

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Health Resources and Services Administration**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

Periodically, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) publishes abstracts of information collection requests under review by the Office of Management and Budget, in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). To request a copy of the

clearance requests submitted to OMB for review, call the HRSA Reports Clearance Office on (301) 443-1129.

The following request has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for review under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995:

**Proposed Project: The Health Education Assistance Loan (HEAL) Program: Forms—(OMB No. 0915-0043)—Revision**

This clearance request is for a revision of the approval for three HEAL forms: the HEAL Repayment Schedule, Fixed and Variable (provides the borrower with cost of a HEAL loan, the number

and amount of payments, and the Truth-in-Lending disclosures); and the Lender's Report on HEAL Student Loans Outstanding, Call Report (provides information on the status of loans outstanding by the number of borrowers whose loan payments are in various stages of the loan cycle, such as student education and repayment, and the corresponding dollar amounts). These forms are needed to provide borrowers with information on the cost of their loan(s) and to determine which lenders may have excessive delinquencies and defaulted loans.

The estimate of burden for the forms is as follows:

Form and number	Number of respondents	Responses per respondent	Total responses	Hours per responses	Total burden hours
Disclosure: Repayment Schedule HRSA 502-1, 2 .....	15	666	9,990	.5	4995
Reporting: Call Report, HRSA 512 .....	20	4	80	.75	60
Total Reporting and Disclosure .....	20	.....	10,070	.....	5,055

Written comments and recommendations concerning the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of this notice to: John Morrall, Human Resources and Housing Branch, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: October 15, 2003.

**Jane M. Harrison,**

*Director, Division of Policy Review and Coordination.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Health Resources and Services Administration**

**Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Payment Program: Final Policies on Withholding and Reconciliation Process and Methodology for Calculating Reconciliation Payments, Use of Wage Index in Calculating Indirect Medical Education Payments, Dissemination of Program Data, and Audit; Updates on Calculation of National Per Resident Amount and Government Performance and Results Act Measures**

**AGENCY:** Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Final notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice adopts policies for the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Payment Program (CHGME PP) regarding the CHGME PP withholding and reconciliation process and calculation of reconciliation payments, use of the wage index to calculate CHGME PP indirect medical education (IME) payments, dissemination of CHGME PP data, and audits. This notice also provides updates and clarification on the CHGME PP calculation of a national per resident amount and CHGME PP compliance with Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) measures.

**DATES:** This notice is effective November 21, 2003. See discussion under Supplemental Information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ayah E. Johnson, Ph.D., Chief, Graduate Medical Education Branch, Division of Medicine and Dentistry, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, Room 9A-05, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857; telephone (301) 443-1058 or e-mail address [ChildrensHospitalGME@hrsa.gov](mailto:ChildrensHospitalGME@hrsa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The CHGME PP, as authorized by section 340E of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 256e) (the Act), provides funds to children's hospitals that operate graduate medical education (GME) programs. Pub. L. 106-310 amended the CHGME PP statute to continue the program through Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2005.

On September 25, 2002, the Secretary published a notice in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 60241) clarifying hospital eligibility criteria for the CHGME PP. That notice also sought public comments on proposals for (1) establishing a methodology to determine direct medical education (DME) and IME payments during the withholding and reconciliation processes stipulated in the CHGME PP statute; (2) updating the wage index used in the calculation of IME payments; (3) disseminating CHGME PP data; and (4) auditing.

During the comment period, the Department received comments from six interested parties, including hospitals and professional associations. The Secretary thanks the respondents for the quality and thoroughness of their comments. As a result of these comments, the Department has made revisions and clarifications in this final notice. The comments and Department's responses to the comments, as well as the final rules are set forth below. Subsequent to the publication of this notice, CHGME PP policies will be codified.

As indicated in the September 25 **Federal Register** notice, an updated listing of children's hospitals potentially eligible to participate in the CHGME PP will be posted on the CHGME PP Web site (<http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/childrenshospitalgme>), during the third quarter of each year.

Effective dates. To the extent this notice reiterates or clarifies past practices of the CHGME program, those policies continue in effect. To the extent