

Addendum to Supporting Statement for Continuing Education Collection under the Non-Attorney Representative Demonstration Project

OMB No. 0960-NEW

Background

To implement Section 303 of the Social Security Protection Act of 2004, SSA sought and received OMB approval for the Non-Attorney Representative Demonstration Project on February 25, 2005. Subsequently, on July 18, 2005, SSA published a Federal Register notice (70 FR 41250) announcing the Non-Attorney Representative Demonstration Project. In that notice SSA explained that during the first year of eligibility, participants must report completion of the required continuing education courses in the 18-month period beginning 6 months prior to the month in which SSA notifies the applicant that he or she has passed the examination. The first cohort of participants who became eligible to receive direct payment of fees must report completion of their continuing education hours no later than June 30, 2006 to remain eligible to participate in the demonstration project.

Continuing Education Collection

SSA is requesting clearance of the Continuing Education (CE) – Course Information form and website. The CE collection is a part of the Non-Attorney Representative Demonstration Project (0960-0699). However, the CE collection was not considered during the demonstration project's initial clearance. Now that SSA has discovered this oversight we are requesting clearance under a new OMB Control Number to bring the collection into PRA compliance.

There are several practicable reasons the agency has decided to request initial approval of the CE collection under a new control number. Foremost among these is that SSA is in the process of reviewing and considering revisions to the Non-Attorney Representative Demonstration Project, but because these are still not decided this is the most expeditious method to bring the CE collection into PRA compliance. At a later date or during the clearance of the revision SSA will combine the CE collection into the existing Non-Attorney Representative Demonstration Project