DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health IT Standards Committee; Schedule for the Assessment of Health IT Policy Committee Recommendations

AGENCY: Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Section 3003(b)(3) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 mandates that the Health IT Standards Committee develop a schedule for the assessment of policy recommendations developed by the Health IT Policy Committee and publish the schedule in the Federal Register. This notice fulfills the requirements of Section 3003(b)(3) and updates the schedule posted in the Federal Register on August 18, 2014. In anticipation of receiving recommendations originally developed by the Health IT Policy Committee, the Health IT Standards Committee will form task forces that will be convened to address specific issues, as needed.

The Health IT Standards Committee’s Schedule for the Assessment of Health IT Policy Committee Recommendations is as follows:

(A) The National Coordinator will establish priority areas based in part on recommendations received from the Health IT Policy Committee regarding health information technology standards, implementation specifications, and/or certification criteria. Once the Health IT Standards Committee is informed of those priority areas, it will:

(1) An assessment of what standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria are currently available to meet the priority area; and

(2) A timeline, which may also account for NIST testing, where appropriate, and include dates when the Health IT Standards Committee is expected to issue recommendation(s) to the National Coordinator.

(D) Upon responding to the National Coordinator, the Health IT Standards Committee will:
SUMMARY: The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) is seeking applications to the Health Information Technology Policy Committee (HITPC) and the Health Information Technology Standards Committee (HITSC).

NAME OF COMMITTEES: Health IT Standards Committee and Health IT Policy Committee

General Function of the Committees:
The HITPC is charged to provide recommendations to the National Coordinator on a policy framework for the development and adoption of a nationwide health information technology infrastructure that permits the electronic exchange and use of health information as is consistent with the Federal Health IT Strategic Plan and that includes recommendations on the areas in which standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria are needed.
The HITSC is charged to provide recommendations to the National Coordinator on standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria for the electronic exchange and use of health information for purposes of adoption, consistent with the implementation of the Federal Health IT Strategic Plan, and in accordance with policies developed by the Health IT Policy Committee.

Date and Time: Applications must be received by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, September 11, 2015.

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Background: The Health IT Policy Committee was established under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009 (ARRA) (Pub. L. 111–5), section 13101, new Section 3002. Members of the Health IT Policy Committee are appointed in the following manner: 3 members appointed by the Secretary, HHS; 4 members appointed by Congress; 13 members appointed by the Comptroller General of the United States; and other federal members appointed by the President.

Applications are being accepted for one of the three members appointed by the Secretary of HHS. Nominees of the HITPC should have experience promoting the meaningful use of health information technology and be knowledgeable in privacy and security issues related to health information.
The Health IT Standards Committee was established under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009 (ARRA) (Pub. L. 111–5), section 13101, new Section 3003. Members of the Health IT Standards Committee are appointed by the Secretary, HHS and shall at least reflect providers, ancillary healthcare workers, consumers, purchasers, health plans, technology vendors, researchers, relevant Federal agencies, and individuals with technical expertise on health care quality, privacy and security, and on the electronic exchange and use of health information. Nominees of the HITSC should have experience promoting the meaningful use of health information technology and be knowledgeable in areas such as: small innovative health care providers, providers participating in payment reform initiatives, accountable care organizations, pharmacists, behavioral health professionals, home health care, purchaser or employer representatives, patient safety, health information technology security, big data, consumer e-health, personal health records, and mobile health applications.

Members will be selected in order to achieve a balanced representation of viewpoints, areas of experience, subject matter expertise, and representation of the health care system. Terms will be three (3) years from the appointment date to either the HITSC or HITPC. Members on both Committees serve without pay. However, members will be provided per diem and travel costs for Committee services.

The HITPC will be seeking applications for the following area of expertise:
- Consumer/Patient Representative
- The HITSC will be seeking applications for the following areas of expertise:
  - Technical Expertise, Small Innovative Provider
  - Technical Expertise, CIO
  - Health Plans Representative
  - Technical Expertise, Health IT (2)
  - Purchaser/Employer Representative
  - Long-term Care Representative
  - Ancillary Healthcare Worker Representative

For more information about the HITPC please visit: http://www.healthit.gov/facas/health-it-policy-committee

For more information about the HITSC please visit: http://www.healthit.gov/facas/health-it-standards-committee.

Submitting Applications:
Applications should be submitted electronically through the application database FACA application page on the HealthIT.gov Web site at: http://www.healthit.gov/facas/faca-workgroup-membership-application. All applications must be compiled and submitted in one complete package. An application package must include: A short bio, a current CV including contact information and memberships with professional organizations/advisory committees, and two letters of support.