SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Internal Revenue Service

State Election of Qualified Health Insurance for Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC)

OMB Control No. 1545-1875

TERMS OF CLEARANCE

The previous OMB terms of clearance stated:

*This OMB # is extended for 1 year on the understanding that Treasury will submit a*

*discontinue request shortly due to the inclusion of this burden in under OMB # 1545-0074.*

IRS has determined that this collection should not be merged with 1545-0074 as previously believed. Rev Proc 2004-12 is only concerned with states electing the types of health plans that would be eligible for the HCTC. This Rev Proc does not address the burden for individuals to claim the HCTC - either via Form 13441-A (1545-1842) or on their individual tax return (1545-0074). As such, OMB Control No. 1545-1875 should be maintained and is being submitted for extension.

1. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

On August 6, 2002, President Bush signed into law the Trade Act of 2002 (“the Act”), Pub. L. 107–210, 116 Stat. 933 (2002). Title II of the Act contains provisions that make assistance available to certain individuals participating in the Trade Adjustment Assistance program (TAA) or receiving payments from the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC), to enable them to purchase health insurance. The primary mechanism for such assistance is a federal tax credit that is equal to 65 percent of the amount paid by the eligible individual for coverage for the individual and qualifying family members under qualified health insurance.

This revenue procedure informs states how to elect a health program to be qualified health insurance for purposes of the health coverage tax credit (HCTC) under section 35 of the Internal Revenue Code. The collection of information is voluntary. However, if a state does not make an election, eligible residents of the state may be impeded in their efforts to claim the HCTC.

1. USE OF DATA

The information is to be used by employees of the Internal Revenue Service to determine if a state health insurance program meets the requirements to be considered qualified health insurance for purposes of the HCTC.

1. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN

The agency has no plans to offer electronic filing. IRS publication, regulations, notices and letters are to be electronically enabled on an as practicable basis in accordance with the IRS Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998.

1. 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 collection of information under this collection has minimal to no burden on small businesses or entities due to the inapplicability of the authorizing statue under IRC section 35 to this type of entity.

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

This revenue procedure informs states how to elect a health program to be qualified health insurance for purposes of the health coverage tax credit (HCTC) under section 35 of the Internal Revenue Code. The collection of information is voluntary. However, if a state does not make an election, eligible residents of the state may be impeded in their efforts to claim the HCTC.

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).

1. 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 dated March 9, 2021, (86 FR 18373), the IRS received no comments during the comment period regarding Rev. Proc. 2004-12.

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 “Individual Master File (IMF)” system and a Privacy Act System of Records notice (SORN) has been issued for this system under IRS 24.030--Customer Account Data Engine Individual Master File, formerly Individual Master File, and IRS 34.037--IRS Audit Trail and Security Records System. The Internal Revenue Service PIAs can be found at:

<https://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.

1. ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

To make an election, a state must provide a letter that contains the following information:

(1) Identifies and is signed by the governor or other state official responsible for implementing this decision, including address and telephone number;

(2) Specifies the category or categories of health coverage chosen by the state (from among the categories described in paragraphs (2) through (8) of section 2.05 of this revenue procedure (state-based continuation coverage or other state-based plans));

(3) Provides the name and policy form number or other unique identifier for each qualifying plan in each category and provides a name and contact number for the plan administrator or insurance carrier official who can provide additional information, if necessary. This information is required only for coverage described in paragraphs (3) through (8) of section 2.05 of this revenue procedure; it need not be provided for state-based continuation coverage described in paragraph (2) of section 2.05 of this revenue procedure; and

(4) Certifies that the four requirements described in section 2.07 of this revenue procedure are met for each plan being elected under each category.

While most states have made this one-time election already and it is unknown if they will make further changes to the categories previously chosen, IRS continues to estimate burden for each state to make a new election in case the choose to do so. There may be as many as 51 respondents that respond once with a response time that varies from ¼ hour to 1 hr., depending on individual circumstances, with an estimated average of 1/2 hour. The estimated total annual reporting burden is 26 hours.

The burden estimate is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Authority | Description | # of Respondents | #Responses per  Respondent | Annual  Response | Hours per  Response | Total Burden |
| IRC 35 | Rev. Proc. 2004-12 | 51 | 1 | 51 | .5 | 26 |

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.

1. ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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.

1. REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN

There is no change in the paperwork burden previously approved by OMB. The IRS is making this submission to renew the OMB approval.

1. 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

The agency believes that displaying the OMB expiration date is inappropriate because it could cause confusion by leading taxpayers to believe that the revenue procedure 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.