

EXHIBIT 1—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Minutes per response	Total burden hours
OMR Measure Profile/Sub-Element Profile .....	70	1	16/60	18.7
Total .....	70	1	16/60	18.7

Exhibit 2 shows the estimated cost time to participate in the OMR. The estimated at an average of \$711.72 burden associated with the respondent's total cost burden to respondents is annually.

EXHIBIT 2—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST BURDEN

Form name	Number of respondents	Total burden hours	Average hourly wage rate †	Total cost burden
OMR Measure Profile/Sub-Element Profile .....	70	18.7	\$38.06	\$711.72
Total .....	70	18.7	38.06	711.72

\* Based on the mean wages for Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations, 29-0000. National Compensation Survey: Occupational Wages in the United States May 2016, "U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics." Available at: <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes290000.htm>.

**Request for Comments**

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, comments on AHRQ's information collection are requested with regard to any of the following: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of AHRQ health care research and health care information dissemination functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of AHRQ's estimate of burden (including hours and costs) of the proposed collection(s) of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information upon the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the Agency's subsequent request for OMB approval of the proposed information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

**Karen Migdail,**  
Chief of Staff.

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**BILLING CODE 4160-90-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

[60Day-18-0792; Docket No. CDC-2018-0031]

**Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations**

**AGENCY:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice with comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of its continuing effort to reduce public burden and maximize the utility of government information, invites the general public and other Federal agencies the opportunity to comment on a proposed and/or continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This notice invites comment on a proposed information collection project titled, Environmental Health Specialists Network (EHS-NET) Program Generic Package. The goal of this food safety research program is to collect data in retail food establishments that will identify and help to understand environmental factors (e.g., manager food safety certification, implementation of food safety practices, etc.) associated with retail-related foodborne illness and outbreaks.

**DATES:** CDC must receive written comments on or before June 18, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. CDC-2018-0031 by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov). Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail:* Leroy A. Richardson, Information Collection Review Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS-D74, Atlanta, Georgia 30329.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and Docket Number. CDC will post, without change, all relevant comments to [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov).

*Please note: Submit all comments through the Federal eRulemaking portal ([regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov)) or by U.S. mail to the address listed above.*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the information collection plan and instruments, contact Leroy A. Richardson, Information Collection Review Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS-D74, Atlanta, Georgia 30329; phone: 404-639-7570; Email: [omb@cdc.gov](mailto:omb@cdc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. In addition, the PRA also requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each new

proposed collection, each proposed extension of existing collection of information, and each reinstatement of previously approved information collection before submitting the collection to the OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, we are publishing this notice of a proposed data collection as described below.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments that will help:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.
5. Assess information collection costs.

**Proposed Project**

Environmental Health Specialists Network (EHS-NET) Program Generic Package (OMB Control Number 0920-0792; expiration date 9/30/2018)—Revision—National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

**Background and Brief Description**

The National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is requesting a three-year Office of Management and Budget approval for the revision Generic Information Collection plan titled the *Environmental Health Specialists (EHS-Net)*.

The EHS-Net program focuses on identifying the environmental causes of

foodborne illness. In October 2008, OMB approved the EHS-Net program generic information collection plan. OMB approved renewal collections in both 2012 and 2015. To date, EHS-Net has conducted five individual data collections under this plan.

CDC seeks a revision to conduct information collections through 2021. The CDC plans to revise the plan in the following ways:

- (1) The burden hours have increased to allow for additional statistical designs. The number of restaurants per site (8 EHS-Net sites, which has remained the same) has increased from 47 to 50 restaurants (totaling 400 restaurants); the sample size was increased to detect a greater odds ratio and establish a stronger power.
- (2) The number of respondents has increased to gather additional food worker responses per establishment. Collecting data from additional food workers (increased to 10 food workers per restaurant from 1 food worker per restaurant, totaling 4,000 food workers) will help minimize the potential bias of only having one worker represent all of food workers in a given establishment. Additionally, going forward the restaurant observation data collection by the health department (HD) staff will also be included in the burden table.
- (3) We expect to conduct up to three studies in a 5-year cooperative period; based on a more accurate study schedule in a 5-year EHS-Net cooperative agreement. Therefore, due to an increase in the number of restaurants, food workers interviews and addition of restaurant observation activity the estimated annual burden hours expected to increase from 295 to 1,777 annual hours.

The goal of this information collection is to improve food safety and reduce foodborne illness, which supports the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Healthy People 2020 Goal. Reducing foodborne illness first requires identification and understanding of the environmental factors that cause these illnesses. We need to know how and why food becomes contaminated with foodborne illness pathogens. This information can then be used to

determine effective food safety prevention methods. Ultimately, these actions can lead to increased regulatory program effectiveness and decreased foodborne illness. The purpose of the information collection is to gather data that will help us identify and understand environmental factors associated with foodborne illness. Specifically, the information will be used to:

- (a) Describe retail food establishment food handling and food safety practices and manager/worker and establishment characteristics,
- (b) Determine how retail food establishment and worker characteristics are related to food handling and food safety practices.

The program Environmental Health Specialists Network (EHS-Net), conducted by a collaborative project of CDC, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and local and state sites.

Environmental factors associated with foodborne illness include both food safety practices (e.g., inadequate cleaning practices) and the factors in the environment associated with those practices (e.g., worker and retail food establishment characteristics). To understand these factors, we need to continue to collect data from those who prepare food (i.e., food workers) and on the environments in which the food is prepared (i.e., retail food establishment kitchens). Thus, data collection methods for this generic information collection plane include: (1) Screener; (2) manager and food worker interviews/surveys; and (3) observation of kitchen/restaurant environments. These methods allow data collection on food safety practices and environmental factors associated with those practices.

For each data collection, CDC will collect data in approximately 50 retail food establishments per site. Thus, there will be approximately 400 establishments per data collection (an estimated 8 sites with 50 establishments).

The total estimated annual burden for each data collection will be 1,777 hours.

**ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS**

Type of respondents	Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden (in hours)
Managers .....	EHS-Net Manager Recruiting Script	889	1	3/60	44
Managers .....	EHS-Net Manager Informed Consent and Interview.	400	1	30/60	200

ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS—Continued

Type of respondents	Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden (in hours)
Food Workers .....	EHS-Net Food Worker Recruiting Screener, Informed Consent and Interview.	4,000	1	20/60	1,333
HD staff .....	EHS-Net Restaurant Observation ....	400	1	30/60	200
Total .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,777

**Leroy A. Richardson,**  
 Chief, Information Collection Review Office,  
 Office of Scientific Integrity, Office of the  
 Associate Director for Science, Office of the  
 Director, Centers for Disease Control and  
 Prevention.

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

[CMS-3357-PN]

**Medicare and Medicaid Program; Application From DNV GL—Healthcare (DNV GL) for Continued Approval of Its Hospital Accreditation Program**

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

**ACTION:** Notice with request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** This proposed notice acknowledges the receipt of an application from DNV GL—Healthcare for continued recognition as a national accrediting organization for hospitals that wish to participate in the Medicare or Medicaid programs. The statute requires that we publish, within 60 days of receipt of an organization’s complete application, 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:** To be assured consideration, comments must be received at one of the addresses provided below, no later than 5 p.m. on May 17, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** In commenting, refer to file code CMS-3357-PN. Because of staff and resource limitations, we cannot accept comments by facsimile (FAX) transmission.

Comments, including mass comment submissions, must be submitted in one of the following three ways (please choose only one of the ways listed):

1. *Electronically.* You may submit electronic comments on this regulation to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the “Submit a comment” instructions.

2. *By regular mail.* You may mail written comments to the following address ONLY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, Attention: CMS-3357-PN, P.O. Box 8016, Baltimore, MD 21244-8010.

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 to the following address ONLY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, Attention: CMS-3357-PN, Mail Stop C4-26-05, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karena Meushaw (410) 786-6609, Patricia Chmielewski, (410) 786-6899 or Monda Shaver, (410) 786-3410.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Inspection of Public Comments:* All comments received before the close of the comment period are available for viewing by the public, including any personally identifiable or confidential business information that is included in a comment. We post all comments received before the close of the comment period on the following website as soon as possible after they have been received: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the search instructions on that website to view public comments.

**I. Background**

Under the Medicare program, eligible beneficiaries may receive covered services from a hospital, provided that certain requirements are met. Section 1861(e) of the Social Security Act (the Act), establishes distinct criteria for facilities seeking designation as a hospital. Regulations concerning provider agreements are at 42 CFR part

489 and those pertaining to activities relating to the survey and certification of facilities are at 42 CFR part 488. The regulations at 42 CFR part 482 specify the minimum conditions that a hospital must meet to participate in the Medicare program.

Generally, to enter into an agreement, a hospital must first be certified by a state survey agency as complying with the conditions or requirements set forth in part 482 of our regulations. Thereafter, the hospital is subject to regular surveys by a state survey agency to determine whether it continues to meet these requirements. There is an alternative; however, to surveys by state agencies.

Section 1865(a)(1) of the Act provides that, if a provider entity demonstrates through accreditation by an approved national accrediting organization that all applicable Medicare conditions are met or exceeded, we may deem those provider entities as having met the requirements. Accreditation by an accrediting organization is voluntary and is not required for Medicare participation.

If an accrediting organization is recognized by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (the Secretary) as having standards for accreditation that meet or exceed Medicare requirements, any provider entity accredited by the national accrediting body’s approved program may be deemed to meet the Medicare conditions. A national accrediting organization applying for approval of its accreditation program under part 488, subpart A, must provide the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) with reasonable assurance that the accrediting organization requires the accredited provider entities to meet requirements that are at least as stringent as the Medicare conditions. Our regulations concerning the approval of accrediting organizations are set forth at § 488.5. The regulations at § 488.5(e)(2)(i) require accrediting organizations to reapply for continued approval of its accreditation program every 6 years or