

\$100 established in 2003. In accordance with section 1869(b)(1)(E)(iii) of the Act, the adjusted threshold amounts are rounded to the nearest multiple of \$10. Therefore, the CY 2024 AIC threshold amount for ALJ hearings is \$180.00. The AIC threshold amount for judicial

review changes to \$1,837.02 based on the 83.702 percent increase over the initial threshold amount of \$1,000. This amount was rounded to the nearest multiple of \$10, resulting in the CY 2024 AIC threshold amount of \$1,840.00 for judicial review.

C. Summary Table of Adjustments in the AIC Threshold Amounts

In the following table we list the CYs 2020 through 2024 threshold amounts.

	CY 2020	CY 2021	CY 2022	CY 2023	CY 2024
ALJ Hearing	\$170	\$180	\$180	\$180	\$180
Judicial Review	1,670	1,760	1,760	1,850	1,840

III. Collection of Information Requirements

This document announces the annual adjustment in the AIC threshold amounts. It does not impose any “collection of information” requirements as defined under 5 CFR 1320.3(c). Consequently, the notice is not subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

The Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, having reviewed and approved this document, authorizes Vanessa Garcia, who is the Federal Register Liaison, to electronically sign this document for purposes of publication in the **Federal Register**.

Vanessa Garcia,

Federal Register Liaison, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS-10718, CMS-10142 and CMS-10540]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing an opportunity for the public to comment on CMS’ intention to collect information from the public. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (the PRA), federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information (including each proposed

extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information) and to allow 60 days for public comment on the proposed action. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding our burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including the necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency’s functions, the accuracy of the estimated burden, ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

DATES: Comments must be received by November 28, 2023.

ADDRESSES: When commenting, please reference the document identifier or OMB control number. To be assured consideration, comments and recommendations must be submitted in any one of the following ways:

1. *Electronically.* You may send 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) that are 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.

To obtain copies of a supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed collection(s) summarized in this notice, please access the CMS PRA website by copying and pasting the following web address into your web browser: <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/PaperworkReductionActof1995/PRA-Listing>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William N. Parham at (410) 786-4669.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Contents

This notice sets out a summary of the use and burden associated with the following information collections. More detailed information can be found in each collection’s supporting statement and associated materials (see **ADDRESSES**).

- CMS-10718 Model Medicare Advantage and Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Individual Enrollment Request Form
- CMS-10142 Bid Pricing Tool (BPT) for Medicare Advantage (MA) Plans and Prescription Drug Plans (PDP)
- CMS-10540 Quality Improvement Strategy Implementation Plan, Progress Report, and Modification Summary Supplement Forms

Under the 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. The term “collection of information” is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA requires federal agencies to publish a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, CMS is publishing this notice.

Information Collection

1. *Type of Information Collection Request:* Revision with change to the currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Model Medicare Advantage and Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Individual Enrollment Request Form; *Use:* The enrollment form is considered a “model” under Medicare regulations at §§ 422.2262 and 423.2262, for purposes of

communication and marketing review and approval; therefore, MA and Part D plans are able to modify the language, content, format, or order of the enrollment form. The model enrollment form includes the minimal amount of information to process the enrollment, located in Section 1 of the MA/PDP enrollment form, and other limited information, in Section 2, that the sponsor is required (*i.e.* race and ethnicity data, accessible format preference) or chooses (*i.e.* premium payment information) to provide to the beneficiary.

CMS expects MA and PDP organizations to ensure the enrollment form complies with CMS' instructions regarding content and format. New and current enrollees that utilize the enrollment form to elect an MA or Part D plan must acknowledge the requirement to: (1) maintain Medicare Part A and B to stay in MA, or Part A or B to stay in Part D; (2) reside in the plan's service area; (3) make a valid request during a valid election period; (4) follow plan rules; (5) consent to the disclosure and exchange of information between the plan and CMS; and (6) enroll in only one Medicare health plan and that enrollment in the MA or Part D plan automatically disenrolls them from any other Medicare health plan and prescription drug plan.

CMS will use this information to: track beneficiary enrollment, including tracking patterns in enrollment by race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity over time; to identify, monitor, and develop effective and efficient strategies and incentives to reduce and eliminate health and health care inequities; to validate existing race and ethnicity imputation methods; and to ensure that clinically appropriate and equitable care (in terms of payment, access and quality) is consistently provided to all Medicare beneficiaries. *Form Number:* CMS-10718 (OMB control number: 0938-0832); *Frequency:* Occasionally; *Affected Public:* Individuals and Households, Private sector—(Business or other for-profits and Not-for-profit institutions); *Number of Respondents:* 19,815,897; *Total Annual Responses:* 39,632,597; *Total Annual Hours:* 10,557,541. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact AnhViet Nguyen at 410-786-4548).

2. Type of Information Collection
Request: Revision with change to the currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Bid Pricing Tool (BPT) for Medicare Advantage (MA) Plans and Prescription Drug Plans (PDP); *Use:* Medicare Advantage organizations (MAO) and Prescription Drug Plans

(PDP) are required to submit an actuarial pricing "bid" for each plan offered to Medicare beneficiaries for approval by CMS. The MAOs and PDPs use the Bid Pricing Tool (BPT) software to develop their actuarial pricing bid. The competitive bidding process defined by the "The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act" (MMA) applies to both the MA and Part D programs. It is an annual process that encompasses the release of the MA rate book in April, the bid's that plans submit to CMS in June, and the release of the Part D and RPO benchmarks, which typically occurs in August. *Form Number:* CMS-10142 (OMB control number: 0938-0832); *Frequency:* Annually; *Affected Public:* Private sector—(Business or other for-profits and Not-for-profit institutions); 555; *Total Annual Responses:* 4,995; *Total Annual Hours:* 149,850 (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Rachel Shevland at 410-786-3026).

3. Type of Information Collection
Request: Extension of a previously approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Quality Improvement Strategy Implementation Plan, Progress Report, and Modification Summary Supplement Forms; *Use:* Section 1311(c)(1)(E) of the Affordable Care Act requires qualified health plans (QHPs) offered through an Exchange must implement a quality improvement strategy (QIS) as described in section 1311(g)(1). Section 1311(g)(3) of the Affordable Care Act specifies the guidelines under Section 1311(g)(2) shall require the periodic reporting to the applicable Exchange the activities that a qualified health plan has conducted to implement a strategy as described in section 1311(g)(1). CMS intends to have QHP issuers complete the appropriate QIS forms annually for implementation and progress reporting of their quality improvement strategies. The QIS forms will include topics to assess an issuer's compliance in creating a payment structure that provides increased reimbursement or other incentives to improve the health outcomes of plan enrollees, prevent hospital readmissions, improve patient safety and reduce medical errors, promote wellness and health, and reduce health and health care disparities, as described in Section 1311(g)(1) of the Affordable Care Act.

QIS forms will allow: (1) the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) to evaluate the compliance and adequacy of QHP issuers' quality improvement efforts, as required by Section 1311(c) of the Affordable Care Act, and (2) HHS will use the issuers'

validated information to evaluate the issuers' quality improvement strategies for compliance with the requirements of Section 1311(g) of the Affordable Care Act. *Form Number:* CMS-10540 (OMB control number: 0938-1286); *Frequency:* Annually; *Affected Public:* Public sector (Individuals and Households), Private sector (Business or other for-profits and not-for-profit institutions); *Number of Respondents:* 250; *Total Annual Responses:* 250; *Total Annual Hours:* 4,933. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Preeti Hans at 301.492.5144).

Dated: September 26, 2023.

William N. Parham, III,
Director, Paperwork Reduction Staff, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS-10710]

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

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing an opportunity for the public to comment on CMS' intention to collect information from the public. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information, and to allow a second opportunity for public comment on the notice. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including the necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions, the accuracy of the estimated burden, ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.