

ASE-L1

This is an official request from the United States Government. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number for this collection is 0607-XXXX, which expires _____.

A Message from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau:

The U.S. Census Bureau has selected your business to participate in the 2014 Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs (ASE). The ASE is the first annual collection of information on the characteristics of U.S. businesses by ownership categories, i.e., by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status.

Please report online, using the following information:

Website:

User ID:

Password:

Due date:

This report is **mandatory and confidential**. Title 13, United States Code, Section 224, requires your response and Section 9 guarantees that your response is confidential and will only be used for statistical purposes.

Title 13, United States Code, Sections 131, 182, 224, and 225 authorizes this collection and requires businesses and other organizations that receive this questionnaire to answer the questions and return the report to the Census Bureau. Under the same law, information collected cannot be used for taxation, regulation, or investigation and is exempt from release under the Freedom of Information Act. Public reporting burden for this survey is estimated to average 35 minutes per response. You may use reasonable estimates if book figures are not readily available.

The Census Bureau, in conjunction with the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and the Minority Business Development Agency, is conducting the 2014 ASE for employer businesses. The ASE will be used to create comprehensive estimates of characteristics of U.S. businesses and their owners, and **information from your business is critical** to providing reliable data for your industry and geographic area.

Data compiled in the Census Bureau's annual business surveys are part of the official statistics used to measure economic performance in the United States and provide the nation's policymakers and business leaders with measures of this important economic sector.

If you need assistance completing the survey, visit us online at econhelp.census.gov/ase. For further assistance, please call our customer help line at 1-888-824-9954, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Eastern time. Si necesita ayuda, llame libre de cargos: 1-888-824-9954, de lunes a viernes, de 8 a.m. a 6 p.m., hora del Este.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and ensuring that the results of the 2014 Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs are comprehensive, timely, and reliable.

Sincerely,

John H. Thompson