



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifiers: CMS-10305, CMS-1696, CMS-10468, and CMS-10338]

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 (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:

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 web site 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-10305 Medicare Part C and Part D Data Validation (42 CFR 422.516(g) and 423.514(j))

CMS-1696 Appointment of Representative

CMS-10468 Essential Health Benefits in Alternative Benefit Plans, Eligibility Notices, Fair Hearing and Appeal Processes, and Premiums and Cost Sharing; Exchanges: Eligibility and Enrollment

CMS-10338 Affordable Care Act Internal Claims and Appeals and External Review
Procedures for Non-grandfathered Group Health Plans and Issuers and Individual
Market Issuers

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:* Extension of a currently approved collection;
Title of Information Collection: Medicare Part C and Part D Data Validation (42 CFR 422.516(g) and 423.514(j)); *Use:* This “Medicare Part C and Part D Data Validation (42 CFR 422.516(g) and 423.514(j))” forms will be used by Data Validation Contractors (DVCs) to evaluate the quality of data submitted by plans for the Medicare Parts C and D Reporting Requirements. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) established reporting requirements for Medicare Part C and Part D sponsoring organizations (Medicare Advantage Organizations [MAOs], Cost Plans, and Medicare Part D sponsors) under the authority described in 42 CFR 422.516(a) and 423.514(a), respectively. Under these reporting requirements, each sponsoring organization must submit Medicare Part C, Medicare Part D, or Medicare Part C and Part D data;
Form Number: CMS-10305 (OMB control number: 0938-1115); *Frequency:* Yearly; *Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profits; *Number of Respondents:* 840; *Total Annual Responses:*

840; *Total Annual Hours*: 10,920. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Bindu Aryal at 667-414-0889 or bindu.aryal@cms.hhs.gov.)

2. Type of Information Collection Request: Extension of a currently approved collection;
Title of Information Collection: Appointment of Representative; *Use*: The requirements for appointing representatives for claims and appeals processed under 42 CFR part 405 subpart I were codified into regulation at 42 CFR 405.910. In summary, section 405.910 states an individual or entity may appoint a representative to act on their behalf in exercising their rights relative to an initial claim determination or an appeal. The appointment of representation must be in writing and must include all the required elements specified in 405.910(c). The burden associated with this requirement is the time and effort of the individual or entity to prepare an appointment of representation containing all the required information of this section.

This form would be completed by Medicare beneficiaries, providers, and suppliers (typically their billing clerk, or billing company), and any party who wish to appoint a representative to assist them with their initial Medicare claims determinations and filing appeals on Medicare claims. The information supplied on the form is reviewed by Medicare claims and appeals adjudicators. The adjudicators make determinations whether the form was completed accurately, and if the form is correct and accepted, the form is appended to the claim or appeal that it was filed with *Form Number*: CMS-1696 (OMB control number: 0938-0950); *Frequency*: Occasionally; *Affected Public*: Individuals and Households and Private Sector; *Number of Respondents*: 208,173 *Total Annual Responses*: 208,173; *Total Annual Hours*: 52,043. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Katherine Hosna at (410) 786-4993 or Katherine.Hosna@cms.hhs.gov.)

3. Type of Information Collection Request: Extension of a currently approved collection;
Title of Information Collection: Essential Health Benefits in Alternative Benefit Plans, Eligibility Notices, Fair Hearing and Appeal Processes, and Premiums and Cost Sharing; Exchanges: Eligibility and Enrollment; *Use*: Information collected by the Exchanges, Medicaid or CHIP

agencies will be used to determine eligibility for coverage through the Exchanges and insurance affordability programs (i.e., Medicaid, CHIP, and advance payment of the premium tax credits), and to assist consumers in enrolling in a QHP if eligible. Applicants include anyone who may be eligible for coverage through any of these programs. The Exchanges verify the information provided on the application, communicate with the applicant or his/her authorized representative and subsequently provide the information to the health plan selected by the applicant so that it can enroll him/her in a QHP. The Exchanges also use the information provided in support of its ongoing operations, including activities such as verifying continued eligibility for all programs, processing appeals, reporting on and managing the insurance affordability programs for eligible individuals, performing oversight and quality control activities, combating fraud, and responding to any concerns about the security or confidentiality of the information. *Form Number:* CMS-10468 (OMB control number: 0938-1207); *Frequency:* Annually; *Affected Public:* Individuals, Households and Private Sector; *Number of Respondents:* 20; *Total Annual Responses:* 20; *Total Annual Hours:* 25,614. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Angela Meadows at Angela.Meadows@cms.hhs.gov.)

4. *Type of Information Collection Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Affordable Care Act Internal Claims and Appeals and External Review Procedures for Non-grandfathered Group Health Plans and Issuers and Individual Market Issuers; *Use:* PHS Act section 2719 and paragraph (b)(2)(i) of the Appeals regulation provide that group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group health insurance coverage must comply with the internal claims and appeals processes set forth in 29 CFR 2560.503-1 of the Department of Labor (DOL) claims procedure regulation, and update such processes in accordance with standards established by the Secretary of Labor in paragraph (b)(2)(ii) of the regulation. Paragraph (b)(3)(i) requires issuers offering coverage in the individual health insurance market to also comply with the DOL claims procedure regulation as

updated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) in paragraph (b)(3)(ii) of the Appeals regulation for their internal claims and appeals processes.

The information collection requirements included in the DOL claims procedure regulation and the Appeals regulation ensure that claimants receive clear and adequate information regarding the plan's claims procedures and the plan's handling of specific benefit claims. This transparency enables claimants to understand plan procedures and decisions, allowing them to effectively request benefits and appeal denied claims when necessary. The information collected in connection with the HHS-administered federal external review process is collected by HHS and is used to provide claimants with an independent external review, ensuring a fair and impartial assessment of denied health benefit claims. *Form Number:* CMS-10338 (OMB control number: 0938-1099); *Frequency:* Occasionally; *Affected Public:* Private Sector (Business or other for-profit and Not-for-profit institutions); *Number of Respondents:* 91,355; *Total Annual Responses:* 375,202; *Total Annual Hours:* 861,785. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Daniel Kidane at Daniel.Kidane@cms.hhs.gov.)

William N. Parham, III

Director,

Division of Information Collections and Regulatory Impacts,

Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.

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