

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

SUMMARY: Background. On June 15, 1984, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) delegated to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board) its approval authority under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.16, to approve of and assign OMB control numbers to collection of information requests and requirements conducted or sponsored by the Board under conditions set forth in 5 CFR 1320 Appendix A.1. Board-approved collections of information are incorporated into the official OMB inventory of currently approved collections of information. Copies of the Paperwork Reduction Act Submission, supporting statements and approved collection of information instruments are placed into OMB's public docket files. The Federal Reserve may not conduct or sponsor, and the respondent is not required to respond to, an information collection that has been extended, revised, or implemented on or after October 1, 1995, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 6, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by *FR 2018 or FR 2023*, by any of the following methods:

- Agency Web Site: <http://www.federalreserve.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments at <http://www.federalreserve.gov/generalinfo/foia/ProposedRegs.cfm>.
- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- E-mail: regs.comments@federalreserve.gov. Include OMB number in the subject line of the message.
- FAX: 202/452-3819 or 202/452-3102.
- Mail: Jennifer J. Johnson, Secretary, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20551.

All public comments are available from the Board's web site at www.federalreserve.gov/generalinfo/foia/ProposedRegs.cfm as submitted, unless modified for technical reasons. Accordingly, your comments will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information. Public comments may also be viewed electronically or in paper form in Room MP-500 of the Board's Martin Building (20th and C Streets, N.W.) between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on weekdays.

Additionally, commenters may send a copy of their comments to the OMB Desk Officer—Shagufta Ahmed—Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503 or by fax to 202-395-6974.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A copy of the PRA OMB submission, including the proposed reporting form and instructions, supporting statement, and other documentation will be placed into OMB's public docket files, once approved. These documents will also be made available on the Federal Reserve Board's public website at: <http://www.federalreserve.gov/boarddocs/reportforms/review.cfm> or may be requested from the agency clearance officer, whose name appears below.

Federal Reserve Board Clearance Officer—Cynthia Ayouch—
Division of Research and Statistics, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, DC 20551 (202-452-3829).
Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) users may contact (202-263-4869), Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, DC 20551.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Request for comment on information collection proposals**

The following information collections, which are being handled under this delegated authority, have received initial Board approval and are hereby published for comment. At the end of the comment period, the proposed information collections, along with an analysis of comments and recommendations received, will be submitted to the Board for final approval under OMB delegated authority. Comments are invited on the following:

- a. Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the Federal Reserve's functions; including whether the information has practical utility;
- b. The accuracy of the Federal Reserve's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- c. Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;
- d. Ways to minimize the burden of information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and

e. Estimates of capital or start up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Proposal to approve under OMB delegated authority the extension for three years, with revision of the following reports:

1. *Report title:* Senior Loan Officer Opinion Survey on Bank Lending Practices

Agency form number: FR 2018

OMB control number: 7100-0058

Frequency: Up to six times a year

Reporters: Domestically chartered large commercial banks and large U.S. branches and agencies of foreign banks.

Estimated annual reporting hours: 1,248 hours

Estimated average hours per response: 2 hours

Number of respondents: 104

General description of report: This information collection is authorized by Sections 2A, 12A and 11 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. §§ 225a, 248(a) and 12 U.S.C. §263)) and Section 7 of the International Banking Act (12 U.S.C. 3105(c)(2)) and is voluntary. Individual respondent data are regarded as confidential under the authority of exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552 (b)(4)).

Abstract: The FR 2018 is conducted with a senior loan officer at each respondent bank, generally through electronic submission, up to six times a year. The purpose of the survey is to provide qualitative and limited quantitative information on credit availability and demand, as well as evolving developments and lending practices in the U.S. loan markets. Consequently, a portion of the questions in each survey typically covers special topics of timely interest. There is the option to survey other types of respondents (such as other depository institutions, bank holding companies, or other financial entities) should the need arise. The FR 2018 survey provides crucial information for monitoring and understanding the evolution of lending practices at banks and developments in credit markets.

Current Actions: The Federal Reserve proposes to reduce the minimum asset size for panel institutions from \$3 billion to \$2 billion and add 20 domestically chartered commercial banks with \$2 to \$10 billion in total assets to the current reporting panel. The Federal Reserve believes that the additions to the panel would provide deeper coverage of commercial real estate loans and small business lending, as well as a more comprehensive picture of differences in lending conditions at the largest banks and regional banks.

2. *Report title:* Senior Financial Officer Survey

Agency form number: FR 2023

OMB control number: 7100-0223

Frequency: Up to four times a year

Reporters: Domestically chartered large commercial banks

Estimated annual reporting hours: 960 hours

Estimated average hours per response: 3 hours

Number of respondents: 80

General description of report: This information collection is authorized by Sections 2A, 11 and 12A of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. §§ 225a, 248(a), and 263) and is voluntary. Individual respondent data are regarded as confidential under the authority of exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552 (b)(4)).

Abstract: The Federal Reserve uses this voluntary survey to collect qualitative and limited quantitative information about liability management, the provision of financial services, and the functioning of key financial markets. Responses are obtained from a senior officer at each participating institution usually through an electronic submission. The survey is conducted when major informational needs arise and cannot be met from existing data sources. The survey does not have a fixed set of questions;

each survey consists of a limited number of questions directed at topics of timely interest. The survey helps pinpoint developing trends in bank funding practices, enabling the Federal Reserve to distinguish these trends from transitory phenomena.

Current Actions: The Federal Reserve proposes to add 20 domestically chartered commercial banks with \$2 to \$10 billion in total assets to the current reporting panel and reduce the minimum asset size for panel institutions from \$3 billion to \$2 billion. The Federal Reserve believes that the additions to the panel would provide a more comprehensive picture of differences in funding conditions at the largest banks and regional banks, and deeper coverage of banks that lend in commercial real estate and small business markets. The reporting panel selection criteria for the FR 2023 are consistent with those criteria from the FR 2018. The proposed FR 2023 panel revisions are necessary in order to maintain consistency with the proposed panel revision in the FR 2018.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, February 1, 2012.

(signed)

Jennifer J. Johnson,
Secretary of the Board.