



UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
Washington, DC 20415

Employee Services

Monday, September 21, 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR: HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTORS

FROM: Kimberly A. Holden, Deputy Associate Director, Recruitment and Hiring

Subject: Draft Qualification Standards for the Professional Work in the Medical and Healthcare Group, 0600

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is releasing draft qualification standards for professional occupations in the Medical and Healthcare Group, 0600 (<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/drafts/0600.pdf>). The drafts standards will update the occupational requirements for the following occupational series:

Occupational Name	Series
General Medical and Healthcare Series	0601
Physician Series	0602
Physician's Assistant Series	0603
Nursing Series	0610
Dietetics and Nutrition Series	0630
Occupational Therapy Series	0631
Physical Therapy Series	0633
Kinesiotherapy Series	0635
Recreation Creative Arts Therapy	0638
Clinical Laboratory Science Series	0644
Pharmacy Series	0660
Optometry Series	0662
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Series	0665

Occupational Name	Series
Podiatry Series	0668
Dentistry Series	0680
Industrial Hygiene Series	0690
Consumer Safety Series	0696

OPM is constantly engaged with developing and issuing minimum qualification standards, policies, and instructions. This includes updating qualification standards for currency, fairness, and appropriate alignment of degree definitions, certifications, registrations and/or licensures in order to keep pace with evolving types of work.

After issuance of the final qualification standards, agencies will use these revised standards to qualify candidates for positions in these series. Therefore, we encourage all agencies to conduct a general review of the qualifications covered by these draft qualification standards and provide comments based on your applications of the draft standards by the date provided below. We rely on agency human resources officials to ensure subject matter experts and program management officials are aware of the release of these draft standards and to seek their input. We depend on your feedback to assist us in making the appropriate updates to ensure the final standards contain clear, accurate and complete occupational requirements that meet your needs.

In order to expedite the review of agency comments and to increase efficiency, OPM is piloting an automated comment tool or Access database to capture your responses. Each agency will receive their individual Access database as an attachment with instructions that will be used to capture and record their responses. By using the Access database, OPM will be able to compile and analyze your responses more efficiently. Instructions on accessing and using the automated database are attached. We will also provide a virtual demonstration for agencies on using the automated database to submit comments after the release of the draft qualification standards.

We are providing a 60-day comment period. Each submission must cover your entire agency. Therefore, departments and independent agencies must consolidate information from all of their components or bureaus before sending your electronic comments. Please send your electronic comments as an email attachment to fedclass@opm.gov by November 27, 2015.

- If you have technical questions, or experience any technical difficulties using the automated comments database please email fedclass@opm.gov with the Subject line: "Access Technical Assistance."
- If you have questions or would like to discuss the draft qualification standards, please contact Riconda Fortson at (757) 441-3224 or via email at riconda.fortson@opm.gov

Attachments