

collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

DATES: Comments must be received by February 20, 2026.

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: ____ R 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.

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 Collections

1. *Type of Information Collection Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* External Quality Review (EQR) of Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Managed Care, EQR Protocols, and Supporting Regulations; *Use:* Most contracts between a state Medicaid agency and their managed care plan must provide for an annual External Quality Review (EQR). The annual EQR is conducted by an independent external quality review organization (EQRO). States must provide the EQRO with information obtained through methods consistent with the protocols specified by CMS. The information is used by the EQRO to determine the quality of care furnished by the managed care plans in the state. The publicly posted EQR results allows Medicaid/CHIP enrollees and potential enrollees to make informed choices regarding the selection of their providers. It also provides advocacy organizations, researchers, and other interested parties access to information on the quality of care provided to Medicaid beneficiaries enrolled in Medicaid/CHIP managed care. States use the information during their oversight of these organizations. *Form Number:* CMS-R-305 (OMB control number: 0938-0786); *Frequency:* Annually and one-time; *Affected Public:* Private sector and State, Local or Tribal Governments; *Number of Respondents:* 681; *Number of Responses:* 7,236; *Total Annual Hours:* 887,086. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Carrie Hanlon at 410-786-1660.)

2. *Type of Information Collection Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Medicaid Drug Program; *Use:* Labelers transmit drug product and pricing data to CMS within 30 days after the end of each calendar month and quarter. CMS calculates the unit rebate amount (URA) and the unit rebate offset amount (UROA) for each new drug application (NDC) and distributes to all State Medicaid agencies. States use the URA to invoice the labeler for rebates and the UROA to report onto CMS-64. The monthly data is used to calculate Federal Upper Limit (FUL) prices for applicable drugs and for states that opt to use this data to establish their pharmacy reimbursement methodology. *Form Number:* CMS-

367a-e (OMB control number: 0938-0578); *Frequency:* Monthly, quarterly, and on occasion; *Affected Public:* Private sector; *Number of Respondents:* 840; *Total Annual Responses:* 16,160; *Total Annual Hours:* 606,932. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Robert Giles at 667-290-8626.)

William N. Parham, III,

Director, Division of Information Collections and Regulatory Impacts, 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-10556]

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.

DATES: Comments on the collection(s) of information must be received by the OMB desk officer by January 21, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this

notice to www.reginfogov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

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 Parham at (410) 786–4669.

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. 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 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)) requires federal agencies to publish a 30-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 that summarizes the following proposed collection(s) of information for public comment.

1. Type of Information Collection
Request: Extension of a currently approved collection; **Title of Information Collection:** Medical Necessity and Contract Amendments Under Mental Health Parity; **Use:** Upon request, regulated entities must provide a medical necessity disclosure. Receiving this information will enable potential and current enrollees to make more educated decisions given the choices available to them through their plans and may result in better treatment of their mental health or substance use disorder (MH/SUD) conditions. States use the information collected and reported as part of their contracting process with managed care entities, as well as their compliance oversight role. In states where a Medicaid Managed Care Organization (MCO) is responsible for providing the full scope of medical/surgical and MH/SUD services to beneficiaries, the state will review the

parity analysis provided by the MCO to confirm that the MCO benefits are compliant. CMS uses the information collected and reported in an oversight role of State Medicaid managed care programs. **Form Number:** CMS–10556 (OMB control number: 0938–1280); **Frequency:** Once and occasionally; **Affected Public:** Individuals and households, the Private sector, and State, Local, or Tribal Governments; **Number of Respondents:** 78,854,308; **Total Annual Responses:** 473,213; **Total Annual Hours:** 79,050.

(For policy questions regarding this collection contact Matthew Rodriguez at 303–844–4724.)

William N. Parham, III,

Director, Division of Information Collections and Regulatory Impacts, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegations of Authority

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services, Office of Rural Health Transformation, has been established.

DATES: This new organizational structure was approved by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and took effect on December 18, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joe Kane at (410) 786–0655; 7500 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Part F of the Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegations of Authority for the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) (last amended at **Federal Register**, Vol. 87, No. 205, pp. 64492–64494, dated October 25, 2022) is amended to reflect the establishment of the Office of Rural Health Transformation within Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS).

Part F, Section FC. 10 (Organization) is revised as follows: Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services, Office of Rural Health Transformation, Office of Rural Health Transformation, Division of State Rural Engagement.

Part F, Section FC. 20 (Functions) for the new organization is as follows:

Office of Rural Health Transformation

* Establish and provide oversight for the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP), which aims to improve healthcare access and outcomes in rural communities.

* Develop Rural Health Transformation application process and criteria to use in grant application reviews and awards, in accordance with statutory requirements.

* In partnership with the Office of Acquisition and Grants Management, (OAGM) distribute funds to states in accordance with statutorily defined timelines.

* Partner with HHS entities, states, healthcare facilities, healthcare advocacy groups, and other key stakeholders to ensure sound guidance and program initiatives that improve rural residents’ access to healthcare services in support of making rural America healthy again.

* Lead and/or support CMS interactions and collaborations with States and local governments, territories, healthcare providers, key stakeholders (e.g., consumer and policy organizations and the healthcare provider community), and other Federal government entities on making rural America again.

* Serve as CMS’ lead for rural health transformation program management, oversight, and performance issues related to interactions with States and the stakeholder community.

* Serve as CMS’s primary contact for RHTP public inquiries, including but not limited to local congressional offices, and providers.

* Advise the Administrator, Center Leadership, senior staff, and other CMS components on matters that affect RHTP, including policy analysis, Technical Advisory Group perspectives, consultation, and information dissemination strategies.

Division of State Rural Engagement

* Provide Rural Health Transformation policy and operational guidance to States and internal and external stakeholders to ensure appropriate policy application.

* Collaborate with States in their implementation of approved rural health transformation programs and conduct readiness assessment reviews, ongoing monitoring, and oversight.

* Establish policy regarding program monitoring, quality and performance management, and quality improvement for programs and services to ensure