

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

[Document Identifier: CMS-10156 and CMS-9042]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**AGENCY:** Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), 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 function; (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.

1. *Type of Information Collection Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Retiree Drug Subsidy (RDS) Applications and Instructions; *Use:* Under the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 and implementing regulations at 42 CFR Part 423 Subpart R, Plan Sponsors (e.g., employers or unions) who offer prescription drug coverage to their qualified covered retirees are eligible to receive a 28% tax-free subsidy for allowable drug costs. Plan Sponsors must submit a complete application to CMS in order to be considered for the RDS Program. *Form Number:* CMS-10156 (OMB# 0938-0957); *Frequency:* Yearly; *Affected Public:* Business or other for-profits and not-for-profit institutions, and State, Local, or Tribal Governments; *Number of Respondents:* 4,500; *Total Annual Responses:* 4,500; *Total Annual Hours:* 288,000.

2. *Type of Information Collection Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Accelerated Payments and supporting regulations 42 CFR, § 412.116(f), 412.632(e), 413.64(g),

413.350(d), and 484.245; *Use:* Section 1815(a) of the Social Security Act describes payment to providers of services. When a delay in Medicare payment by a fiscal intermediary for covered services causes financial difficulties for a provider, the provider may request an accelerated payment. An accelerated payment also may be made in highly exceptional situations where a provider has incurred a temporary delay in its bill processing beyond the provider's normal billing cycle. Accelerated payments are limited to providers that are not receiving periodic interim payments. Form CMS-9042 is used by fiscal intermediaries to assess a provider's eligibility for accelerated payments. *Form Number:* CMS-9042 (OMB# 0938-0269); *Frequency:* Yearly; *Affected Public:* Business or other for-profits and not-for-profit institutions; *Number of Respondents:* 880; *Total Annual Responses:* 880; *Total Annual Hours:* 440.

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.cms.hhs.gov/PaperworkReductionActof1995>, or e-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and CMS document identifier, to Paperwork@cms.hhs.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326.

To be assured consideration, comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be received by the OMB desk officer at the address below, no later than 5 p.m. on December 29, 2008.

OMB, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: CMS Desk Officer, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, Fax Number: (202) 395-6974.

Dated: November 21, 2008.

Michelle Shortt,

Director, Regulations Development Group, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.

[FR Doc. E8-28371 Filed 11-26-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

[Document Identifier: CMS-10170, CMS-838 and CMS-10267]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**AGENCY:** Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) 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.

1. *Type of Information Collection Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Retiree Drug Subsidy (RDS) Payment Request and Instructions; *Use:* Under section 1860D-22 of the Social Security Act, plan sponsors (e.g., employers, unions) who offer prescription drug coverage meeting specified criteria to their qualified covered retirees are eligible to receive a 28% tax-free subsidy for allowable drug costs. Plan sponsors must submit required prescription drug cost data and other information in order to receive the subsidy. *Form Number:* CMS-10170 (OMB# 0938-0977); *Frequency:* Yearly; *Affected Public:* Business or other for-profits, not-for-profit institutions, not-for-profit institutions and State, Local or Tribal Governments; *Number of Respondents:* 4,500; *Total Annual Responses:* 4,500; *Total Annual Hours:* 679,500.

2. *Type of Information Collection Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Medicare Credit Balance Reporting Requirements and Supporting Regulations in 42 CFR 405.371, 405.378 and 413.20; *Use:* Section 1815(a) of the Act authorizes the

Secretary to request information from providers which is necessary to properly administer the Medicare program. Quarterly credit balance reporting is needed to monitor and control the identification and timely collection of improper payments. The information obtained from Medicare credit balance reports will be used by the contractors to identify and recover outstanding Medicare credit balances and by Federal enforcement agencies to protect Federal funds. The information will also be used to identify the causes of credit balances and to take corrective action. *Form Number:* CMS-838 (OMB# 0938-0600); *Frequency:* Yearly; *Affected Public:* Private sector—business or other for-profits; *Number of Respondents:* 52,380; *Total Annual Responses:* 209,520; *Total Annual Hours:* 628,560.

3. Type of Information Collection

Request: New collection; *Title of Information Collection:* CROWNWeb Authentication Service (CAS) Account Form; *Form Number:* CMS-10267 (OMB#: 0938-1050); *Use:* The CROWNWeb Authentication Service (CAS) application must be completed by any person needing access to the CROWNWeb system which include includes CMS employees, ESRD Network Organization staff and dialysis facilities staff. The CROWNWeb system is the system used as the collection point of data necessary for entitlement of ESRD patients to Medicare benefits and Federal Government monitoring and assessing of quality and type of care provided to renal patients. The data collected in CAS will provide the necessary security measures for creating and maintaining active CROWNWeb user accounts and collection of audit trail information required by the CMS Information Security Officers (ISSO). *Frequency:* Reporting—one-time; *Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit, not-for-profit; *Number of Respondents:* 15,600; *Total Annual Responses:* 15,600; *Total Annual Hours:* 7,800.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access CMS' Web Site at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PaperworkReductionActof1995>, or e-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and CMS document identifier, to Paperwork@cms.hhs.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326.

In commenting on the proposed information collections please reference the document identifier or OMB control number. To be assured consideration, comments and recommendations must

be submitted in one of the following ways by January 27, 2009.

1. *Electronically.* You may submit your comments electronically to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for "Comment or Submission" or "More Search Options" to find the information collection document(s) accepting comments.

2. *By regular mail.* You may mail written comments to the following address:

CMS, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Division of Regulations Development, Attention: Document Identifier/OMB Control Number _____, Room C4-26-05, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

Dated: November 21, 2008.

Michelle Shortt,

Director, Regulations Development Group, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

[CMS-2294-PN]

Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Application by the Joint Commission for Continued Deeming Authority for Hospices

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

ACTION: Proposed notice.

SUMMARY: This proposed notice with comment period acknowledges the receipt of a deeming application from the Joint Commission for continued recognition as a national accrediting organization for hospices that wish to participate in the Medicare or Medicaid programs. Section 1865(b)(3)(A) of the Act, recodified under the Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-275, July 15, 2008) (MIPPA) as section 1865(a)(3)(A) requires that within 60 days of receipt of an organization's complete application, we publish a notice that identifies the national accrediting body making the request, describes the nature of the request, and provides at least a 30-day public comment period.

DATES: *Comment Date:* To be assured consideration, comments must be received at one of the addresses provided below, no later than 5 p.m. on December 29, 2008.

ADDRESSES: In commenting, please refer to file code CMS-2294-PN. Because of staff and resource limitations, we cannot accept comments by facsimile (FAX) transmission.

You may submit comments in one of four ways (no duplicates, please):

1. *Electronically.* You may submit electronic comments on specific issues in this regulation to <http://www.regulation.gov>. Follow the instructions for "Comment or Submission" and enter the filecode to find the document accepting comments.

2. *By regular mail.* You may mail written comments (one original and two copies) to the following address only: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, Attention: CMS-2294-PN, P.O. Box 8016, Baltimore, MD 21244-8016.

Please allow sufficient time for mailed comments to be received before the close of the comment period.

3. *By express or overnight mail.* You may send written comments (one original and two copies) to the following address only: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, Attention: CMS-2294-PN, Mail Stop C4-26-05, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850.

4. *By hand or courier.* If you prefer, you may deliver (by hand or courier) your written comments (one original and two copies) before the close of the comment period to either of the following addresses.

a. Room 445-G, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20201; or (Because access to the interior of the HHS Building is not readily available to persons without Federal Government identification, commenters are encouraged to leave their comments in the CMS drop slots located in the main lobby of the building. A stamp-in clock is available for persons wishing to retain a proof of filing by stamping in and retaining an extra copy of the comments being filed.)

b. 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850.

If you intend to deliver your comments to the Baltimore address, please call telephone number (410) 786-9994 in advance to schedule your arrival with one of our staff members.

Comments mailed to the addresses indicated as appropriate for hand or courier delivery may be delayed and received after the comment period.

For information on viewing public comments, see the beginning of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.