

## **SUPPORTING STATEMENT EDITH NOURSE ROGERS STEM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

### **VA FORM 22-10203 – OMB CONTROL NUMBER 2900-0878**

#### **Summary of Changes from Previously Approved Collection**

- Application for Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship
- There are no changes to the form with this submission.
- The burden has decreased since the previous approval. For this approval, the decrease considers data for calendar year periods 2023, 2024 and 2025. This information collection request has therefore been entered into ROCIS as a “Revision” due to the increase in burden hours.
- No comments received during the 60-day comment period.

#### **A. Justification**

**1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection of information**

On August 16, 2017, the President signed into law the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 (“Forever GI Bill”), Public Law 115-48, which amended Title 38, United States Code (U.S.C.) to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA), and for other purposes.

Section 111 of the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 (“Forever GI Bill”), Public Law 115-48, authorizes VA to administer the Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship Program. Under the program, VA provides up to 9 months or \$30,000 of Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to certain eligible individuals selected by the Secretary of VA. To apply for and receive the scholarship, an individual must complete the application, VA Form 22-10203.

**2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purposes the information is to be used; indicate actual use the agency has made of the information received from current collection.**

The VA Form 22-10203 will allow students to apply for the STEM Scholarship. VA continues to require approval of this information collection so students can continue to apply, and for VA to continue to assess how to prioritize the awarding of the Scholarship, based on the information collected on the form.

**3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection**

**techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. Permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.**

The collection is submitted digitally via the VA.gov portal, which helps to reduce the burden. The VA.gov portal uses algorithms that help guide the applicant toward completing the application based on their responses to the questions being asked.

**4. Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purposes described in Item 2 above.**

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

**5. If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities, describe any methods used to minimize burden.**

The collection of information does not involve small businesses or entities.

**6. Describe the consequences to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.**

If this information is not collected Veterans and other eligible individuals will be unable to apply for and receive the STEM Scholarship.

**7. Explain any special circumstances that would cause an Information collection to be conducted more often than quarterly or require respondents to prepare written responses to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it; submit more than an original and two copies of any document; retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years; in connection with a statistical survey that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study and require the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB.**

This collection of information does not require collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with the guidelines delineated in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2).

**8. If applicable, provide a copy and identify the date and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the sponsor's notice, required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB. Summarize public comments received in response to that notice and describe actions taken by the sponsor in responses to these comments. Specifically address comments received on cost and hour burden.**

A 60-Day Federal Register Notice (FRN) for the collection published on Monday, April 6, 2026. The 60-Day FRN citation is Volume 91, FRN Page 17334.

No comments received during the 60-day comment period.

A 30-Day Federal Register Notice (FRN) for the collection published on Wednesday, June 24, 2026. The 30-Day FRN citation is 91 FRN Page 38082.

**9. Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.**

No payments or gifts are being offered to respondents as an incentive to participate in the collection.

**10. Describe any assurance of privacy, to the extent permitted by law, provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.**

The records are maintained in the appropriate Privacy Act System of Records identified as Compensation, Pension, Education, and Veteran Readiness and Employment Records – VA (58VA/21/22/28), published at 74 FR 29275 on June 19, 2009, and last amended at 87 FR 8740 (February 16, 2022).

**11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature (Information that, with a reasonable degree of medical certainty, is likely to have a serious adverse effect on an individual's mental or physical health if revealed to him or her), such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private; include specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.**

No questions considered sensitive are being asked in this collection.

**12. Estimate of the hour burden of the collection of information. If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form, and aggregate the hour burdens in Item 13 of OMB 83-I. Provide estimates of annual cost to respondents for the hour burdens for collections of information. The cost of contracting out or paying outside parties for information collection activities should not be included here. Instead, this cost should be included in Item 14 of the OMB 83-I.**

**VA Form 22-10203**

**Application for Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship**

The estimated annual burden to the public for this information collection is 2788 hours. This burden result is based on the average annual number of 11,150 submissions from

respondents received for periods 2023, 2024 and 2025.

**a. Number of Respondents: 11,150**

**b. Frequency of Response:** Once

**c. Annual Burden Hours: 2788** hours (11,150 X 15min / 60min)

**d. Estimated Completion Time for Respondent: 15** minutes

**e.** The respondent population for the VA Form 22-10203 consists of Veterans, or their dependents who are eligible for the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship (FRY Scholarship) benefit, pursuing approved programs of education. VA cannot make further assumptions about the population of respondents because of the variability of factors such as educational background and wage potential of respondents. Therefore, VBA used general wage data for "All Occupations" to estimate the respondents' costs associated with completing the information collection.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) gathers information on full-time wage and salary workers. According to the latest available BLS data, the mean weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers are \$1306.40. Assuming a forty (40) hour work week, the **median hourly wage is \$32.66 based on the BLS wage code of "00-000-0000 All Occupations."** (\$28.01 X 40 hours). This information was taken from the following website <https://data.bls.gov/oes/#/industry/000000>, May 2024.

Legally, respondents may not pay a person or business for assistance in completing the information collection, and a person or business may not accept payment for assisting a respondent in completing the information collection. Therefore, there are no expected overhead costs for completing the information collection. VBA estimates the total cost to all respondents to be \$91056.08 (2788 hours x \$32.66 per hour).

**13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to respondents or recordkeeping resulting from the collection of information. (Do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in Items 12 and 14).**

This submission does not involve any record keeping costs.

**14. Provide estimates of annual cost to the Federal Government. Also, provide a description of the method used to estimate cost, which should include quantification of hours, operation expenses (such as equipment, overhead, printing, and support staff), and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information. Agencies also may aggregate cost estimates from Items 12, 13, and 14 in a single table.**

**Estimated Costs to the Federal Government: \$92,545**

| Grade                                                                                                                 | Step | Burden Time Employee | Hourly Rate | Cost Per Respons | Total Responses | Total           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 09                                                                                                                    | 05   | 15 min               | \$33.19     | \$8.30           | <b>11,150</b>   | <b>\$92,545</b> |
| --                                                                                                                    | --   | --                   | --          | --               | --              | --              |
| Overhead at 100% Salary                                                                                               |      |                      |             |                  |                 | <b>\$92,545</b> |
| Overhead costs are 100% of salary and are the same as the wage listed above; and the amount is included in the total. |      |                      |             |                  |                 |                 |
| Processing / Analyzing Costs                                                                                          |      |                      |             |                  |                 | <b>\$92,545</b> |
| Printing and Production Cost                                                                                          |      |                      |             |                  |                 | \$0             |
| <b>Total Gov. Cost:</b>                                                                                               |      |                      |             |                  |                 | <b>\$92,545</b> |

**Note:** The hourly wage information above is based on the hourly 2025 General Schedule (Base) Locality Pay Area for the Rest of USA. [Pay & Leave: Salaries & Wages - OPM.gov](#)

The processing time estimates above are based on the actual amount of time VA employees of the grade level will spend to process the VA Form 22-10203.

**15. Explain the reason for any burden hour changes since the last submission.**

This collection renewal resulted in a decrease in burden hours due to a significant decrease in the initial number of scholarship applicants that submitted an application for the program during the periods from 2020 and 2021.

**16. For collections of information whose results will be published, outline plans for tabulation and publication. Address any complex analytical techniques that will be used. Provide the time schedule for the entire project, including beginning and ending dates of the collection of information, completion of report, publication dates, and other actions.**

The results of this information collection will not be published.

**17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.**

We are not seeking approval to omit the display of the expiration date for OMB approval on the collection instrument.

**18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in Item 19, "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions," of OMB83-1.**

We are not requesting any exemptions to the provisions stated in 5 CFR 1320.9.