

Staff, at 301-594-1283, ext. 113, at least 7 days in advance of the meeting.

FDA regrets that it was unable to publish this notice 15 days prior to the Radiological Devices Panel of the Medical Devices Advisory Committee meeting. Because the agency believes there is some urgency to bring this issue to public discussion and qualified members of the Radiological Devices Panel of the Medical Devices Advisory Committee were available at this time, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs concluded that it was in the public interest to hold this meeting even if there was not sufficient time for the customary 15-day public notice.

Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 2).

Dated: January 5, 2004.

**William K. Hubbard,**

*Associate Commissioner for Policy and Planning.*

[FR Doc. 04-1379 Filed 1-22-04; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Health Resources and Services Administration**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Comment Request**

In compliance with the requirement for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects (section 3506(c)(2)(A) of Title 44, United States Code, as amended by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13), the Health

Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) publishes periodic summaries of proposed projects being developed for submission to OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and draft instruments, call the HRSA Reports Clearance Officer on (301) 443-1129.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**Proposed Project: The Health Education Assistance Loan (HEAL) Program: Physician's Certification of Borrower's Total and Permanent Disability Form (OMB No. 0915-0204)—Extension**

The Health Education Assistance (HEAL) program provided federally-insured loans to students in schools of allopathic medicine, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, podiatric medicine, pharmacy, public health, allied health, or chiropractic, and graduate students in health administration or clinical psychology through September 30, 1998. Eligible lenders, such as banks, savings and loan

associations, credit unions, pension funds, State agencies, HEAL schools, and insurance companies, make new refinanced HEAL loans which are insured by the Federal Government against loss due to borrower's death, disability, bankruptcy, and default. The basic purpose of the program was to assure the availability of funds for loans to eligible students who needed to borrow money to pay for their educational loans. Currently, the program refinances previous HEAL loans, monitors the Federal liability, and assists in default prevention activities. The HEAL borrower, the borrower's physician, and the holder of the loan completes the Physician's Certification form to certify that the HEAL borrower meets the total and permanent disability provisions. The Department uses this form to obtain detailed information about disability claims which includes the following: (1) The borrower's consent to release medical records to the Department of Health and Human Services and to the holder of the borrower's HEAL loans, (2) pertinent information supplied by the certifying physician, (3) the physician's certification that the borrower is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity because of a medically determinable impairment that is expected to continue for a long and indefinite period of time or to result in death, and (4) information from the lender on the unpaid balance. Failure to submit the required documentation will result in disapproval of a disability claim.

The estimate of burden for the Physician's Certification form is as follows:

Type of respondent	Number of respondents	Responses per respondent	Total responses	Minutes per response	Total burden hours
Borrower <sup>1</sup> .....	117	1	117	5	10
Physician .....	117	1	117	30	59
Loan Holder .....	20	5.85	117	10	20
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>254</b>	.....	<b>351</b>	.....	<b>89</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes 2 categories of borrowers requesting disability waivers: (1) whose loans have previously defaulted, and (2) whose loans have not defaulted.

Send comments to Susan G. Queen, Ph.D., HRSA Reports Clearance Officer, Room 14-33, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Dated: January 15, 2004.

**Tina M. Cheatham,**

*Acting Director, Division of Policy Review and Coordination.*

[FR Doc. 04-1380 Filed 1-22-04; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Health Resources and Services Administration**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Comment Request**

In compliance with the requirement for opportunity for public comment on

proposed data collection projects (section 3506(c)(2) of Title 44, United States Code, as amended by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects being developed for submission to OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans, call the HRSA Reports Clearance Officer on (301) 443-1129.

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the

use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**Proposed Project: The Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program Application (OMB No. 0915-0140)—Revision**

This is a request for Revision of the Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program (NELRP). The NELRP was originally authorized by 42 U.S.C. 297b(h) (section 836(h) of the Public Health Service Act) as amended by Public Law 100-607, November 4, 1988. The NELRP is currently authorized by 42 U.S.C. 297(n) (section 846 of the Public Health Service Act) as amended by Public Law 102-408, October 13, 1992.

Under the NELRP, registered nurses are offered the opportunity to enter into a contractual agreement with the Secretary under which the Public Health Service agrees to repay the nurses' indebtedness for nursing education. In exchange, the nurses agree to serve for a specified period of time in

certain types of critical shortage facilities identified in the statute.

Nurse educational loan repayment contracts will be approved by the Secretary for eligible nurses who have incurred previous monetary indebtedness by accepting a loan for nursing education costs from a bank, credit union, savings and loan association, Government agency or program, school, or other lender that meets NELRP criteria.

NELRP requires the following information:

1. Applicants must provide information on the proposed service site;
2. Applicants must provide information on loan status for all loans from all lenders; and
3. Applicants must provide banking information from financial institution.

*Estimates of Annualized Hour Burden:* The application has been changed due to legislative and program changes and an increased budget. Burden estimates are as follows:

Form/regulatory requirement	Number of respondents	Responses per respondents	Hours per response	Total burden hours
NELRP Application .....	16,000	1	1.5	24,000
Loan Verification Form .....	16,000	1	2.5	40,000
Employ. Verification Form .....	16,000	1	.5	8,000
Payment Info. Form .....	16,000	1	1	16,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>88,000</b>

Send comments to Susan G. Queen, Ph.D., HRSA Reports Clearance Officer, Room 14-45 Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857. Written comments should be received with 60 days of this notice.

Dated: January 16, 2004.

**Tina M. Cheatham,**

*Acting Director, Division of Policy Review and Coordination.*

[FR Doc. 04-1381 Filed 1-22-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4165-15-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Health Resources and Services Administration**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Comment Request**

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**Proposed Project: Scholarship Program for Students of Exceptional Financial Need (EFN) and Program of Financial Assistance for Disadvantaged Health Professions Students (FADHPS): Regulatory Requirements (OMB No. 0915-0028)—Extension**

The EFN Scholarship Program, authorized by section 736 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, and the FADHPS Program, authorized by section 740(a)(2)(F) of the PHS Act, provides financial assistance to schools of allopathic and osteopathic medicine and dentistry for awarding tuition scholarships to health professions students who are of exceptional financial need. To be eligible for support under the FADHPS Program, a student must also be from a disadvantaged background. In return for this support, students of allopathic and osteopathic medicine must agree to complete residency training in primary care in 4 years, and practice in primary care for 5 years after completing residency training.