

Supporting Statement
Internal Revenue Service
Form 13768
Electronic Tax Administration Advisory Committee Membership
Application
OMB Control Number 1545-2231

1. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

The Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 (RRA 98) authorized the creation of the Electronic Tax Administration Advisory Committee (ETAAC). ETAAC has a primary duty of providing input to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on its strategic plan for electronic tax administration. Accordingly, ETAAC's responsibilities involve researching, analyzing, and making recommendations on a wide range of electronic tax administration issues.

The Electronic Tax Administration Advisory Committee (ETAAC) provides an organized public forum for discussion of electronic tax administration issues in support of the overriding goal that paperless filing should be the preferred and most convenient method of filing tax and information returns. ETAAC members convey the public's perception of the IRS electronic tax administration activities, offer constructive observations about current or proposed policies, programs, and procedures, and suggest improvements.

Each Year, the IRS will solicit applications for membership to maintain a balance of new and returning members. Open season will be announced with a notice in the Federal Register. This is a volunteer position with a time commitment of approximately 150 hours, excluding travel. Volunteers should have experience in electronic tax administration. See the application for a detailed list of skills and qualifications. Applicants may be nominated by individuals and/or associations.

2. USE OF DATA

The agency will use the information to perform Federal Income Tax, FBI, and practitioner check as required of all members and applicants to the Committees.

3. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN

For the past two years, due to the pandemic all required information and supporting documentation for the membership application have been emailed to publicliaison@irs.gov or FAX to 855-811-8020.

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.

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

There is minimal or no burden on small businesses or entities by this collection due to the IRS Restructuring Act of 1998 to this type of entity.

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

Applications are accepted once a year and each member are generally appointed to a three-year term. Terms are staggered so that approximately one-third of the committee membership changes each year. Less frequent collection would not allow for the appointment of the appropriate number of committee members. In addition, members are drawn from diverse backgrounds. Members represent the taxpaying public, tax professional community, small and large businesses, colleges and universities, state tax administrations, banks, insurance companies, foreign financial institutions, and the software and payroll industries. Collecting applications annually allows for balance membership from substantially diverse backgrounds when membership seats become available.

7. 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 (87 FR 13370), dated March 09, 2022, we received no comments during the comment period regarding Form 13768.

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

No payment or gift has been provided to any respondents.

10. ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESPONSES

Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

11. 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- CADE Business 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.

12. ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

The Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 (RRA 98) authorized the creation of the Electronic Tax Administration Advisory Committee (ETAAC).

The burden estimate is as follows:

<u>Form</u>	<u>Number of Respondents</u>	<u>Responses per Respondent</u>	<u>Annual Responses</u>	<u>Hours per Response</u>	<u>Total Burden</u>
Form 13768	31	1	31	1.5	47
Totals	31	1	31		47

13. 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

There is no annualized cost to the federal government. The forms will be downloaded by applicants' representatives, filled out, and printed on their own printers.

15. REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN

There are no material changes in the paperwork burden previously approved by OMB. However, the burden for Form 13768 has decreased due to better estimates based on the most current filing data. The number of responses decreased by 469 and the burden hours by 703 due to adjustment in Agency Estimates.

	Request ed	Program Change Due to New Statute	Program Change Due to Agency Discretion	Change Due to Adjustment in Agency Estimate	Change Due to Potential Violation of the PRA	Previousl y Approve d
Annual Number of Responses	31	0	0	-469	0	500
Annual Time Burden	47	0	0	-703	0	750

16. PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

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

17. REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS INAPPROPRIATE

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

18. 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.