

Membership Selection—The Board is composed of members having training, subject matter expertise, and scientific merit review experience in a variety of scientific, technical, and medical disciplines including, but not limited to, aging, brain health and injury (*e.g.*, traumatic brain injury, stroke, epilepsy), chronic medical conditions, sensory systems (*e.g.*, hearing, vision, tinnitus, balance), behavioral health and social reintegration, musculoskeletal health and disorders, neurology (*e.g.*, spinal cord injury, neurodegenerative diseases), prosthetics/orthotics, pain, regeneration, rehabilitation and biomedical engineering, and communication disorders (*e.g.*, speech/language). RRDT represents the required subject matter expertise and technical skills along with applicable academia position and Veterans of different eras and branches of military service if possible.

Existing Federal Advisory Committees—The following list of 27 VA advisory committees includes 18 that are statute (with an asterisk \*) and 9 non-statutory committees.

- (1) VA National Academic Affiliations Council
- (\* 2) Advisory Committee on Cemeteries and Memorials
- (3) Cooperative Studies Scientific Evaluation Committee
- (\* 4) Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation
- (\* 5) Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education
- (\* 6) Veterans' Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards (Administratively Inactive)
- (\* 7) Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War
- (\* 8) Geriatrics and Gerontology Advisory Committee
- (\* 9) Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses
- (10) Health Systems Research Service Merit Review Board
- (\* 11) Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans
- (12) Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board
- (\* 13) Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans
- (14) National Research Advisory Council
- (\* 15) Advisory Committee on U.S. Outlying Areas and Freely Associated States
- (\* 16) Advisory Committee on Prosthetics and Special Disabilities Programs
- (\* 17) Advisory Committee on the Readjustment of Veterans

- (\* 18) Veterans' Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation
- (19) Rehabilitation Research and Development Service Scientific Merit Review Board
- (20) Veterans' Rural Health Advisory Committee
- (\* 21) Special Medical Advisory Group
- (\* 22) Advisory Committee on Structural Safety of Department of Veterans Affairs Facilities
- (\* 23) Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs
- (24) Veterans' Family, Caregiver, and Survivor Advisory Committee
- (\* 25) Veterans and Community Oversight and Engagement Board
- (26) Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service National Advisory Committee
- (\* 27) Advisory Committee on Women Veterans

Justification—The review of rehabilitation research proposals requires highly specialized subject matter expertise and experience. Ensuring broad and appropriate expertise on the RRDT is obtained by recruiting experts both from within and outside of the Federal Government.

Summary of Previous Committee Accomplishments—This FACA Scientific Merit Review Board (SMRB) reviews and evaluates approximately 450 rehabilitation research proposals per year through its subcommittees. These evaluations have assisted VA Office of Research Development (ORD) in selecting the most meritorious research projects that will ultimately lead to improvements in Veteran health and healthcare, quality of life and participation in their lives and community. VA ORD funds approximately 20% of the proposals it receives. This SMRB needs to continue its activities so VA ORD can continue to benefit from expert evaluations when making funding decisions.

Why Committee is Essential—Rehabilitation Research, Development and Translation Scientific Merit Review Board provides advice on the fair and equitable selection of the most meritorious research projects for support by VA research funds; advice for research program officials on program priorities and policies; and ensures that the VA Rehabilitation Research and Development program promoted functional independence and improved the quality of life for impaired and disabled Veterans. Peer review of research proposals by external subject matter experts (SMEs) is a critical element of the VA's Research program. Organizing VA's Scientific Merit Review Boards under Federal Advisory

Committee Act committees gives us the legal authority to recruit external SMEs. VA research is a statutory mandate under 38 U.S. Code § 7303, Public Law 117–328. VA Research priorities are further mandated by the Hannon Act (traumatic brain injury), the PACT Act (military toxic exposures and Gulf War Illness), the CARA act (Pain and opioid treatment), the Cleland Dole Act (Precision Oncology), and the MISSION and Elizabeth Dole Acts (community care). There is no other mechanism for VA to get this expert advice.

In conclusion, this Notice of Intent states that this renewing Board is in the public interest, essential to the conduct of agency business and that the information provided is not available through any other advisory committee or source within the Federal Government.

Dated: March 16, 2026.

**LaTonya L. Small,**

*Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 8320–01–P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**[OMB Control No. 2900–0900]**

### **Agency Information Collection Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Contract Clause—Information and Information Systems Security**

**AGENCY:** Office of Acquisition and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Office of Acquisition and Logistics (OAL), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information and its expected cost and burden, and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

**DATES:** Comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent by April 20, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** To submit comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection, please type the following link into your browser: [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain), select “Currently under Review—Open

for Public Comments”, then search the list for the information collection by Title or “OMB Control No. 2900–0900.”

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

*VA PRA information:* Dorothy Glasgow, 202–461–1084, *VAPRA@va.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Department of Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Contract Clause—Information and Information Systems Security.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900–0900  
<https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRASearch>.

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* Under Public Law 113–283, Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014, each agency of the Federal Government must provide security for the information and information systems that support the

operations and assets of the agency. To comply with Public Law 113–283, VA developed VAAR clause, 852.204–71, Information and Information System Security, and section 804.1970, Information security policy—contractor general responsibilities. The clause and the section apply to contractors with access to VA information or information systems. Among other things, the clause and section require a contractor to report a known or suspected security/privacy incident or data breach related to VA information or information systems. The clause also requires a contractor to notify VA when a contractor employee has been reassigned or terminated and no longer needs access to a VA information system.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information

unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at 91 FR 330, January 5, 2026.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 4,069 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:* 30 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* Less than quarterly.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 8,223.

*Authority:* 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

**Lanea Haynes,**

*Alternate, VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Information Technology, Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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