Federal Aviation Administration
Supporting Statement A
Part 60 – Flight Simulation Device Initial and Continuing Qualification and Use
OMB 2120-0680

- The labor costs were updated for current numbers.
- The number of simulators was updated.
- The National Simulator Program Manager (NSPM) was changed to the Training and Simulation Group (TSG) due to FAA internal reorganization. This title change is reflected in the revised collection.

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

Title 49 U.S.C., Section 44702, empowers and requires the Secretary of Transportation to issue operating certificates and to establish minimum safety standards for the operation of air carriers and those to whom such certificates are issued. Also, Title 49 U.S.C., Section 44701 empowers and requires the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to prescribe standards applicable to the accomplishment of the mission of the FAA.

This project is in direct support of the Department of Transportation's Strategic Plan – Strategic Goal – SAFETY, i.e., to promote the public health and safety by working toward the elimination of transportation-related deaths and injuries.

2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.

Sponsors who wish to maintain certified training centers are required to report to this collection. This collection is necessary to ensure that those who must comply with Title 14 CFR part 61, part 63, part 91, part 121, part 135, part 141, and part 142 are able to provide adequate crewmember training and qualifications. This collection also helps to ensure safety-of-flight by ensuring those who operate under these parts of the regulation and use flight simulation in lieu of aircraft for these functions, receive and maintain complete and adequate training, testing, checking, and experience. The FAA will use the information it collects and reviews to ensure compliance and adherence to regulations and, where necessary, to take enforcement action on violators of the regulations. The frequency of information collection is described in question 12 as there are various collection intervals. The information collected is related to simulator approval and ensuring simulators are approved for continuing use.

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.

In accordance with the Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA), the FAA allows and accepts electronic submission and encourages the use of automation and electronic media for the gathering, storage, presentation, review, and transmission of all requests, records, reports, tests, or statements required by this rule with the provision that such automation or electronic media has adequate provision for security (i.e., that such submissions may not be altered after review and acceptance by the FAA) and that the systems or applications are compatible with the systems or applications used by the FAA. Today, a significant amount of information is submitted via e-mail, on CD/DVD, USB drive, or via cloud storage services. We expect this to grow. The Training and Simulation Branch has also implemented a system that replaced the current scheduling and regulatory management application previously used.

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.

We have reviewed other FAA public-use reports and found no duplication. Also, the FAA knows of no other agency collecting the same information. The information sought is particular to a specific flight simulation training device (FSTD), constructed for and delivered to a specific operator, the FSTD sponsor. The information necessary is available from that sponsor only and is not available from any other source.

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

The FAA believes that this rule will not impact a substantial number of small businesses or other small entities; however, the material published in conjunction with this rule is informative and explanatory with regards to the requirements, and a sponsor applicant will be guided through the administrative requirements by the local principal operations inspector or training center program manager and by representatives of the Training and Simulation Branch staff regarding any FSTD for which the sponsor applicant seeks qualification.

6. Describe the consequence 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.

The frequency of information collection for purposes of part 60 is for original qualification and continuing qualification of FSTDs used for flightcrew member training, evaluation, or flight experience requirements in lieu of the aircraft. If the applicant sponsor does not apply initially, evaluation of the FSTD and subsequent qualification will not occur. If the sponsor does not continue to provide this information, the FAA will not be able to determine if the FSTD continues to meet the required performance and handling qualities necessary for the FSTD to substitute completely and accurately for the aircraft in training, evaluation, or flight experience requirements.

7. Explain any special circumstances that would cause an information collection to be conducted in a manner:

- ***requiring respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly;***

- ***requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it;***

- ***requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document; requiring respondents to 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;***

- ***requiring the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB;***

- ***that includes a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in statute or regulation, that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use; or***

- ***requiring respondents to submit proprietary trade secrets, or other confidential information unless the agency can demonstrate that it has instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.***

There are no inconsistencies in our collection.

8. Provide information on the PRA Federal Register Notice that solicited public comments on the information collection prior to this submission. Summarize the public comments received in response to that notice and describe the actions taken by the agency in response to those comments. Describe the efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.

A Federal Register Notice published on June 2, 2026 (91 FR 33015) solicited public comment. No comments were received.

Respondents to this collection frequently interact with their assigned FAA offices through inspections and meetings. The training centers have the opportunity to offer feedback during any of these interactions.

9. Explain any decisions to provide payments or gifts to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.

No payment or gifts will be provided to respondents.

10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.
There is no assurance of confidentiality.

11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.

There are no questions of a sensitive nature.

12. Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information. The statement should:

- **Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated. Unless directed to do so, agencies should not conduct special surveys to obtain information on which to base hour burden estimates. Consultation with a sample (fewer than 10) of potential respondents is desirable. If the hour burden on respondents is expected to vary widely because of differences in activity, size, or complexity, show the range of estimated hour burden, and explain the reasons for the variance. Generally, estimates should not include burden hours for customary and usual business practices. * If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form and aggregate the hour burdens.**

- **Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens for collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage rate categories. The cost of contracting out or paying outside parties for information collection activities should not be included here. Instead, this cost should be included under item 13.**

The total annualized cost for sponsors/respondents due to the 94,830 hours of information collection burden is estimated at $6,014,599.95 annually. This estimation has been calculated as follows:

The mean hourly wage of a management representative is $66.23 per hour.[1] $19.20[2] is applied to account for overhead and fringe benefits per the Bureau of Labor Statistics document titled

[1] https://www.bls.gov/oes/2023/may/oes110000.htm
[2] Employer Costs for Employee Compensation - September 2023 (bls.gov)

"Employer Cost for Employee Compensation – March 2025". The total adjusted hourly wage for a management representative is $85.43.

The mean hourly wage of a clerk is $20.94 per hour.[3] $6.07[4] is applied to account for overhead and fringe benefits per the Bureau of Labor Statistics document titled "Employer Cost for Employee Compensation – March 2025". The total adjusted hourly wage for a clerk is $27.01. The mean hourly wage of a simulator technician is $31.15 per hour.[5] $9.03[6] is applied to account for overhead and fringe benefits per the Bureau of Labor Statistics document titled "Employer Cost for Employee Compensation – March 2025". The total adjusted hourly wage for a simulator technician is $40.18.

We expect that the FAA will receive on average 17 requests for evaluation from the 36 sponsors considered to have medium-to-large operations each and on average 11 requests for evaluations from the 26 small FSTD sponsors per year.[7]

The estimates for hours are broken down by sections of the rule below. Note that these estimates include both the one-time information collection required for new sponsors and FSTDs to initially obtain a qualification and the annual information collection required to maintain qualification. For a cumulative estimate, see the summary table on the last page.

§ 60.5 Quality Management System (QMS).

This section calls for a sponsor to develop, review, and have approved by the FAA, policies, procedures, and processes that they will follow for each of the sections of Part 60. The purpose of this program requires the sponsor to systematically plan for and implement the requirements of part 60 and the associated Qualification Performance Standard (QPS). The estimate for this section is based on an existing sponsor count of 62 and the addition of an estimated **2** new sponsors annually. Sponsors have been sub-grouped into small, medium, and large based on the number of training centers. The nature of QMS is such that a program applies to the sponsor's entire operation; however, local differences from one site to another may exist. Single site sponsor QMS programs will be relatively less complex than multi-site sponsor QMS programs.

For one-time cost on the industry side (for new sponsors seeking initial program approval):

1. To develop and implement policies, procedures, and processes, small sponsors would spend 56 hours, medium sponsors 112 hours, and large sponsors 720 hours. Based on the estimated annual number of new sponsors by size, this would result in 112 hours of annual one-time information collection burden. Note that all new sponsors start off with only one training center, so all new sponsors are categorized as small for their initial approval and one-time information collection burden.

2. To receive final approval of a sponsor QMS program, new sponsors must complete an on-site assessment. During this assessment, sponsor time is required to provide and

[3] https://www.bls.gov/oes/2023/may/oes439061.htm

[4] Employer Costs for Employee Compensation - September 2023 (bls.gov)

[5] Industrial Engineering Technologists and Technicians: Occupational Outlook Handbook:U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

[6] Employer Costs for Employee Compensation - September 2023 (bls.gov)

[7] Medium sponsors are considered having 5-25 FSTDs and Large sponsors are considered those with more than 25 FSTDs and/or multiple training centers.

explain records, answer questions regarding processes, and demonstrate procedures. Small and medium sponsors will spend approximately 12 hours each in performing these actions, and large sponsors will spend 60 hours. Given that large sponsors have significantly more locations, more than one visit is required, and thus more effort is assigned. The total estimate for this activity is 24 hours.

Table 1, Cost In Hours for §60.5 (One-Time Cost – New Sponsors)

		Small Sponsors	Medium Sponsors	Large Sponsors	Total Hours
Private Sector:					
Document Policies, Processes, Procedures					
Management Rep hours per Sponsor		56hrs	112hrs	720hrs	--
Number of New Sponsors		2	0	0	--
Time for Each Type of Sponsor		112hrs	0	0	112hrs
Initial On-Site Assessment					
Management Rep hours per Sponsor		12	12	60	--
Number of New Sponsors		2	0	0	--
Time for Each Type of Sponsor		24	0	0	24

Cost for a management representative to Document Policies, Processes, & Procedures = 112 hours x $85.43 = 112 Hours and $9,568.16
Cost for Initial On-Site Assessment = 24 hours x $85.43 = $2,050.32

Total Cost = $11,618.48 and 136 Hours

New Sponsors Document Policies, Processes, Procedures

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		2	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		56 Hours	
Total # of responses		2	
Total burden (hours)		112 Hours	

New Sponsors Initial On –Site Assessment

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		2	
# of Responses per respondent		1	

Time per Response		12 Hours	
Total # of responses		2	
Total burden (hours)		24 Hours	

For the continuing, annual cost on the industry side (for existing sponsors):

1. When a policy, procedure, or process changes, either because of rule changes or a sponsor's operation, the applicable section of the QMS program must be updated. The volume of these changes has been minimal and is not expected to increase. Small and medium sponsors will spend 1 hour documenting and revising the QMS, and large sponsors would spend 3 hours for a total of 26 hours, 31 hours, and 15 hours. An overall total of 72 hours for all sponsor sizes.

2. In accordance with Part 60 QMS requirements, sponsors must perform self-assessments (internal audits) every six months. Each self-assessment will focus on one quarter of the Part 60 Appendix E requirements and will vary in time with the level of complexity of the sponsor's program. Small sponsors are expected to spend 6 hours in total performing two internal assessments each year, medium sponsors are expected to spend 8 hours in total, and large sponsors 39 hours in total. A total of 599 hours will be spent by sponsors on this activity each year.

3. The status of each sponsor's QMS program will be reviewed every two years. This review will be in the form of an on-site assessment similar to the effort outlined in the one-time cost section above. The assumptions for the estimate are the same and will result in a total of 528 hours of effort annually.

4. As part of QMS requirements, sponsors must set up a process to collect feedback. Sponsors are also required to maintain this feedback for a period and present it during inspection/assessment periods. Based on direct observation during the initial assessment of sponsor programs, the volume of these feedback events is estimated at 360 for small sponsors, 720 for medium sponsors, and 3,600 for large sponsors each year. Each feedback item will take a sponsor approximately 5 minutes to record, process and file/maintain. The total effort is 39,755 hours annually.

5. Section 60.5 requires each sponsor to identify a Management Representative and make that person known to the FAA. Initially, this effort was part of the documentation of policies, processes, and procedures, but on a continuing basis the Management Representative may change. Any change must be reported to the FAA. Based on direct observation, the average number of changes annually is approximately 1. The total effort for this is estimated at 5.5 hours each year[8].

6. Section 60.5 also requires that the sponsor's Management Representative regularly briefs management on the status of their QMS program and qualification of their FSTDs. The typical period of these briefings, based on assessment of sponsor programs, is quarterly, and the time involved is 30 minutes for small and medium sponsors, and 1 hour for large sponsors. The estimate of time for all sponsors is 134 hours per year.

[8] Based on historic data of times an FAA office receives notification of a new management review

Table 2, Cost In Hours for §60.5 (Recurring Cost – Existing Sponsors)

	Small Sponsors	**Medium Sponsors**	**Large Sponsors**	**Total Hours**
Private Sector:				
Policy, Process, Procedure Changes				
Management Rep hours per Sponsor	1	1	3	--
Number of Sponsors	26	31	5	--
Time for Each Type of Sponsor	26 hrs	31 hrs	15 hrs	72 hrs
Self-Assessments				
Management Rep hours per Sponsor	6	8	39	
Number of Sponsors	26	31	5	--
Time for Each Type of Sponsor	156 hrs	248 hrs	195 hrs	599 hrs
Continuing On-Site Assessment				
Management Rep hours per Sponsor	12hrs	12hrs	60hrs	--
Number of Sponsors	13	16	3	--
Time for Each Type of Sponsor	156 hrs	192 hrs	180 hrs	528 hrs
Independent Feedback				
Responses/Feedback items per year	360	720	3600	--
Management Rep hours per Sponsor	0.08	0.08	0.08	--
Number of Sponsors	26	31	5	--
Time for Each Type of Sponsor	749 hrs	1786 hrs	1440 hrs	3975 hrs
Identify Management Representative				
Hours to notify TSG[9] of Management Rep change	0.08	0.08	0.08	--
Number of changes per year	1	1	1	--
Number of Sponsors	26	31	5	--
Time for Each Type of Sponsor	2 hrs	2 hrs	1 hrs	5 hrs
Regular Briefings to Sponsor Management				
Hours to brief	0.5	0.5	1	--

[9] Training and Simulation group

Number of briefings per year	4	4	4	--
Number of Sponsors	26	31	5	--
Time for Each Type of Sponsor	52 hrs	62 hrs	20 hrs	134 hrs

Cost for Policies, Processes, Procedures Change = 72 hours x $85.43= $6,150.96 and 72 Hours

Cost for Self-Assessments = 599 hours x $85.43 = $51,172.57 and 599 Hours

Cost for Continuing On-Site Assessment = 528 hours x $85.43= $45,107.04 and 528 Hours

Cost for Independent Feedback = 3975 hours x $85.43 = $339,584.25 and 3,975 Hours.

Cost for Identify Management Representative = 5 hours x $85.43 = $427.15 and 5 Hours

Cost for Regular Briefings to Sponsor Management = 134 hours x $85.43 = $11,447.62 and 134 Hours

Total Cost = $453,889.59 and 5,313 Hours

Small Sponsors – Policy, Process, Procedure Change

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		26	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		1 Hour	
Total # of responses		26	
Total burden (hours)		26 Hours	

Medium Sponsors – Policy, Process, Procedure Change

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		31	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		1 Hour	
Total # of responses		31	
Total burden (hours)		31 Hours	

Large Sponsors – Policy, Process, Procedure Change

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		5	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		3 Hours	
Total # of responses		5	
Total burden (hours)		15 Hours	

Small Sponsors – Self Assessments

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		26	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		6 Hours	
Total # of responses		26	
Total burden (hours)		156 Hours	

Medium Sponsors – Self Assessments

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		31	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		8 Hours	
Total # of responses		31	
Total burden (hours)		248 Hours	

Large Sponsors – Self Assessment

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		5	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		39 Hours	
Total # of responses		5	
Total burden (hours)		195 Hours	

Small Sponsors – Continuing On-Site Assessment

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		13	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		12 Hours	
Total # of responses		13	
Total burden (hours)		156 Hours	

Medium Sponsors – Continuing On-Site Assessment

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		16	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		12 Hours	
Total # of responses		16	
Total burden (hours)		192 Hours	

Large Sponsors – Continuing On-Site Assessment

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		3	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		60 Hours	
Total # of responses		3	
Total burden (hours)		180 Hours	

Small Sponsor – Independent Feedback

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents	26		
# of Responses per respondent	360		
Time per Response	.08		
Total # of responses	9360		
Total burden (hours)	749 Hours		

Medium Sponsor – Independent Feedback

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents	31		
# of Responses per respondent	720		
Time per Response	.08 Hours		
Total # of responses	22,320		
Total burden (hours)	1786 Hours		

Large Sponsor – Independent Feedback

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents	5		
# of Responses per respondent	3600		
Time per Response	.08 Hours		
Total # of responses	18,000		
Total burden (hours)	1440 Hours		

Small Sponsor – Identify Management Representative

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents	26		
# of Responses per respondent	1		
Time per Response	.08 Hours		
Total # of responses	26		
Total burden (hours)	2 Hours		

Medium Sponsor – Identify Management Representative

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents	31		
# of Responses per respondent	1		
Time per Response	.08 Hours		
Total # of responses	31		
Total burden (hours)	2 Hours		

Large Sponsor – Identify Management Representative

Summary (Annual numbers)	Reporting	Recordkeeping	Disclosure
# of Respondents	5		
# of Responses per respondent	1		
Time per Response	.08 Hours		
Total # of responses	5		
Total burden (hours)	1 Hours		

Small Sponsor – Regular Briefings to Sponsor Management

Summary (Annual numbers)	Reporting	Recordkeeping	Disclosure
# of Respondents			26
# of Responses per respondent			4
Time per Response			0.5 Hours
Total # of responses			104
Total burden (hours)			52 Hours

Medium Sponsor – Regular Briefings to Sponsor Management

Summary (Annual numbers)	Reporting	Recordkeeping	Disclosure
# of Respondents			31
# of Responses per respondent			4
Time per Response			0.5 Hours
Total # of responses			124
Total burden (hours)			62 Hours

Large Sponsor – Regular Briefings to Sponsor Management

Summary (Annual numbers)	Reporting	Recordkeeping	Disclosure
# of Respondents			5
# of Responses per respondent			4
Time per Response			1 Hour
Total # of responses			20
Total burden (hours)			20 Hours

§60.9 Additional Responsibilities of the Sponsor.
1. This section sets out requirements for the sponsor to establish a mechanism for receiving comments from those using the FSTD, posting FSTD statements of qualification, designation of a management representative, and defining management representative duties. The time and costs involved are accounted for in **Table 2**, §60.5 Quality Management System, above.

§60.13 FSTD Objective Data Requirements.
The time and costs involved are addressed in **Table 3,** §60.15, FSTD Initial Qualification Requirements, below.

§60.15 Initial Qualification Requirements.
Sub-Sections (a) – (i) of this section set out the requirement that a request for evaluation must be submitted as well as the requirements for the contents of that request. With the exception of the calculation for conversion to electronic format for all Electronic Master Qualification Test Guides (eMQTG) documents, existing practices/procedures provide an acceptable mechanism for meeting all other requirements in this section and sponsors of FSTDs will incur no additional time costs from present practice.
As a result of public comment from the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking titled **"Flight Simulation Training Device Qualification Standards for Extended Envelope and Adverse Weather Event Training Tasks" (RIN 2120-AK08),** the FAA added deviation authority to the final rule in section 60.15(c)(5). The primary purpose for including this deviation authority is to allow FSTD sponsors to initially qualify a new FSTD using internationally recognized FSTD evaluation standards, including those issued by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) or another national aviation authority. This will improve international harmonization of FSTD evaluation standards as well as reduce redundant FSTD qualification documentation in instances where an FSTD is qualified by multiple national aviation authorities or evaluated under a bilateral agreement. Because an FSTD sponsor would have to submit a request to the FAA for the approval of a deviation, there would be an information collection burden for those FSTD sponsors or manufacturers that choose to request deviation authority. Since such deviations will generally be applicable only to those FSTDs that are undergoing an initial evaluation, and the total number of initial FSTD evaluations the FAA conducts averages around 50 per year, the burden for this information collection is expected to be very small. Furthermore, it is expected that most of these deviations would be submitted by FSTD manufacturers for the initial evaluation of multiple FSTDs as provisioned for in the deviation authority section of the final rule. As a result, the number of deviation requests received by the FAA would be mainly limited to a few FSTD manufacturers and would result in a negligible information collection burden.

The estimated effort to convert paper Master Qualification Test Guides (MQTGs) assumes that devices built after 2005 already have digitized copies of this guide, and the sponsor simply must provide that file to the FAA. Since the initial publication of part 60 in 2008, all existing qualified FSTDs have had their MQTGs converted and submitted to the FAA. As a result, this initial one-time information collection burden has been completed and the only remaining one-time information collection for this section will be for the estimated number of new FSTDs that are initially qualified each year. The devices have been categorized into levels that correspond to their fidelity. In general, lower-level devices have smaller MQTGs, and higher-level devices have larger ones. This is directly related to the number of pages that must be converted.

For one-time cost on the industry side:
The conversion of each page will take a clerk approximately 30 seconds[10]**.**. To see a detailed calculation based on the number of pages per device category and the numbers of devices in each category, see Table 3. The total effort for this section is calculated at 1020 **hours**.

See Table 3 for calculations.

Table 3, Cost In Hours for §60.15 (One-Time Cost – New Initial Qualifications per Year)

Private Sector	**Level 5**	**Level 6**	**Level 7**	**Level A**	**Level B**	**Level C**	**Level D**	**Total Hours**
Convert MQTG to Electronic Format								
Clerk hours to convert each page of MQTG	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	--
Number of pages to convert	500	1,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,500	2,000	--
Number of new FSTDs per year (est.)	8	2	3	0	0	1	45	--
Time for Each Type of Device	40 hrs	20 hrs	60 hrs	0	0	15 hrs	900 hrs	1035 hrs

Cost to Convert MQTG to eMQTG= 1035 hours x $27.01 = $27,955.35 and 1035 Hours

Level 5

[10] Time it would take to scan a printed copy of the Master Qualification Test Guide (MQTG) into digital format.

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		8	
# of Responses per respondent		500	
Time per Response		.01 Hours	
Total # of responses		4,000	
Total burden (hours)		40 Hours	

Level 6

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		2	
# of Responses per respondent		1,000	
Time per Response		.01 Hours	
Total # of responses		2,000	
Total burden (hours)		20 Hours	

Level 7

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		3	
# of Responses per respondent		2,000	
Time per Response		.01 Hours	
Total # of responses		6,000	
Total burden (hours)		60 Hours	

Level C

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		1	
# of Responses per		1500	

respondent			
Time per Response		.01 Hours	
Total # of responses		1,500	
Total burden (hours)		15 Hours	

Level D

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		45	
# of Responses per respondent		2,000	
Time per Response		.01 Hours	
Total # of responses		90,000	
Total burden (hours)		900 Hours	

For the continuing, annual cost on the industry side:
It is expected that approximately 14 changes per year will occur, which will require a new conversion of 2 pages. It is again assumed that it will take a clerk 30 seconds to perform this conversion for a total effort estimate of 249 hours per year.

See Table 4

Table 4, Cost In Hours for §60.15 (Recurring Cost – Changes to existing FSTDs)

	Level 5	**Level 6**	**Level 7**	**Level A**	**Level B**	**Level C**	**Level D**	**Total Hours**
Private Sector:								
Convert MQTG to Electronic Format								
Clerk hours to convert each page of MQTG	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	--
Changes to MQTG each year	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	--
Number of pages to convert	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	--
Number of current FSTDs	72	48	10	3	9	114	631	--
Time for Each Type of Device	20 hrs	13 hrs	3 hrs	1 hrs	3 hrs	32 hrs	177 hrs	249 hrs

Cost to Convert MQTG to Electronic Format = 249 hours x $27.01 = $6,725.49 and 249 Hours

Level 5

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**

# of Respondents		72	
# of Responses per respondent		28	
Time per Response		.01 Hours	
Total # of responses		2016	
Total burden (hours)		20 Hours	

Level 6

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		48	
# of Responses per respondent		28	
Time per Response		.01 Hours	
Total # of responses		1344	
Total burden (hours)		13 Hours	

Level 7

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		10	
# of Responses per respondent		28	
Time per Response		.01 Hours	
Total # of responses		280	
Total burden (hours)		3 Hours	

Level A

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		3	
# of Responses per respondent		28	
Time per Response		.01 Hours	
Total # of responses		84	
Total burden		1 Hours	

(hours)			

Level B

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		9	
# of Responses per respondent		28	
Time per Response		.01 Hours	
Total # of responses		252	
Total burden (hours)		3 Hours	

Level C

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		114	
# of Responses per respondent		28	
Time per Response		.01 Hours	
Total # of responses		3,192	
Total burden (hours)		32 Hours	

Level D

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		631	
# of Responses per respondent		28	
Time per Response		.01 Hours	
Total # of responses		17,668	
Total burden (hours)		177 Hours	

§60.16 Additional Qualifications for a Currently Qualified FSTD.

For continuing, annual cost (estimated routine modifications per year)
This section sets out the requirements for sponsors to submit to the Training and Simulation Branch Manager, a summary of all modifications to a qualified FSTD and/or notification of seeking additional qualifications. This is a one-time effort only without a continuing cost impact once completed. The number of notifications expected under this section is 250 per year with 50% requiring a change to the MQTG. The Management Representative will spend 0.5 hours in drafting an email or letter to the TSG and a clerk would spend 0.1 hours preparing the letter for mailing for a total effort of 156 hours. For additional tasks (beyond those originally qualified) that require qualification test guide modification, the Management Representative would spend 0.25 hours in developing an appropriate change for a total of 31.25 hours. The combined total would be 187 hours [156 + 31].

See Table 5

Table 5, Cost In Hours for §60.16 (Recurring Cost)

	Total Hours
Private Sector:	
Additional Tasks / Modifications	
Number of notifications per year	250
Management Rep hours to draft letter	0.5
Clerk hours to prepare / mail letter	0.1
Number of additional tasks/mods that require MQTG change	125
Management rep hours to make / insert MQTG change	0.25
Time for Each Sponsor	187

Cost for Additional Tasks/Modifications (Mgmt. Rep) = 125 hours x $85.43 = $10,678.75 and 125 Hours

Cost for Additional Tasks/Modifications (Clerk) = 25 hours x $27.01= $675.25 and 25 Hours

Cost for Developing Appropriate Changes (Mgmt. Rep) = 31.25 hours x $85.43 = $2,669.69 Hours

Total Hours for Additional Tasks/Modifications = $14,023.69 and 181 Hours

Notifications

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents	250		
# of Responses per respondent	1		
Time per Response	0.6 Hours		
Total # of responses	250		
Total burden (hours)	150 Hours		

Notifications Requiring MQTG Change

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents	125		
# of Responses per respondent	1		
Time per Response	.25 Hours		
Total # of responses	125		
Total burden (hours)	31 Hours		

§60.19 Inspection, Maintenance, and Recurrent Evaluation Requirements.
1.The first Sub-Section requires sponsors to conduct objective testing of each FSTD in a minimum of four segments each year as described in the appropriate Qualification Performance Standard document. This testing, which is mostly automated, would take an FSTD technician 0.1 hours per test**.** The number of tests required depends largely on the fidelity of the device. For a detailed calculation see the table at the end of this document. The total effort required on a continuing basis is 11,597.8 hours.

2. The second Sub-section also requires a functional preflight check be completed prior to use each 24-hour period. FSTD usage is estimated at five days per week for each level device and the preflight check would take an FSTD technician 0.1 hours to document / record. The total estimate for pre-flight based on time, usage, and number of devices is 31,694 hours annually.

3. The third sub-section requires a continuing evaluation by each FSTD to be recurrently evaluated by the TSG (typically each year). The Management Representative is required to contact the TSG to schedule this evaluation, which is estimated to take approximately 0.1 hours for each simulator. During the evaluation, an inspector will select objective tests (typically three) at random to be run. It will take a technician approximately 0.1 hours to run each test. The total effort estimate for this sub-section is 231 hours annually.

4. The fourth sub-section requires each sponsor to maintain a discrepancy log for each device. The sponsor must record a description, corrective actions, and the name and date of personnel taking action for each discrepancy. Approximately five to ten discrepancies per FSTD per week are recorded on average, depending on the level of fidelity, and the time required to record and update this information is 15 minutes. The total effort estimate for this sub-section is 44,262 hours annually.

See Table 6

Table 6 Cost In Hours for §60.19 (Recurring Cost)

	Level 4	**Level 5**	**Level 6**	**Level 7**	**Level A**	**Level B**	**Level C**	**Level D**	**Total Hours**
Private Sector:									
Objective Testing									
Number of FSTDs	138	129	39	18	2	6	65	822	--
Number of tests conducted	N/A	20	28	46	58	78	100	127	--

Simulator Tech hours per test	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	--
Time for Each Type of Device	N/A	258 hrs	109 hrs	83 hrs	12 hrs	47 hrs	650 hrs	10,439 hrs	11,598 hrs
	Functional Pre-Flight								
Number of FSTDs	138	129	39	18	2	6	65	822	--
FSTD usage (5 days x 52 wks)	260	260	260	260	260	260	260	260	--
Number of pre-flights conducted (FSTD # x usage)	35,880	33,540	10,140	4,680	520	1,560	16,900	213,720	--
Simulator Tech hours to document each pre-flight	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	--
Time for Each Type of Device	3,588 hrs	3,354	1,014	468	52	156	1,690	21,372	31,694 hrs
	Continuing Evaluations								
Number of FSTDs	138	129	39	18	2	6	65	822	--
Management Rep hours to draft/send eval request	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	--
Simulator tech hrs to print/present additional tests	N/A	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	--
Number of additional tests run during evaluation	N/A	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	--
Time for Each Type of Device	14	26	8	4	1	1	13	164	231hrs
	Maintain a Discrepancy Log								
Number of FSTDs	138	129	39	18	2	6	65	822	--
Number of discrepancies per week per FSTD	5	5	5	10	10	10	10	10	--
Simulator Tech hrs to record/updat	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	--

e each									
Time for Each Type of Device	2870	2683	811	749	83	250	2,704	34,195	44,345hrs

Cost for Objective Testing (Mgmt. Rep) = 11,598 hours x $85.43 = $990,817.14 and 11,598 Hours

Cost for Functional Preflight (Mgmt. Rep) = 31,694 hours x $85.43 = $2,707,618.42 and 31,694 Hours

Cost for Continuing Evaluation (Mgmt. Rep and Sim Tech) = 150 Hours x $85.43 (Mgmt. Rep) = $12,814.50 + 81Hours x $40.18 (Sim Tech) = $3,254.58 Total Burden for Continuing Eval = $16,069.08 and 231 Hours

Cost to Maintain a Discrepancy Log (Sim Tech) = 44,345 hours x $40.18 = $1,781,782.10 and 44,345 Hours

Total for this Section = $5,496,286.74 and 87,868 Hours

Objective Testing –Level 5

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		129	
# of Responses per respondent		20	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		2,580	
Total burden (hours)		258 Hours	

Objective Testing – Level 6

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**

# of Respondents		39	
# of Responses per respondent		28	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		1,092	
Total burden (hours)		109 Hours	

Objective Testing – Level 7

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		18	
# of Responses per respondent		46	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		828	
Total burden (hours)		83 Hours	

Objective Testing – Level A

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		2	
# of Responses per respondent		58	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		116	
Total burden (hours)		12 Hours	

Objective Testing – Level B

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		6	
# of Responses per		78	

respondent			
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		468	
Total burden (hours)		47 Hours	

Objective Testing – Level C

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		65	
# of Responses per respondent		100	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		6,500	
Total burden (hours)		650 Hours	

Objective Testing – Level D

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		822	
# of Responses per respondent		127	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		104,394	
Total burden (hours)		10,439 Hours	

Functional Preflight – Level 4

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		138	
# of Responses per respondent		260	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	

Total # of responses		35,880	
Total burden (hours)		3,588 Hours	

Functional Preflight – Level 5

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		129	
# of Responses per respondent		260	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		33,540	
Total burden (hours)		3,354 Hours	

Functional Preflight – Level 6

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		39	
# of Responses per respondent		260	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		10,140	
Total burden (hours)		1,014 Hours	

Functional Preflight – Level 7

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		18	
# of Responses per respondent		260	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		4,680	
Total burden		468 Hours	

(hours)			

Functional Preflight – Level A

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		2	
# of Responses per respondent		260	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		520	
Total burden (hours)		52 Hours	

Functional Preflight – Level B

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		6	
# of Responses per respondent		260	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		1,560	
Total burden (hours)		156 Hours	

Functional Preflight – Level C

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		65	
# of Responses per respondent		260	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		16,900	
Total burden (hours)		1690 Hours	

Functional Preflight – Level D

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		822	
# of Responses per respondent		260	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		213,720	
Total burden (hours)		21,372 Hours	

Continuing Evaluation – Level 4

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		138	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		.1 Hours	
Total # of responses		138	
Total burden (hours)		14 Hours	

Continuing Evaluation – Level 5

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		129	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		.2 Hours	
Total # of responses		129	
Total burden (hours)		26 Hours	

Continuing Evaluation – Level 6

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		39	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		.2 Hours	
Total # of responses		39	
Total burden (hours)		8 Hours	

Continuing Evaluation – Level 7

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		18	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		.2 Hours	
Total # of responses		18	
Total burden (hours)		4 Hours	

Continuing Evaluation – Level A

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		2	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		.2 Hours	
Total # of responses		2	
Total burden (hours)		1 Hour	

Continuing Evaluation - Level B

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**

# of Respondents		6	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		.2 Hours	
Total # of responses		6	
Total burden (hours)		1 Hour	

Continuing Evaluation – Level C

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		65	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		.2 Hours	
Total # of responses		65	
Total burden (hours)		13 Hours	

Continuing Evaluation – Level D

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		822	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		.2 Hours	
Total # of responses		822	
Total burden (hours)		164 Hours	

Maintain a Discrepancy Log – Level 4

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		138	
# of Responses per		260	

respondent			
Time per Response		.08 Hours	
Total # of responses		35,880	
Total burden (hours)		2,870 Hours	

Maintain a Discrepancy Log – Level 5

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		129	
# of Responses per respondent		260	
Time per Response		.08 Hours	
Total # of responses		33,540	
0Total burden (hours)		2683 Hours	

Maintain a Discrepancy Log – Level 6

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		39	
# of Responses per respondent		260	
Time per Response		.08 Hours	
Total # of responses		10,140	
Total burden (hours)		811 Hours	

Maintain a Discrepancy Log – Level 7

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		18	
# of Responses per respondent		520	
Time per Response		.08 Hours	

Total # of responses		9,360	
Total burden (hours)		749 Hours	

Maintain a Discrepancy Log – Level A

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		2	
# of Responses per respondent		520	
Time per Response		.08 Hours	
Total # of responses		1,040	
Total burden (hours)		83 Hours	

Maintain a Discrepancy Log – Level B

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		6	
# of Responses per respondent		520	
Time per Response		.08 Hours	
Total # of responses		3,120	
Total burden (hours)		250 Hours	

Maintain a Discrepancy Log – Level C

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		65	
# of Responses per respondent		520	
Time per Response		.08 Hours	
Total # of responses		33,800	

Total burden (hours)		2,704 Hours	

Maintain a Discrepancy Log – Level D

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		822	
# of Responses per respondent		520	
Time per Response		.08 Hours	
Total # of responses		427,440	
Total burden (hours)		34195 Hours	

§60.20 Logging FSTD Discrepancies.
This Section requires each instructor, check airman, or representative of the Administrator to document any discrepancies found. The estimate for the effort is included in section 60.19.

§60.23 Modifications to FSTDs.

This Section describes what must be done to modify a qualified FSTD as well as the procedure to follow. This section is essentially an expansion of section 60.16, and the estimate of the effort involved is included in section 60.16.

§60.25, QMS- Operation with Missing, Malfunctioning, or Inoperative Components.
This Section defines the requirements associated with missing, malfunctioning, or inoperative (MMI) components in an FSTD. An MMI is essentially a special type of discrepancy. The effort associated with discrepancy logs is included in section 60.19. However, if an MMI cannot be repaired or replaced within 30 days, approval to extend the repair/replace time must be made by the Training and Simulation Branch. Approximately 238 extension requests as well as updates once repaired/replaced are made annually. Each request to extend an MMI will take the Management Representative 0.1 hours to make and another 0.1 hours to report completion of repair/replace. The total effort is calculated at 48 hours annually.

See Table 7

Table 7, Cost In Hours for §60.25 (Recurring Cost)

	Total Hours
Private Sector:	

MMI Reporting	
Number of MMIs reported per year	238
Management Rep hours to document and report	0.1
Management rep hours to update and/or clear	0.1
Time for Each Sponsor	48

Cost for §60.25 (Mgmt. Rep) = 48 hours x $85.43 = **$4,100.64 and 48 Hours**
MMI Reporting

Summary (Annual numbers)	**Reporting**	**Recordkeeping**	**Disclosure**
# of Respondents		238	
# of Responses per respondent		1	
Time per Response		.2 Hours	
Total # of responses		238	
Total burden (hours)		48 Hours	

§60.31 Recordkeeping and Reporting.

1. This section requires the sponsor to maintain certain records.

(a) The time and costs of developing the Master Qualification Test Guide (MQTG) are addressed in the discussion on §60.15. No additional time or costs are involved.

(b) The time and costs of completing the quarterly objective tests and performance demonstrations are addressed in the discussion on §60.15. No additional time or costs are involved.

(c) The time and costs of completing the recurrent evaluations are addressed in the discussion on §60.19. No additional time or costs are involved.

(d) The time and costs of obtaining comments in accordance with §60.9(b)(1) are addressed in the discussion on §60.9. No additional time or costs are involved.

(e) The time and costs of recording discrepancies are addressed in the discussions on §60.20. No additional time or costs are involved.

(f) The time and costs of recording modifications to FSTD are addressed in the discussion on §60.23. No additional time or costs are involved.

The total annualized cost for the respondents due to the **94,830 hours** of information collection burden is estimated at **$6,014,599.95**. This estimation has been calculated as follows:

Total Burden Table Summary

Regulation	Total Annual Hours	Total Responces	Total Annual Cost
60.5	5,425 Hours	50,144	$465,508.07
60.15	1,284 Hours	128,336	$34,680.84
60.16	187 Hours	375	$14.192.50

60.19	87,868 Hours	988,457	$5,496,286.74
60.25	48 Hours	238	$4,100.64
TOTAL	**94,830 Hours**	**1,167,556**	**$6,014,599.95**

13. Provide an estimate for the total annual cost burden to respondents or record keepers resulting from the collection of information.

There are no additional capital, startup, or operational costs for this information collection that are not already described in the previous section. The information collection and reporting requirements in this rule can be conducted through customary and usual business practices. All the mechanisms and processes that the FSTD sponsors need to collect this information are already in place and have been required since the original publication of part 60 in 2008.

14. Provide estimates of annualized costs to the Federal government. Also, provide a description of the method used to estimate cost, which should include quantification of hours, operational expenses (such as equipment, overhead, printing, and support staff), and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information.

The estimates for hours and costs are broken down by sections of the rule below.

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) reports General Schedule (GS) pay scales for all civilian workers. The FAA generally assigns these duties to Aviation Safety Inspectors (ASI) at the GS-14 wage rate. The hourly rates are based off a GS-14 pay grade, Step 5 in SanJose/San Francisco/Oakland, CA[11]. The GS-14, Step 5 hourly rate is $84.54 an hour.[12] $26.20 is applied to account for overhead and fringe benefits per the Bureau of Labor Statistics document titled "Employer Cost for Employee Compensation – March 2025". The average total compensation is $110.74.

The FAA also generally assigns these duties to Aviation Safety Assistant (ASA) at a GS-7, Step 5.[13] The hourly rates are based off a GS-7 pay grade, Step 5 in SanJose/San Francisco/Oakland, CA. The GS-7, Step 5 hourly rate is $33.92 an hour. $10.52 is applied to account for overhead and fringe benefits per the Bureau of Labor Statistics document titled "Employer Cost for Employee Compensation – March 2025". The estimated mean hourly wage for an ASA is $44.44.

§60.5 Quality Management System.

The burden estimates to the government associated with this section is limited to the review/approval of QMS policies, processes, and procedures as well as the evaluation of the sponsor's QMS program on-site. The following is the breakdown by initial versus continuing costs.

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[11] General Schedule
[12] SALARY TABLE 2025-SF
[13] USAJOBS - Job Announcement

Initial Cost (New FSTD Sponsors seeking initial approval)

Review/Approval

An ASI will spend 10 hours reviewing policies, processes and procedures on an estimated 2 new small sponsors annually, totaling 20 hours. At $110.74 an hour, the one-time cost to the Federal Government is $2,214.80.

On-site Assessment

An ASI will spend 14 hours assessing 2 new small sponsor programs per year. This is a total of 28 hours. At $110.74 an hour, the one-time cost to the Federal Government is $3100.72.

The total one-time cost to the government for estimated new FSTD sponsors is $5,315.52 annually.

Continuing Cost (Existing FSTD sponsors)

Review/Approval

Periodic updates will be made to existing sponsor QMS programs which require review/approval by the NSPM.

An ASI will spend 0.5 hours reviewing policies, processes and procedure updates for 41 separate small sponsors, 0.5 hours reviewing updates for 18 medium sponsors, and 1 hour reviewing updates for 3 large sponsor programs. This is a total of 33 hours. At $110.74 an hour, the annual cost to the Federal Government is $3,654.42.

On-site Assessment

Assessment visits are conducted every two years. It is therefore assumed that 50% of the sponsors will be reviewed annually. An ASI will spend 10 hours assessing 20 separate small sponsor program, and an ASA will spend 2 hours processing the records/assessment report. An ASI will spend 10 hours assessing 9 medium sponsor programs and an ASA will spend 2 hours processing the records/assessment report. An ASI will spend 50 hours assessing 1.5 large sponsor programs and a ASA will spend 10 hours with processing the records/assessment report. This is a total of 438 hours. At $110.74 for an ASI and $44.44 for an ASA an hour, the annual cost to the Federal Government is $43,664.22.

The total annual cost to the government for this section (§60.5) is **$48,979.74**.

§60.15 Initial Qualification Requirements.

The burden estimates to the government associated with this section is limited to the review, approval, and storage of eMQTG. The following is the breakdown by initial versus continuing costs:

Initial Cost (Newly qualified FSTDs)

Review/Approval/Storage

An ASI will spend 1 hour reviewing/approving and managing the storage of an average of 45 new eMQTG per year for a total burden of 45 hours. At $110.74 an hour for an ASI, the one-time cost to the Federal Government is $4,983.3 annually.

Continuing Cost (Updates to qualified FSTDs)

Review/Approval/Storage

An Aviation Safety Inspector will spend 0.5 hours reviewing/approving and managing the storage of approximately 130 eMQTG changes each year for a total burden of 65 hours. At $110.74 an hour, the annual cost to the Federal Government is $7,198.10.

The total annual cost to the government for this section (§60.15) is **$12,181.40**.

§60.16 Additional Qualifications for a Currently Qualified FSTD.

The burden to the government associated with this section is an annual estimated cost only for the review/approval of modifications to the FSTD to accommodate additional qualifications.

<u>Routine Modifications (Annual Estimate)</u>

An ASI will spend 0.5 hours reviewing notifications of change on 200 FSTDs each year. A clerk will spend 0.1 hours preparing and sending a letter to the sponsor in reply to those requests. The total estimate of effort is 120 hours [200 x (0.5+0.1)].

ASI at $110.74 x 100hrs=$11,074, ASA at $44.44 x 20hrs=$888.8. The total burden is 120 Hours and $11,962.80

Additionally, 80 FSTDs are expected to require an evaluation based on the level of change/modification requested. It will take an ASI approximately 0.5 hours to document that evaluation for a total of 40 hours.

ASI at $110.74 x 40 hours=$4,429.60

The total burden estimate for this section is 160 hours.

The annual cost to the Federal Government is **$16,392.4**.

§60.19 Inspection, Maintenance, and Recurrent Evaluation Requirements.

The estimate to the government associated with this section is limited to continuing/annual costs only. Costs are related to the time it takes to review sponsor completed objective testing and the time related to reporting the results of continuing evaluations. The following is a breakdown by each component.

Objective Testing Review

An ASI will spend 0.1 hours reviewing each of approximately 33% of all tests performed annually by the sponsor. The number of these tests will vary by level of device. The total burden estimate for this section is calculated at 3,676 hours. At $110.74 an hour for an ASI the annual recurring cost to the Federal Government is $407,080.24.

Continuing Evaluations

An ASI will spend 0.1 hours reviewing requests for evaluations and drafting a reply. An ASI will spend 0.5 hours preparing an evaluation report and 0.1 hours reviewing three additional objective tests, picked at random, during the evaluation. The time burden for this section is calculated at 928 hours. At $110.74 an hours the total annual cost to the Government is $102,766.72.

The total annual cost to the Government for this section (§60.19) is **$509,846.96**.

§60.25 Operation with Missing, Malfunctioning, or Inoperative Components.

The burden estimates to the government associated with this section is limited to continuing cost only. Costs are related to the time it takes to review a sponsor's MMI extension/report, enter it into a tracking/history database, and to clear the report once the MMI is corrected/repaired. It will take an ASA 0.1 hours to enter the report and 0.1 hours to clear once corrected. It will take an ASI 0.1 hours to review. The total time burden for this section is calculated at 76 hours annually.

An Aviation Safety Inspector at $110.74 an hour will conduct 25 hours, and an ASA at $44.44 an hour will conduct 51 hours. $110.74 x 25 hours=$2,768.50, $44.44 x 51 hours=$2,266.44

The annual cost to the Government is **$5,034.94**.

The total annual cost to the Federal Government for initial and continuing collection processing procedures is $592,435.44.

15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments.

The labor costs were updated for current numbers.

The number of simulators was updated.

The National Simulator Program Manager (NSPM) was changed to the Training and Simulation Group (TSG) due to FAA internal reorganization. This title change is reflected in the revised collection.

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.

There is no plan for tabulation or publication.

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

No such approval is being sought.

18. Explain each exception to the topics of the certification statement identified in "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions."

There are no exceptions.