

Dated: November 5, 1998.

**Bob Sargis,**

*Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-30164 Filed 11-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184-01-M

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Health Care Financing Administration**

[HCFA-1039-CN]

RIN 0938-A187

**Medicare Program; Hospice Wage Index; Corrections**

**AGENCY:** Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice; correction notice.

**SUMMARY:** In the October 5, 1998 issue of the **Federal Register** (63 FR 53446), we published a notice announcing the annual update to the hospice wage index. The wage index is used to reflect local differences in wage levels. That update was effective October 1, 1998 and is the second year of a 3-year transition period. This notice corrects errors made in that document.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carol Blackford, (410) 786-5909.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The October 5, 1998 notice contained technical and typographical errors. Therefore, we are making the following corrections:

1. On page 53447, in Table A., "Schoharie, NY" is removed from the list of counties with MSA code number 0160.
2. On page 53448, in Table A., "Stanly, NY" is removed from the list of counties with MSA code number 1520 and is added to a new MSA code number "15206," with area name "Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC" and with wage index value "0.9741."
3. On page 53449, in Table A., the MSA code number "2580" for Washington, AR is corrected to read "25806."
4. On page 53449, in Table A., the MSA code number "2760" for Allen, IN,

De Kalb, IN, and Whitley, IN is corrected to read "27606."

5. On page 53450, in Table A., "La Crosse, WI" is removed from the list of counties with MSA code number 3870.

6. On page 53451, in Table A., the MSA code number "5640" for Warren, NJ is corrected to read "56406."

7. On page 53452, "St. Louis, MO" is added to the list of counties with MSA code number 70408.

**Authority:** Section 1814(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395f (i)(1)) (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.773 Medicare—Hospital Insurance Program; and No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: October 29, 1998.

**Neil J. Stillman,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information Resources Management.*

[FR Doc. 98-30193 Filed 11-10-98; 8:45 am]

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**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 National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan Repayment Program (OMB No. 0915-0127)—Extension and Revision.* The NHSC Loan Repayment Program (LRP) was established to assure an adequate

supply of trained primary care health professionals to the neediest communities in the Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) of the United States. Under this program, the Department of Health and Human Services agrees to repay the educational loans of the primary care health professionals. In return, the health professionals agree to serve for a specified period of time in a federally-designated HPSA approved by the Secretary for LRP participants.

This request for extension of OMB approval will include the NHSC LRP application and loan verification form, as well as two new forms: a Site Information Form and Request for Method of Advanced Loan Repayment Form. In an effort to improve the procedure for recruiting NHSC applicants and to alleviate some of the burden and delay in the application process, the following changes are proposed:

(1) The applicant will submit a "Site Information Form" rather than a copy of the signed employment contact. This form provides information about the proposed employment site, requiring only a signature and date from the Site Administrator/Executive Officer. This change will allow HRSA to begin consideration of the application at an earlier stage, since a signed employment contract generally takes more time to negotiate.

(2) A new one page form, "The Request for Method of Advanced Loan Repayment" form, will be included with the application. It provides a description of three methods of payment (quarterly, annually, and biennially), and asks applicants to select the method they prefer.

(3) Applicants now obtain a self-report from the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB), which must be submitted with the application form. To obtain that form, applicants must submit a written request to the NPDB. To expedite that process, HRSA proposes to send the NPDB request form with the LRP application.

The estimate of burden is as follows:

Respondent	Number of respondents	Responses per respondent	Hours per response	Total hour burden
Applicants .....	800	1	1.5 .....	1200
Lenders .....	45	1	15 minutes ..	11
Total .....	845		.....	1211

Written comments and recommendations concerning the

proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of this notice to:

Wendy A. Taylor, Human Resources and Housing Branch, Office of