



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Billing Code 3510-13-P

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program Application Cover Sheet

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Information Collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by mail to **Maureen O'Reilly, Management Analyst, NIST** at PRAComments@doc.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 0693-0072 in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to **Mary Clague, NIST SBIR Program Office, 301-975-4188, mary.clague@nist.gov**.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The SBIR program was originally established in 1982 by the Small Business Innovation Development Act (P.L. 97-219), codified at 15 U.S.C. 638. It was then expanded and extended by the Small Business Research and Development (R&D) Enhancement Act of 1992 (P.L. 102-564) and received subsequent reauthorization and extensions that include Public Law 112-81, extending SBIR through September 30, 2022. The US Small Business Administration (SBA) serves as the coordinating agency for the SBIR program. It directs the agency implementation of SBIR, reviews progress, and reports annually to Congress on its operation.

The NIST SBIR Cover Sheet is the first page of each application that responds to the annual NIST SBIR Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO). The information collected in the Cover Sheet provides identifying information and demographic data for use in NIST's annual report to the SBA on the program.

II. Method of Collection

The information will be collected as part of the application process and will be submitted through grants.gov.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0693-0072.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Revision and extension of a current information collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 100.

Estimated Time Per Response: 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 50 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority:

IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

*Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce
Department.*

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