

owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center website at [www.ffiec.gov/nic/](http://www.ffiec.gov/nic/).

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than October 25, 2001.

**A. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis**  
(Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63166-2034:

*1. Clover Leaf Financial Corp.*, Edwardsville, Illinois; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Clover Leaf Bank, S.B., Edwardsville, Illinois.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, September 25, 2001.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**  
*Deputy Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 01-24420 Filed 9-27-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

**National Vaccine Advisory Committee Meeting**

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following Federal Advisory Committee meeting.

*Name:* National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC).

*Times and Date:* 10 a.m.-1 p.m., October 2, 2001.

*Place:* Audio Conference Call.

*Status:* This meeting is open to the public, telephone lines are limited. The

public can join the meeting by Audio Conference Call by calling (888) 396-9928 and providing the following information:

Leaders Name: Sagar.

Password: NVAC.

*Purpose:* This committee advises and makes recommendations to the Director of the National Vaccine Program on matters related to the Program responsibilities.

*Matters To Be Discussed:* Agenda items will include, but not be limited to: A report from the National Vaccine Program Office (NVPO) and the Interagency Vaccine Workgroup; Institute of Medicine (IOM) Report on Thimerasol in Vaccines; a report on the Workgroup on Public Health Options for Implementing Vaccine Recommendations Regional Meetings; an update on Vaccine Supply and a Report from the NVAC Vaccine Supply Workgroup; and a discussion of future priorities of the IOM Vaccine Safety Committee.

Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

Public comments will be permitted at the end of the NVAC meeting on October 2, 2001.

An unavoidable administrative delay prevented meeting the 15-day publication requirement.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Gloria Sagar, Committee Management Specialist, NVPO, CDC, 4770 Buford Highway, M/S K-77, Atlanta, Georgia 30333, telephone (770)488-2040.

The Director, Management Analysis and Services office has been delegated the authority to sign **Federal Register** notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Dated: September 24, 2001.

**John Burckhardt,**

*Acting Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*

[FR Doc. 01-24303 Filed 9-27-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-18-P

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services**

[Document Identifier: CMS-102, 105]

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

**AGENCY:** Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, HHS. In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) (formerly known as the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

*Type of Information Collection Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* CLIA Budget Workload Reports and Supporting Regulations in 42 CFR 493.1-.2001; *Form No.:* HCFA-102/105 (OMB# 0938-0599); *Use:* This information will be used by HCFA to determine the amount of Federal reimbursement for compliance surveys. In addition, the HCFA 102/105 is used for program evaluation, budget formulation and budget approval.; *Frequency:* Quarterly and Annually; *Affected Public:* State, local or tribal government; *Number of Respondents:* 50; *Total Annual Responses:* 50; *Total Annual Hours:* 4,500.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access CMS' Web Site address at <http://www.hcfa.gov/regs/prdact95.htm>, or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and CMS document identifier, to [Paperwork@hcfa.gov](mailto:Paperwork@hcfa.gov), or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed

information collections must be mailed within 30 days of this notice directly to the OMB desk officer: OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, Attention: Brenda Aguilar, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: September 11, 2001.

**John P. Burke, III,**

*CMS Reports Clearance Officer, CMS Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of CMS Enterprise Standards.*

[FR Doc. 01-24285 Filed 9-27-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120-03-P

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-2099-FN]

RIN 0938-ZA13

### Medicare Program; Approval of Deeming Authority for Critical Access Hospitals by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA)

**AGENCY:** Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), HHS.

**ACTION:** Final notice.

**SUMMARY:** This final notice announces our decision to approve the American Osteopathic Association's (AOA) initial application as a national accrediting organization for critical access hospitals (CAHs) seeking to participate in the Medicare program. Following our evaluation of the organizational and programmatic capabilities of the AOA, we determined that AOA standards for CAHs meet or exceed the Medicare conditions of participation. Therefore, CAHs accredited by the AOA will be granted deemed status under the Medicare program.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This final notice is effective December 27, 2001, through December 27, 2007.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Irene H. Dustin (410) 786-0495.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

###### Statutory Provisions and Regulations

Under the Medicare program, eligible beneficiaries may receive covered services in a critical access hospital (CAH), provided that the CAH meets certain requirements. Sections 1820(c)(2)(B) and 1861(mm) of the Social Security Act (the Act) establish distinct criteria for facilities seeking CAH designation. Under this authority,

the minimum requirements that a CAH must meet to participate in Medicare are set forth in regulations at 42 CFR part 485, subpart F (Conditions of Participation: Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs)) which determine the basis and scope of CAH covered services. Conditions for Medicare payment for critical access services are in § 413.70. Applicable regulations concerning provider agreements are at part 489 (Provider Agreements and Supplier Approval) and those pertaining to facility survey and certification are at part 488, subparts A and B.

#### Verifying Medicare Conditions of Participation

In general, we approve a CAH for participation in, or coverage under the Medicare program, if it is participating as a hospital at the time it applies for CAH designation, and is in compliance with parts 482 (Conditions of Participation for Hospitals), and 485, subpart F (Conditions of Participation: Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs)). Section 403 of the Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 expanded these criteria to allow a limited number of additional facilities to become eligible for CAH designation under certain circumstances. Specifically, a rural health clinic previously downsized from an acute care hospital, or a closed hospital that requests to reopen as a CAH, need only meet the provisions of part 485, subpart F at the time they apply for CAH designation to be eligible to participate in Medicare.

For a hospital to enter into a provider agreement, a State survey agency must certify that the hospital is in compliance with the conditions or standards set forth in the statute and part 482 of our regulations. Then, the hospital is subject to ongoing review by a State survey agency to determine whether it continues meeting Medicare requirements. There is, however, an alternative to State compliance surveys. Certification by a nationally-recognized accreditation program can substitute for ongoing State review.

Section 1865(b)(1) of the Act provides that, if a provider is accredited by a national accreditation body under standards that meet or exceed the Medicare conditions of participation, the Secretary can "deem" the provider as meeting the Medicare requirements for those conditions. Accreditation is voluntary and not required for participation in Medicare; providers have the option to undergo State surveys or pursue accreditation. Prior to this application for deeming status by the AOA, there has been no national accreditation organization for CAHs.

## II. Deeming Application Approval Process

Section 1865(b)(3)(A) of the Act provides a statutory timetable to ensure that our review of deeming applications is conducted in a timely manner. Regulations provide us with 210 calendar days to complete our survey activities and application review process. Within sixty days of receiving a completed application, we must publish a notice in the **Federal Register** that identifies the national accreditation body making the request, describes the nature of the request, and provides no less than a 30-day public comment period.

## III. Proposed Notice

On April 16, 2001, we published a proposed notice in the **Federal Register** at 66 FR 19509 announcing the AOA's request for approval as a deeming organization for CAHs. In the notice, we detailed our evaluation criteria. Under section 1865(b)(2) of the Act and 42 CFR 488.4, we conducted a review of the AOA application in accordance with the criteria specified by our regulation, which includes, but is not limited to the following:

- An onsite administrative review of AOA's (1) corporate policies; (2) financial and human resources available to accomplish the proposed surveys; (3) procedures for training, monitoring, and evaluation of its surveyors, (4) ability to investigate and respond appropriately to complaints against accredited facilities; and (5) survey review and decision-making process for accreditation.
- A comparison of AOA's CAH accreditation standards to our current Medicare conditions of participation standards.
- A documentation review of AOA's processes to:
  - Determine the composition of the survey team, surveyor qualifications, and the ability of AOA to provide continuing surveyor training.
  - Compare AOA's processes to that of State agencies, including survey frequency, and the ability to investigate and respond appropriately to complaints against accredited facilities.
  - Evaluate AOA's procedures for monitoring providers or suppliers found out of compliance with AOA program requirements.
  - Assess AOA's ability to report deficiencies to the surveyed facilities and respond to the facility's plan of correction in a timely manner.
  - Establish AOA's ability to provide us with electronic data in ASCII-comparable code and reports necessary for effective validation and assessment of AOA's survey process.