

—Extension and Revision—The Health Education Assistance Loan (HEAL) program provides 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. Eligible lenders, such as banks, savings and loan associations, credit unions, pension funds, State agencies, HEAL schools, and insurance companies, make 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 is to assure the availability of funds for loans to eligible

students who need to borrow money to pay for their educational loans.

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 HEAL program is being phased out and no new loans will be made after September 30, 1998 unless reauthorization is enacted. We are, however, requesting a 3-year extension of the OMB approval of the HEAL Physician's Certification of Borrower's Total and Permanent Disability Form, HRSA-539 because this form will be used throughout the repayment period for existing loans. The Department uses this form to obtain 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 form is being revised to make submission of medical documentation mandatory rather than optional.

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

Type of respondent	Number of respondents	Responses per respondent	Number of responses	Hours per response	Total burden hours
Borrower	100	1	100	5 minutes	8
Physician	100	1	100	90 minutes	150
Loan Holder	32	3.1	100	10 minutes	17
Total	232		300		175

Written comments and recommendations concerning the proposed information collection should be sent on or before March 30, 1998 to: Laura Oliven, Human Resources and Housing Branch, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Dated: February 24, 1998.

Jane Harrison,

Acting Director, Division of Policy Review and Coordination.

[FR Doc. 98-5051 Filed 2-26-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Availability of the HRSA Competitive Grants Preview; Correction

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS.

ACTION: General notice; Correction.

SUMMARY: On October 9, 1997 (62 FR 52892), HRSA published a general notice announcing the Availability of the HRSA Competitive Grants Preview. This notice corrects information on new grant awards which appeared in that

general notice, FR Doc. 97-26645, on page 52907. In the sections on the Rural Outreach Grant Program and Rural Network Development Grant Program, under the headings "Estimated Number of Awards", it was indicated that approximately 10-12 new Rural Health Outreach Grants and approximately 10-15 New Rural Network Developments Grants would be awarded in FY 1998. The revised estimate is that no more than 6-10 new competing grants will be funded in FY 1998 for these two programs combined.

Dated: February 23, 1998.

Claude Earl Fox,

Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-5052 Filed 2-26-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Mental Health; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting of the National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel:

Agenda Purpose: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: February 23, 1998.

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: Parklawn Building, Room 9C-18, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Contact Person: Jean Speas, Parklawn, Room 9C-18, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone: 301-443-1340.

The meeting will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in secs. 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C. Applications and/or proposals and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications and/or proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

This notice is being published less than fifteen days prior to the meeting due to the urgent need to meet timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Numbers 93.242, 93.281, 93.282)

Dated: February 20, 1998.

LaVeen Ponds,

Acting Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98-5107 Filed 2-26-98; 8:45 am]

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