



## Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifiers: CMS-10326]

### 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 [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**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:



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:* Reinstatement without change of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Electronic Submission of Medicare Graduate Medical Education (GME) Affiliation Agreements; *Use:* Existing regulations at § 413.75(b) permit hospitals that share residents to elect to form a Medicare GME affiliated group if they are in the same or contiguous urban or rural areas, if they are under common ownership, or if they are jointly listed as program sponsors or major participating institutions in the same program by the accrediting agency. The purpose of a Medicare GME affiliated group is to provide flexibility to hospitals in structuring rotations under an aggregate full time equivalent (FTE) resident cap when they share residents. The existing regulations at § 413.79(f)(1) specify that each hospital in a Medicare GME affiliated group must submit a Medicare GME affiliation agreement (as defined under § 413.75(b)) to the Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) servicing the hospital and send a copy to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Central Office, no later than July 1 of the residency program year during which the Medicare GME affiliation agreement will be in effect.

CMS will use the information contained in electronic affiliation agreements as documentation of the existence of Medicare GME affiliations, and to verify that the affiliations being formed by teaching hospitals for the purposes of sharing their Medicare GME FTE cap slots are valid according to CMS regulations. CMS will also use these affiliation agreements as reference materials when potential issues involving specific affiliations arise. While we have used hard copies of affiliation agreements for those same purposes in the past, we implemented this electronic submission process in order to expedite and ease the process of retrieving, analyzing and evaluating affiliation agreements. *Form Number:* CMS-10326 (OMB control number: 0938-1111); *Frequency:* Annually; *Affected Public:* Private Sector, Business or other for profits, Not for profit institutions;

*Number of Respondents: 125; Total Annual Responses: 125; Total Annual Hours: 166. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Shevi Marciano at 410-786-2875.)*

Dated: February 12, 2021.

**William N. Parham, III,**

*Director,*

*Paperwork Reduction Staff,*

*Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.*

**4120-01-U-P**

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