collection.