

alternative approach to providing healthcare services for those beneficiaries covered under the TRICARE Standard option in the Philippines, controlling costs, eliminating any balance billing issues, and ensuring that the billing practices comply with regulatory requirements.

### **B. Description of Demonstration Project**

TMA proposes, utilizing the new overseas contract as the vehicle, to conduct a demonstration in the Philippines to validate that use of a well-certified and limited set of approved providers in overseas locations will result in a significant reduction in the level of claims billing issues, including beneficiaries being liable for balanced billing amounts and fraud by providers, while ensuring beneficiaries have sufficient access to high quality care. The demonstration would be conducted under 10 U.S.C. 1092.

Under the demonstration, the overseas contractor will establish an approved list of providers and inpatient facilities. The contractor will select these providers on the basis of their quality of care, cost of services, and lack of past fraudulent billing practices. The overseas contractor will apply the quality standards under the new overseas contract to providers seeking to be on the approved list. To be included on the approved list, a provider must agree to accept reimbursement at the lower of the usual and customary charges and the established fee schedule. They must agree to submit their claims to the overseas contractor for reimbursement and to charge TRICARE beneficiaries only the normal Standard deductible and copayment amounts. They must acknowledge they can be removed from the approved list and will have the right to appeal their removal to the Director, TRICARE Management Activity (TMA) or designee using a format and process determined by the Director, TMA.

TRICARE Standard beneficiaries who choose to access providers from the approved list will pay only their TRICARE annual deductible and cost-share amounts. Beneficiaries choosing to use a health care provider not on the approved list will, unless first obtaining an approved waiver from the overseas contractor, be responsible for all charges and will not be reimbursed by TRICARE.

TMA will provide the overseas contractor a list of those locations in the Philippines where eligible Standard beneficiaries reside and will specify areas where the contractor must establish an approved list of providers

for them. To the extent practical, the overseas contractor will be required to ensure that Standard beneficiaries have access to primary care, specialty care, and inpatient services. A waiver process will be available for areas where the contractor is unable to find sufficient primary and/or specialty providers to care for the beneficiaries. Additionally, beneficiaries may seek waivers from the overseas contractor for care from providers not on the approved list.

This demonstration is not an expansion of the Prime benefit and beneficiaries are not entitled to benefits not otherwise payable under the TRICARE Standard program. Specifically, the overseas contractor will perform no beneficiary enrollment functions, no referral management services for specialty care, and no care authorizations for inpatient admissions except for the normal utilization management, benefits review and pre-authorizations required by all contractors for all Standard beneficiaries. The overseas contractor will merely develop the list of approved providers from which the beneficiaries may make their selection. The overseas contractor will also approve any waivers of the requirement to use providers on this list when approved providers are not available in a particular geographic location and will process and pay claims submitted by providers.

The government will require the overseas contractor to submit an implementation plan 180 days before the start of health care delivery under the demonstration. The implementation plan will consist of the contractor's strategy to develop a list of approved providers, including providers in all of the locations specified by the government; a quality assessment program which will meet, at a minimum, the requirements set forth by the overseas contract, and a description of the requirement to access only approved providers to be used for educating beneficiaries and providers regarding this initiative. The plan will list the number of providers (primary, specialty, and institutional), by location, the contractor intends to place on the approved list. The contractor's plan will also include the use of requests for waivers of the demonstration requirements for any areas on the Government's specified list where an approved provider list must be established. In those areas where the contractor will not have providers on the approved list, the contractor will provide the geographical areas where waivers will be granted. The contractor will provide TMA the approved list of providers by 120 days before the start of

health care delivery under the demonstration. The Government, in conjunction with the contractor, will develop and implement a communication plan to inform and educate beneficiaries about the demonstration at least 60 days before the demonstration commences.

### **C. Implementation**

This demonstration will begin 240 days after publication of the demonstration notice and will run for three years after implementation.

### **D. Exclusion to the Demonstration Project**

This demonstration is limited to TRICARE Standard beneficiaries residing in the Philippines.

### **E. Evaluation**

This demonstration will be evaluated using a combination of administrative and survey measures to determine adequacy of the access to health care by the beneficiaries. In addition, a cost analysis will be conducted to determine the impact to the costs for both the beneficiaries and the government. TRICARE beneficiaries will be asked to comment on the quality of their experiences getting the health care that they need. Costs under the demonstration will be compared to costs in the Philippines before implementation of the project. A review of the occurrence of fraudulent claims submitted by providers on the approved provider list compared to fraudulent claims submissions before the demonstration will be conducted.

Dated: September 23, 2011.

**Aaron Siegel,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

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**BILLING CODE 5001-06-P**

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## **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

### **Department of the Army**

[Docket ID USA-2011-0023]

### **Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Notice to delete a system of records.

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**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Army is deleting a system of records notice from its existing inventory of record systems subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended.

**DATES:** This proposed action will be effective without further notice on October 28, 2011 unless comments are received which result in a contrary determination.

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

- *Federal Rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Federal Docket Management System Office, 4800 Mark Center Drive, 2nd floor, East Tower, Suite 02G09, Alexandria, VA 22350-3100.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Leroy Jones, Department of the Army, Privacy Office, U.S. Army Records Management and Declassification Agency, 7701 Telegraph Road, Casey Building, Suite 144, Alexandria, VA 22325-3905, or by phone at (703) 428-6185.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department of the Army systems of records notices subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended, have been published in the **Federal Register** and are available from the address in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

The Department of the Army proposes to delete one system of records notice from its inventory of record systems subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended. The proposed deletion is not within the purview of subsection (r) of the Privacy Act of 1974, (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended, which requires the submission of a new or altered system report.

Dated: September 23, 2011.

**Aaron Siegel,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

**DELETION:**

**A0621-1 DAPE, Army Continuing Education Program**

**REASON:**

The A0621-1 DAPE, Army Continuing Education Program is now covered under a new system of records

notice, A0621-1a DAPE, Student Loan Repayment Program Records, (September 6, 2011, 76 FR 55057-55059) due to major changes in system. The notice can therefore be deleted. [FR Doc. 2011-24922 Filed 9-27-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-06-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests**

**AGENCY:** Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests.

**SUMMARY:** The Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Privacy, Information and Records Management Services, Office of Management, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** An emergency review has been requested in accordance with the Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 3507(j)), since public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal clearance procedures are followed. Approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has been requested by 10/07/2011. A regular clearance process is also beginning. Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before November 28, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Education Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10222, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503, be faxed to (202) 395-5806 or e-mailed to [oir\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oir_submission@omb.eop.gov) with a cc: to [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Director of OMB provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Privacy, Information and Records Management Services, Office of Management,

publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. ED invites public comment.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: September 23, 2011.

**Darrin A. King,**

*Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Privacy, Information and Records Management Services, Office of Management.*

**Office of Elementary and Secondary Education**

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* Request for Elementary and Secondary Education Act Flexibility.

*OMB #:* Pending.

*Abstract:* The U.S. Department of Education plans to offer each State educational agency the opportunity to request flexibility on behalf of itself, its local educational agencies, and its schools, in order to better focus on improving student learning and increasing the quality of instruction. This voluntary opportunity will provide educators and State and local leaders with flexibility regarding specific requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 in exchange for rigorous and comprehensive State-developed accountability plans designed to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. This flexibility is intended to build on and support the significant State and local reform efforts already underway in critical areas such as transitioning to college- and career-ready standards and assessments; developing systems of