**SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

**Internal Revenue Service**

**Form 6765, Credit for Increasing Research Activities**

**OMB Control Number 1545-0619**

1. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 38 allows a business tax credit for specific business activities in this case research activities. This credit can be carried forward to future tax years and in some cases carried back to previous tax years.

IRC Section 41 defines and explains the requirements that must be met to claim a tax credit for increasing research activities.

IRC Section 280C requires taxpayers who claim the tax credit for increasing research activities to reduce their deduction for research expenses allowable by the amount the research credit exceeds the allowable research expenses.

Form 6765, Credit for Increasing Research Activities is used to figure and claim the credit for increasing research activities, and to elect the reduced credit under section 280C, and to elect to claim a certain amount of the credit as a payroll tax credit against the employer portion of social security taxes. Partnerships, S corporations and estate or trust if the credit can be allocated to beneficiaries must file Form 6765 to claim the research credit.

2. USE OF DATA

The form provides the IRS with the information necessary to determine that the credit was correctly computed and that the proper amount was claimed.

3. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN

IRS is currently offering electronic filing for Form 6765.

4. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION

The information obtained through this collection is unique and is not already available for use or adaptation from another source.

1. METHODS TO MINIMIZE BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESSES OR OTHER SMALL ENTITIES

The IRS proactively works with both internal and external stakeholders to minimize the burden on small businesses, while maintaining tax compliance. The Agency also seeks input regarding the burden estimates from the public via notices and tax product instructions. The form can be filed electronically, which further reduces any burden to small businesses.

1. CONSEQUENCES OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION ON FEDERAL PROGRAMS OR POLICY ACTIVITIES

Consequences of less frequent collection on federal programs or policy activities would result in the IRS unable to comply with requirements of section 41 to determine that the credit was correctly computed and that the proper amount was claimed; thereby endangering the ability of the IRS to meet its mission.

1. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING DATA COLLECTION TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH GUIDELINES IN 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2)

There are no special circumstances requiring data collection to be inconsistent with Guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2).

8. CONSULTATION WITH INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE OF THE AGENCY ON AVAILABILITY OF DATA, FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION, CLARITY OF INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS, AND DATA ELEMENTS

In response to the Federal Register notice (86 FR 10003), dated February 17, 2021, we received no comments during the comment period regarding Form 6765.

1. EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT TO RESPONDENTS

No payment or gift has been provided to any respondents.

1. ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESPONSES

Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential as required by 26 USC 6103.

1. JUSTIFICATION OF SENSITIVE QUESTIONS

A privacy impact assessment (PIA) has been conducted for information collected under this request as part of the “Business Master File (BMF)” system and a Privacy Act System of Records notice (SORN) has been issued for this system under IRS 24.046-Customer Account Data Engine Business Master File. The Internal Revenue Service PIAs can be found at <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Privacy-Impact-Assessments-PIA>.

Title 26 USC 6109 requires inclusion of identifying numbers in returns, statements, or other documents for securing proper identification of persons required to make such returns, statements, or documents and is the authority for social security numbers (SSNs) in IRS systems.

This is an attachment to the Federal tax return created by the respondent. The Privacy Act statement associated with this attachment is listed in the Federal tax return instructions.

1. ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

The time needed to complete and file the forms will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated burden for individual taxpayers filing this form is approved under OMB control number 1545-0074 and the estimated burden for business filers is approved under 1545-0123, and are included in the estimates shown in the instructions for their individual or business income tax return. The estimated burden for all other taxpayers who file this form is shown below.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Authority | Description | # of Respondents | # Responses per Respondent | Annual Responses | Hours per Response | Total Burden |
| IRC 41 | Form 6765 | 15,805 | 1 | 15,805 | 18.05 hrs. | 285,281 |
| Totals |  | 15,805 |  | 15,805 |  | 285,281 |

1. ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS

To ensure more accuracy and consistency across its information collections, IRS is currently in the process of revising the methodology it uses to estimate burden and costs. Once this methodology is complete, IRS will update this information collection to reflect a more precise estimate of burden and costs

14. ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The primary cost to the government consists of the cost of printing this form. We estimate that the cost of printing the form is $49,894.

The estimated annualized cost to the Federal Government is based on a model that considers the following three factors for each information product: aggregate labor costs for development, including annualized start -up expenses, operating and maintenance expenses, and distribution of the product that collects the information.

The government computes cost using a multi-step process.  First, the government creates a weighted factor for the level of effort to create each information collection product based on variables such as; complexity, number of pages, type of product and frequency of revision.  Second, the total costs associated with developing the product such as labor cost, and operating expenses associated with the downstream impact such as support functions, are added together to obtain the aggregated total cost.  Then, the aggregated total cost and factor are multiplied together to obtain the aggregated cost per product.  Lastly, the aggregated cost per product is added to the cost of shipping and printing each product to IRS offices, National Distribution Center, libraries and other outlets. The result is the Federal Government estimated annualized cost per product.

The federal government estimated annualized cost is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Product | Aggregate Cost per Product (factor applied) |  | Printing and Distribution |  | Government Cost Estimate per Product |
| Form 6765 | $41,009 | + | 0 | = | $41,009 |
| Instructions 6765 | $8,885 | + | 0 | = | $8,885 |
| Grand Total | $49,894 | + | 0 | = | $49,894 |
| Table costs are based on 2020 actuals obtained from IRS Chief Financial Office and Media and Publications | | | | | |

15. REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN

There are no changes made to the paperwork burden previously approved by OMB. We are making this submission to renew the OMB approval.

16. PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

There are no plans for tabulation, statistical analysis and publication.

1. REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS INAPPROPRIATE

IRS believes that displaying the OMB expiration date is inappropriate because it could cause confusion by leading taxpayers to believe that the regulations sunset as of the expiration date. Taxpayers are not likely to be aware that the Service intends to request renewal of the OMB approval and obtain a new expiration date before the old one expires.

1. EXCEPTIONS TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

There are no exceptions to the certification statement.

Note: The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information in this submission:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.