

laboratory standards and inspection requirement sections of CLIA. There have been several subsequent rules that have modified these regulations.

On July 31, 1992, final regulations implementing the provisions of 353 PHSA concerning the recognition of private accreditation organizations and State licensure programs for CLIA purposes were published as Subpart E of part 493. These regulations establish that we may approve a private, nonprofit organization as an accreditation organization for clinical laboratories under the CLIA program if the organization's requirements for its accredited laboratories are equal to or more stringent than the applicable CLIA program requirements of part 493. These regulations also provide for the CLIA exemption of laboratories in a State that applies licensure requirements that are equal to or more stringent than those of CLIA.

On May 14, 1998, revisions to Subpart E were published as part of other CLIA final rulemaking. The revisions to Subpart E eliminated duplicative information by restructuring and consolidating requirements for accreditation organizations and State licensure programs seeking approval under CLIA. The revised Subpart better reflects the information required and process involved in obtaining approval. This restructuring did not change the requirements, but only redesignated them into a more customer-oriented document, making them easier for users to understand. In this process we used new section numbers, but retained all the requirements for Subpart E.

The last iteration required accreditation organizations and State licensure programs to revise and update policies and procedures applicable to new or amended requirements in the final rule, CMS-3326-F, to remain compliant with the regulations at 493.553-557. The accreditation organizations or State licensure programs are required to meet or exceed the CLIA regulations. The final rule, CMS-3326-F, was published on December 28, 2023 (88 FR 89976). *Form Number:* CMS-R-185 (OMB control number: 0938-0686); *Frequency:* Occasionally; *Affected Public:* Private Sector—Business or other for-profits and Not-for-profit institutions; *Number of Respondents:* 9; *Total Annual Responses:* 9; *Total Annual Hours:* 5,359. (For policy questions regarding

this collection contact Penny Keller at 410-786-2035.)

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-R-305]

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 May 22, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/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.

Information Collection

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.)

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–10434 #15]

Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Generic Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On May 28, 2010, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) guidance related to the “generic” clearance process. Generally, this is an expedited process by which agencies may obtain OMB’s approval of collection of information requests that are “usually voluntary, low-burden, and uncontroversial collections,” do not raise any substantive or policy issues, and do not require policy or methodological review. The process requires the submission of an overarching plan that defines the scope of the individual collections that would fall under its umbrella. This **Federal Register** notice seeks public comment on one or more of our collection of information requests that we believe are generic and fall within the scope of the umbrella. Interested persons are invited to submit 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 May 6, 2026.

ADDRESSES: When commenting, please reference the applicable form number (CMS–10434 #15) and the OMB control number (0938–1188). 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: CMS–10434 #15/OMB control number: 0938–1188, Room C4–26–05, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 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/medicare/regulations-guidance/legislation/paperwork-reduction-act-1995/pralisting>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William N. Parham at 410–786–4669.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Following is a summary of the use and burden associated with the subject information collection(s). More detailed information can be found in the collection’s supporting statement and associated materials (see **ADDRESSES**).

Generic Information Collection

1. *Title*: Medicaid State Plan Eligibility; *Type of Information Collection Request*: Revision of a currently approved collection; *Use*: This iteration proposes substantive changes to the Citizenship and Noncitizen Eligibility SPA template (RU S89) related to section 71109 of the Working Families Tax Cut (WFTC) legislation which limits federal financial participation (FFP) for full Medicaid coverage, with limited exceptions, to individuals who are U.S. citizens or nationals or in only three groups of

noncitizens, including lawful permanent residents (LPRs), Cuban/Haitian entrants, or COFA (Compact of Free Association) migrants, who CMS refers to as “FFP-eligible noncitizens.”

The revised template includes a required attestation that the state will provide emergency coverage for the care and services necessary for the treatment of an emergency medical condition (often referred to as “emergency Medicaid”), and State option to provide medical assistance to lawfully residing children and pregnant women (often referred to as the “CHIPRA 214 option”).

Section 71109 of the WFTC legislation did not change emergency Medicaid or the CHIPRA 214 option and provides that expenditures for emergency Medicaid are excepted from the FFP limitations.

The template also proposes to add another required attestation that the State will provide coverage during a reasonable opportunity period (ROP) pending verification of U.S. citizenship/national status/satisfactory immigration status, as well as State options related to extending the ROP for noncitizens, which is unchanged by section 71109.

Form Number: CMS–10434 #15 (OMB control number: 0938–1188); *Frequency*: One time and on occasion; *Affected Public*: State, Local, or Tribal Governments; *Number of Respondents*: 56; *Total Annual Responses*: 56; *Total Annual Hours*: 1,120. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact: Abby Kahn at 410–786–4321.)

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

Health Resources and Services Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission to OMB for Review and Approval; Public Comment Request; Health Center Program Forms—OMB No. 0915–0285—Revision

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, HRSA submitted an Information