

Supporting Statement for Form SSA-760-F4
Certificate of Support
20 CFR 404.408a, 404.370, and 404.750
OMB No. 0960-0001

A. Justification

1. Introduction/Authoring Laws and Regulations

Section 202(h) of the *Social Security Act (Act)* gives the requirements for entitlement to parent's Social Security benefits. We require parents who receive at least one-half of their support from a deceased worker, to file proof of such support within specified times. This requirement is in accordance with 20 CFR 404.370 and 20 CFR 404.750 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*. The one-half support requirement also applies in determining if a spouse applicant is subject to the Government Pension Offset (GPO). This requirement is set forth in 20 CFR 404.408a.

2. Description of Collection

A parent of a deceased, fully insured worker may be entitled to Social Security Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) benefits based on the earnings record of the deceased worker under certain conditions. One of the conditions is when the parent receives at least one-half support from the deceased worker at certain points in time. The one-half support requirement also applies to a spousal applicant in determining whether OASDI benefits are subject to GPO. SSA uses Form SSA-760-F4 to determine if the parent of a deceased worker or a spouse applicant meets the one-half support requirement. Respondents are parents of deceased workers and spouses who may meet the GPO exception.

3. Use of Information Technology to Collect the Information

SSA did not create an electronic version of Form SSA-760-F4 under the agency's Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA) plan because only 18,000 respondents complete the form. This is less than the GPEA cut-off of 50,000.

4. Why We Cannot Use Duplicate Information

The nature of the information we collect and the manner in which 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-760-F4, we would not be able to determine the one-half support requirements for two classes of SSA claimants: (1) parents of deceased workers; and (2) spouses who may be subject to the GPO. Because we only collect this 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 August 6, 2018, at 83 FR 38441, and we received no public comments. The 30-day FRN published on October 22, 2018 at 83 FR 53352. 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 of this form.

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**

Modality of Completion	Number of Respondents	Frequency of Response	Average Burden Per Response (minutes)	Estimated Total Annual Burden (hours)
SSA-760-F4	18,000	1	15	4,500

The total burden for this ICR is **4,500 hours**. We based these figures on current management information data. 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 for this collection is approximately \$55,440. This estimate accounts for costs from the following areas: (1) designing, printing, and distributing the form; and (2) SSA employee (e.g., field office, 800 number, DDS staff) information collection and processing time.

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.