



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974; Report of Matching Program

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs

ACTION: Notice of Computer Matching Program

SUMMARY: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides notice that it intends to conduct a recurring computer-matching program matching Social Security Administration (SSA) Master Beneficiary Records (MBRs) and the Master Files of Social Security Number (SSN) Holders and SSN Applications (Enumeration System) with VA pension, compensation, and dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) records. The goal of this match is to identify beneficiaries, who are receiving VA benefits and SSA benefits or earned income, and to reduce or terminate VA benefits, if appropriate. The match will include records of current VA beneficiaries.

DATES: The match will start no sooner than 30 days after publication of this notice in the Federal Register (FR), or 40 days after copies of this notice and the agreement of the parties is submitted to Congress and the Office of Management and Budget, whichever is later, and end not more than 18 months after the agreement is properly implemented by the parties. The involved agencies' Data Integrity Boards (DIB) may extend this match for 12 months provided the agencies certify to their DIBs, within three months of the ending date of the original match, that the matching program will be conducted without change and that the matching program has been conducted in compliance with the original matching program.

ADDRESSES: Written comments concerning this matching program may be submitted by: mail or hand-delivery to Director, Regulations Management (00REG), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Room 1068, Washington, D.C. 20420; fax to (202) 273-9026; or email to <http://www.Regulations.gov>. All comments received will be available for public inspection in the Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Room 1063B, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays). Please call (202) 461-4902 (this is not a toll-free number) for an appointment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pension and Fiduciary Service, Front Office, Pension and Fiduciary Service (21P), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 632-8863.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: VA will use this information to verify the income information submitted by beneficiaries in VA's needs-based benefit programs and adjust VA benefit payments as prescribed by law.

The legal authority to conduct this match is 38 U.S.C. 5106, which requires any Federal department or agency to provide VA such information as VA requests for the purposes of determining eligibility for benefits, or verifying other information with respect to payment of benefits.

The VA records involved in the match are in "Compensation, Pension and Education and Rehabilitation Records - VA (58 VA 21/22/28)," a system of records which was first published at 41 FR 9294 (March 3, 1976), amended and republished in its entirety at 77 FR 42593 (July 19, 2012). The SSA records

consist of information from the system of records identified as the SSA MBR, 60-0090, and SSA Enumeration System, 60-0058.

In accordance with the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a(o)(2) and (r), copies of the agreement are being sent to both Houses of Congress and to the Office of Management and Budget. This notice is provided in accordance with the provisions of Privacy Act of 1974 as amended by Public Law 100-503.

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES: The Social Security Administration (SSA)

AUTHORITY FOR CONDUCTING THE MATCHING PROGRAM: The Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C § 552a, and 38 U.S.C § 5106 authorize VA to enter into this CMA with SSA.

PURPOSE(S): To re-establish a CMA with SSA for determining eligibility to continue to receive benefits authorized by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS: Veterans and beneficiaries who apply for VA income benefits.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS: VA will provide SSA with an electronic file in a format defined by SSA that contains the necessary identifying information for applicable beneficiaries and their dependents. Each VA input file will contain variables such as: Social Security Number for Primary Number Holder; Last Name; First Name; Middle Name/Initial; Date of Birth (MMDDCCYY); Sex Code (Blank); VA File Number; Agency Code "VA"; Type of Benefit; Veteran with Spouse Indicator; Payee Number; Type of Record; Verified Payment Indicator; Verification Indicator; Processing Code "212"; Verification Account Number

(VAN); and Blanks, or Multiple Request Code. SSA will match the file against the Enumeration System and MBR will generate an output file with information on: Verification code; Death Indicator; Filler; Verification Code; Type of Benefit – Retirement (R), Disability (D) or Survivor (S); MBC (Monthly Benefit Credited); MBP (Monthly Benefit Payment); Medicare Deduction (SMI-B); Effective Date of Monthly Social Security Payment “CCYYMM”; LAF Code (D=Deferred/withheld money), (E=Monies paid through the Railroad Board), (C=Current pay); Type of Benefit – Retirement (R), Disability (D), or Survivor (S); MBC (Monthly Benefit Credited); MBP (Monthly Benefit Payment); Medicare Deduction (SMI-B); Effective Date of Monthly Social Security Payment “CCYYMM”; LAF Code (D=Deferred/withheld money), (E=Monies paid through the Railroad Board), (C=Current pay); Type of Benefit – Retirement (R), Disability (D), or Survivor (S); MBC (Monthly Benefit Credited); MBP (Monthly Benefit Payment); Medicare Deduction (SMI-B); Effective Date of Monthly Social Security Payment “CCYYMM”; and LAF Code (D=Deferred/withheld money), (E=Monies paid through the Railroad Board), (C=Current pay) for each of VA's records containing a verified SSN.

SYSTEM(S) OF RECORDS: SSA will disclose the necessary benefit information electronically from the files of the MBR, system of records number 60-0090, last fully published at 71 Fed. Reg. 1826 (January 11, 2006), amended at 72 Fed. Reg. 69723 (December 10, 2007), and at 78 Fed. Reg. 40542 (July 5, 2013). SSA will disclose SSN verification information from the Enumeration System, system of records number 60-0058, last fully published at 75 Fed. Reg. 82121

(December 29, 2010), amended at 78 Fed. Reg. 40542 (July 5, 2013), and at 79 Fed. Reg. 8780 (February 13, 2014), and at 83 Fed. Reg. 31250-31251 (July 3, 2018), and at 83 Fed. Reg. 54969 (November 1, 2018).

VA records involved in this match are in “VA Compensation, Pension, Education, and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records – VA” (58 VA 21/22/28), a system of records that was first published at 41 FR 9294 (March 3, 1976), last amended and republished in its entirety at 77 FR 42593 (July 19, 2012).

Signing Authority: The Senior Agency Official for Privacy, or designee, approved this document and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs. James P. Gfrerer, Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology and Chief Information Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs, approved this document on January 21, 2020 for publication.

Dated: February 5, 2020.

Amy L. Rose,
Program Analyst,
VA Privacy Service,
Department of Veterans Affairs.

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