- SEA1 is 43 (Go to SEA5A)
- SEA1 is 44 (Go to SEA6)
- SEA1 is 45-46 (Exit)
- SEA2 Did (name/you) ever get a High School diploma by completing High School OR through a GED or other equivalent?
 - <1> Yes, completed High School
 - <2> Yes, GED or other equivalent <3> No

<3> Exit

- SEA3A (People can get a High School diploma in a variety of ways, such as graduating from a High School or by getting a GED or other equivalent.) How did (name/you) get (his/her/your) High School diploma?
- <1> Graduation from High School <2> GED or other equivalent

(Exit)

- (Ask SEA3B)
- SEA3B What was the highest grade of regular school (name/you) completed before receiving (his/ her/your) GED?
 - <1> Less than 1st grade
 - <2> 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th grade
 - <3> 5th or 6th grade
 - <4> 7th or 8th grade
 - <5> 9th grade
 - <6> 10th grade
 - <7> 11th grade
 - <8> 12th grade NO DIPLOMA

Exit

- SEA4 (Including any time that may have been spent getting an Associate's Degree, how/How) many years of college CREDIT (has/ have)(name/you) completed? (Has/ Have) (he/she/you) COMPLETED
 - <1> Less than 1 year?
 - <2> The first, or FRESHMAN year?
 <3> The second, or SOPHOMORE
 - year? <4> The third, or JUNIOR year?
 - <4> The unit, of JOINOK ye
 <5> Other (Ask SEA4S)
- Exit
- SEA4S How many years is that?

Exit

- SEA5A Since completing (his/her/ your) Bachelor's degree, (has/have) (name/you) ever taken any GRADUATE or PROFESSIONAL school courses for credit?
 - <1> Yes (Ask SEA5B)
- <2> No (Exit)
- SEA5B Did (name/you) complete SIX or MORE graduate or professional school courses?
 - <1> Yes
 - <2> No

Exit

- SEA6 Was (name's/you) Master's Degree program a 1-year, 2-year, or 3-year program?
 - <1> 1-year program
 - <2> 2-year program

<3> 3-year program
 <4> Other (Ask SEA6S)
 Exit
 SEA6S What is that?

Federal Register / Vol. 60, No. 189 / Friday, September 29, 1995 / Notices

===>_ Exit

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Bureau of the Census has conducted the CPS monthly for over 50 years. Its primary purpose is to provide monthly statistics on the labor force status of the American population, including the official unemployment rate. It is authorized by Title 13, United States Code, Section 182; and Title 29, United States Code, Sections 1–9. The Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) sponsor this survey.

Several years ago (1992), the CPS changed its methodology for collecting educational attainment from a "years attended basis" to a "degree received basis." While this change was embraced by most analysts as being a more accurate measure of this characteristic, it did disrupt a number of time series statistics using the "years attended" measure. Given this background, BLS and Census Bureau staff researched and tested a number of revised questionnaires in an attempt to devise a series of questions that would collect both measures of educational attainment, while maintaining consistency with the current "degree received measure." Note that question SEA1 above is the current "degree received" question and will retain its function as the primary measure of educational attainment.

II. Current Actions

In July 1995, we collected data using the revised series of questions as a supplement in one-fourth of the CPS sample. The purpose of this test was to gauge how the new question series performed and, if necessary, to provide a set of bridge statistics on educational attainment that would allow a smooth transition to the new question series. Currently, staff at both the BLS and the Census Bureau are analyzing the results of this test. If the results are favorable, we plan to incorporate the new question series into the January 1996 CPS instrument. This submission to OMB is being made in anticipation of favorable test results and may be withdrawn if that does not occur.

III. Request for Comments

After reviewing the information collection instrument (see above), prospective respondents and other interested parties should comment on the actions discussed in Item II. The following general guidelines are provided to assist in the preparation of responses. Please include the name of this information collection, the CPS educational attainment revision, in your comments.

As a potential data user:

A. Did you use educational attainment data from the CPS prior to 1992?

B. If so, did the switch to "highest degree received" cause any problems with your time series or other analyses?

C. The suggested item series is intended to continue the current "highest degree received" concept while reinstituting the "last year completed" concept (used prior to 1992 in the CPS). Do you think this objective is served by these items?

D. Can you use data at the levels of detail indicated?

E. For what purpose do you or would you use these data? Please be specific.

F. As a user of these data, can you suggest modifications to the proposed items that if incorporated, would better serve your analytical needs? If so, please submit your suggested changes with a short statement describing the perceived benefits.

As a potential respondent:

A. We estimate that it will take the average respondent about 30 seconds to answer the appropriate questions. Is this a reasonable burden?

B. Are the questions sensitive in nature? If so, please be specific in describing why.

C. Are the questions understandable and framed in a sensible manner? If not, what items are confusing and how should we clarify them?

D. In your opinion, could a proxy respondent (i.e., one household member providing information for another household member) provide complete and accurate answers? If not, why?

E. Do you have any suggestions on ways of reducing the burden associated with responding to this information collection?

The Census Bureau also is interested in receiving comments from persons regarding their views on the need for this information collection.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 26, 1995. Gerald Taché,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization. [FR Doc. 95–24291 Filed 9–28–95; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 3510–07–M