

SUPPORTING STATEMENT
(Forms 4461, 4461-A, 4461-B)
OMB # 1545-0169

. **CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION**

Section 401(a) sets out the requirements for qualification of certain employee benefit plans. Forms 4461, Form 4461-A, and Form 4461-B were developed for use by employers to apply for approval of their employee benefit plans under section 401(a) and their related trusts as exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(a).

. **USE OF DATA**

The IRS uses Forms 4461, 4461-A, and 4461-B to determine if the employee benefit plan is qualified under section 401(a) and if the related trust is entitled to tax-exempt treatment under section 501(a).

. **USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN**

Electronic filing is available for forms 4461, 4461-A, and 4461-B.

. **EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION**

We have attempted to eliminate duplication within the agency wherever possible.

. **METHODS TO MINIMIZE BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESSES OR OTHER SMALL ENTITIES**

There are no small entities affected by this collection.

. **CONSEQUENCES OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION ON FEDERAL PROGRAMS OR POLICY ACTIVITIES**

If the IRS did not collect this information, the IRS would not be able to verify the requirements for qualifications of certain employee benefit plans under section 401(a). Also, the IRS will not be able to determine if the related trust is entitled to tax-exempt treatment under section 501(a)

. **SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING DATA COLLECTION TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH GUIDELINES IN 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2)**

There are no special circumstances reporting data collection to be inconsistent with Guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2).

. **CONSULTATION WITH INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE OF THE AGENCY ON AVAILABILITY OF DATA, FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION, CLARITY OF INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS, AND DATA ELEMENTS**

Periodic meetings are held between IRS personnel and representatives of the American Bar Association, the National Society of Public Accountants, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and other professional groups to discuss tax law and tax forms. During these meetings, there is an opportunity for those attending to make comments regarding Forms 4461, 4461-A, and 4461-B.

In response to the Federal Register notice dated July 15, 2015 (80 F.R. 41562), we received no comments during the comment period regarding Form 4461, 4461-A and 4461-B.

. **EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT TO RESPONDENTS**

No payment or gift has been provided to any respondents.

. **ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESPONSES**

Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential as required by 26 USC 6103.

. **JUSTIFICATION OF SENSITIVE QUESTIONS**

No personally identifiable information (PII) is collected.

ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

The burden estimate is as follows:

	<u>Number of Responses</u>	<u>Time per Response</u>	<u>Total Hours</u>
Form 4461	1,000	15.58	15,580
Form 4461-A	250	56.10	14,025
Form 4461-B	<u>4,000</u>	9.04	<u>36,160</u>
Total	5,250		65,765

Estimates of the annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens shown are not available at this time.

ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS

There is no start-up costs associated with this collection.

ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The primary cost to the government consists of the cost of printing this form. We estimate that the cost of printing the form is \$3,187.

REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN

This request is for the reinstatement of an expired information collection. There is no actual change in burden.

16. PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

There are no plans for tabulation, statistical analysis and publication.

17. REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS INAPPROPRIATE

We believe that displaying the OMB expiration date is inappropriate because it could cause confusion by leading taxpayers to believe that the form sunsets as of the expiration date. Taxpayers are not likely to be aware that the Service intends to request renewal of the OMB approval and obtain a new expiration date before the old one expires.

18. EXCEPTIONS TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

There are no exceptions to the certification statement.

Note: The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information in this submission:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.