

newspaper of local circulation in each community.

**ADDRESSES:** The proposed BFEs for each community are available for inspection at the office of the Chief Executive Officer of each community. The respective addresses are listed in the table below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Doug Bellomo, P.E., Hazard Identification Section, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, FEMA, 500 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-2903.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** FEMA proposes to make determinations of BFEs and modified BFEs for each community listed below, in accordance with section 110 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, 42 U.S.C. 4104, and 44 CFR 67.4(a).

These proposed base flood and modified BFEs, together with the floodplain management criteria required by 44 CFR 60.3, are the minimum that are required. They should not be construed to mean that the community must change any existing ordinances that are more stringent in their floodplain management requirements. The community may at any time enact stricter requirements of its own, or pursuant to policies established by other Federal, state or regional entities. These

proposed elevations are used to meet the floodplain management requirements of the NFIP and are also used to calculate the appropriate flood insurance premium rates for new buildings built after these elevations are made final, and for the contents in these buildings.

**National Environmental Policy Act**

This proposed rule is categorically excluded from the requirements of 44 CFR part 10, Environmental Consideration. No environmental impact assessment has been prepared.

**Regulatory Flexibility Act**

The Mitigation Division Director of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate certifies that this proposed rule is exempt from the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act because proposed or modified BFEs are required by the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, 42 U.S.C. 4104, and are required to establish and maintain community eligibility in the NFIP. As a result, a regulatory flexibility analysis has not been prepared.

**Regulatory Classification**

This proposed rule is not a significant regulatory action under the criteria of section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866 of

September 30, 1993, Regulatory Planning and Review, 58 FR 51735.

**Executive Order 12612, Federalism**

This proposed rule involves no policies that have federalism implications under Executive Order 12612, Federalism, dated October 26, 1987.

**Executive Order 12778, Civil Justice Reform**

This proposed rule meets the applicable standards of section 2(b)(2) of Executive Order 12778.

**List of Subjects in 44 CFR Part 67**

Administrative practice and procedure, Flood insurance, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Accordingly, 44 CFR part 67 is proposed to be amended as follows:

**PART 67—[AMENDED]**

1. The authority citation for part 67 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 4001 *et seq.*; Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978, 3 CFR, 1978 Comp., p. 329; E.O. 12127, 44 FR 19367, 3 CFR, 1979 Comp., p. 376.

**§ 67.4 [Amended]**

2. The tables published under the authority of § 67.4 are proposed to be amended as follows:

State	City/town/county	Source of flooding	Location	#Depth in feet above ground. *Elevation in feet (NGVD) *Elevation in feet (NAVD)	
				Existing	Modified
North Carolina .....	Person County (Unincorporated Areas).	Deep Creek .....	At the Person/Durham County boundary ... Approximately 0.8 mile upstream of Smith Road.	None None	*419 *419

Maps available for inspection at Person County Planning and Zoning Department, 20A Court Street, Roxboro, North Carolina. Send comments to Mr. Steve Carpenter, Person County Manager, 304 South Morgan Street, Room 212, Roxboro, North Carolina 27573.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 83.100, "Flood Insurance")

Dated: February 3, 2004.

**Anthony S. Lowe,**

*Mitigation Division Director, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate.*

[FR Doc. 04-2792 Filed 2-9-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110-12-P**

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**45 CFR Part 2551**

**RIN 3045-AA39**

**The Senior Companion Program; Amendments**

**AGENCY:** Corporation for National and Community Service.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** These proposed amendments to the regulations governing the Senior Companion Program (SCP) modify provisions concerning deductions for medical expenses and the allowability

of certain volunteer expense items. The specific amendments are as follows:

Section 2551.42(c) is modified to increase the ceiling on medical expenses that may be deducted for determining income for eligibility purposes from 15 percent to 50 percent of the applicable income guideline; and §§ 2551.45 and 2551.93(d) are modified to allow project funds, including the required non-federal share, to be used to reimburse volunteers for expenses, including transportation costs, incurred while performing volunteer assignments, and for purchase of equipment or supplies for volunteers on assignment.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before March 26, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by the title of the program, by any of the following methods:

(1) By mail sent to: Corporation for National and Community Service, National Senior Service Corps; Attention Peter Boynton, Program Officer; 9th Floor, 1201 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20525.

(2) By hand delivery or by courier to the Corporation's mailroom at Room 6010 at the mail address given in paragraph (1) above, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

(3) By fax to: (202) 565-2743, Attention Peter Boynton, Program Officer.

(4) Electronically through the Corporation's e-mail address system: [Seniorfeedback@cns.gov](mailto:Seniorfeedback@cns.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Peter L. Boynton, 202-606-5000, ext. 554.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

*A. Program Description*

The Senior Companion Program provides a way for limited-income people age 60 and older to provide assistance and friendship to adults who have difficulty with daily living tasks, such as grocery shopping and bill paying. Senior Companions spend from 15 to 40 hours a week helping two to four adult clients live independently in their own homes. Senior Companions provide relief to caregivers and alert doctors and family members to potential problems. In return for their service, Senior Companions receive a stipend of \$2.65 an hour, accident and liability insurance and meals while on duty, reimbursement for transportation, and monthly training. Approximately 15,000 Senior Companions tend to the needs of more than 60,000 adults each year.

*B. Medical Expenses Deduction*

Income eligibility for the Senior Companion Program is determined based on annual income from all sources after deducting medical expenses. Currently the allowable medical expenses may not exceed 15 percent of the applicable income eligibility guideline. In order to increase the pool of seniors eligible to serve as Senior Companions, and in recognition that the cost of medical care and insurance have increased significantly, the Corporation proposes to increase the ceiling for allowable medical expenses to 50 percent of the applicable income eligibility guideline.

*C. Volunteer Expenses*

The Senior Companion Program regulations currently distinguish between volunteer expenses that may be paid or reimbursed with federal and required non-federal grant funds and volunteer expenses that must be paid by the volunteer station to which a Senior Companion is assigned. Grant funds may be used only to pay for volunteer stipends, insurance, transportation to and from volunteer assignments and official project activities, annual physical examinations, meals taken on assignment, and service recognition expenses. With the exception of certain meals, volunteer stations must pay for all expenses incurred while performing volunteer assignments.

In "Principles and Reforms for a Citizen Service Act," issued by President Bush April 9, 2002, the Administration proposed to create greater flexibility in the use of Federal resources by easing requirements that govern the activities and support of volunteers. The proposed amendment would allow Senior Companion Program sponsors to determine, in consultation with volunteer stations, how best to fund volunteer expenses. The respective responsibilities of the sponsor and volunteer station for volunteer expenses would be incorporated in the memorandum of understanding negotiated by the sponsor with each station. Sponsors would be free to maintain the current division of responsibility for volunteer expenses but have the flexibility to use federal and required non-federal funds to cover any volunteer expense when the sponsor determines that doing so would be in the best interest of the project. The provisions of the applicable OMB Cost Principles Circulars referenced in Section 2551.93(a)(4) would continue to apply to all expenses paid with federal or required non-federal funds.

**Impact of Various Acts and Executive Orders**

After carefully reviewing the changes implemented by this amendment, and after coordination with the Office of Management and Budget, it was determined that:

(1) This was a significant regulatory action under section 3(f)(4) of Executive Order 12866 "Regulatory Planning and Review", and required a review by the Office of Management and Budget;

(2) The Corporation hereby certifies that the Regulatory Flexibility Act does not apply because there is no "significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities";

(3) That the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. chapter 25, subchapter II) does not apply because the amendment does not result in any annual expenditures of \$100 million by State, local, Indian Tribal governments or the private sector;

(4) That the Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the amendments do not impose any additional reporting or record-keeping requirements;

(5) That the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 does not apply because it is not a major rule as defined by section 251 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, and would not result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more; result in an increase in cost or prices; or have significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or on the ability of United States-based companies to compete with foreign-based companies in domestic and export markets; and

(6) That Executive Order 13132, "Federalism" does not apply because it would not have substantial direct effects on the States or the relationship between the national government and the States.

**List of Subjects in 45 CFR Part 2551**

Aged, Grant programs—social programs, Volunteers.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Corporation for National and Community Service proposes to amend 45 CFR part 2551 as follows:

**PART 2551—THE SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM**

1. The authority citation for part 2551 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 4950 *et seq.*

**§ 2551.42 [Amended]**

2. In § 2551.42(c), remove the words "15 percent" and add the words "50 percent" in their place.

**§ 2551.45 [Amended]**

3. In § 2551.45, add a new paragraph (f), to read as follows:

\* \* \* \* \*

(f) Other Volunteer Expenses. Senior Companions may be reimbursed for expenses incurred while performing their volunteer assignments provided these expenses are described in the Memorandum of Understanding negotiated with the volunteer station to which the volunteer is assigned, and there are sufficient funds available to cover these expenses and meet all other

requirements identified in the notice of grant award.

**§ 2551.93 [Amended]**

4. In § 2551.93, remove paragraph (d) and redesignate paragraphs (e) through (i) as paragraphs (d) through (h).

Dated: February 3, 2004.

**Tess Scannell,**

*Director, National Senior Service Corps.*

[FR Doc. 04-2802 Filed 2-9-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6050--\$-P

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**45 CFR Part 2552**

RIN 3045-AA39

**The Foster Grandparent Program; Amendments**

**AGENCY:** Corporation for National and Community Service.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** These proposed amendments to the regulations governing the Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) modify provisions concerning deductions for medical expenses and the allowability of certain volunteer expense items.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before March 26, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by the title of the program, by any of the following methods:

(1) By mail sent to: Corporation for National and Community Service, National Senior Service Corps; Attention Peter Boynton, Program Officer; 9th Floor, 1201 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20525.

(2) By hand delivery or by courier to the Corporation's mailroom at Room 6010 at the mail address given in paragraph (1) above, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

(3) By fax to: (202) 565-2743, Attention Peter Boynton, Program Officer.

(4) Electronically through the Corporation's e-mail address system: [Seniorfeedback@cns.gov](mailto:Seniorfeedback@cns.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Peter L. Boynton, 202-606-5000, ext. 554.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

*A. Program Description*

The Foster Grandparent Program provides a way for limited-income people age 60 and older, to serve as extended family members to children

and youth with exceptional needs. Foster Grandparents serve from 15 to 40 hours a week in schools, hospitals, correctional institutions, day-care facilities, Head Start centers, and small community-based organizations, both faith-based and secular. They help children who have been abused or neglected, mentor troubled teenagers and young mothers, and care for premature infants and children with physical disabilities. In return for their service, Foster Grandparents receive a stipend of \$2.65 an hour, accident and liability insurance and meals while on duty, reimbursement for transportation, and monthly training. More than 30,000 Foster Grandparents tend to the needs of 275,000 young children and teenagers each year.

*B. Medical Expenses Deduction*

Income eligibility for the Foster Grandparent Program is determined based on annual income from all sources after deducting medical expenses. Currently the allowable medical expenses may not exceed 15 percent of the applicable income eligibility guideline. In order to increase the pool of seniors eligible to serve as Foster Grandparents, and in recognition that the cost of medical care and insurance have increased significantly, the Corporation proposes to increase the ceiling for allowable medical expenses to 50 percent of the applicable income eligibility guideline.

*C. Volunteer Expenses*

The Foster Grandparent Program regulations currently distinguish between volunteer expenses that may be paid or reimbursed with federal and required non-federal grant funds and volunteer expenses that must be paid by the volunteer station to which a Foster Grandparent is assigned. Grant funds may be used only to pay for volunteer stipends, insurance, transportation to and from volunteer assignments and official project activities, annual physical examinations, meals taken on assignment, and service recognition expenses. With the exception of certain meals, volunteer stations must pay for all expenses incurred while performing volunteer assignments.

In "Principles and Reforms for a Citizen Service Act," issued by President Bush April 9, 2002, the Administration proposed to create greater flexibility in the use of Federal resources by easing requirements that govern the activities and support of volunteers. The proposed amendment would allow Foster Grandparent Program sponsors to determine, in consultation with volunteer stations,

how best to fund volunteer expenses. The respective responsibilities of the sponsor and volunteer station for volunteer expenses would be incorporated in the memorandum of understanding negotiated by the sponsor with each station. Sponsors would be free to maintain the current division of responsibility for volunteer expenses but have the flexibility to use federal and required non-federal funds to cover any volunteer expense when the sponsor determines that doing so would be in the best interest of the project. The provisions of the applicable OMB Cost Principles Circulars referenced in 2552.93(4) would continue to apply to all expenses paid with federal or required non-federal funds.

**Impact of Various Acts and Executive Orders**

After carefully reviewing the changes implemented by this amendment, and after coordination with the Office of Management and Budget, it was determined that:

(1) This was a significant regulatory action under section 3(f)(4) of Executive Order 12866 "Regulatory Planning and Review", and required a review by the Office of Management and Budget;

(2) The Corporation hereby certifies that the Regulatory Flexibility Act does not apply because there is no "significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities";

(3) That the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. chapter 25, subchapter II) does not apply because the amendment does not result in any annual expenditures of \$100 million by State, local, Indian Tribal governments or the private sector;

(4) That the Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the amendments do not impose any additional reporting or record-keeping requirements;

(5) That the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 does not apply because it is not a major rule as defined by section 251 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, and would not result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more; result in an increase in cost or prices; or have significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or on the ability of United States-based companies to compete with foreign-based companies in domestic and export markets; and

(6) That Executive Order 13132, "Federalism" does not apply because it would not have substantial direct effects on the States or the relationship