

Application Deadline: 03/31/97.
Application Availability: 12/96.
CFDA Number: 93.912.

Telemedicine Network

Authorization: Pub. L. 104-299, The Health Centers Consolidation Act of 1996, 42 U.S.C. 254b.

Purpose: To demonstrate how telemedicine can be used as a tool in developing integrated systems of health care, improving access to health services for rural citizens and reducing the isolation of rural health care practitioners, and to collect information for the systematic evaluation of the feasibility, costs, appropriateness and acceptability of rural telemedicine. Grantees may not use in excess of 40% of their federal grant funds each year for the purchase or lease and installation of equipment (i.e., equipment used inside the health care facility for providing telemedicine services such as codecs, cameras, monitors, computers, multiplexers, etc.). Grantees may not use federal funds to purchase or install transmission equipment (i.e., microwave towers, satellite dishes, amplifiers, or laying of telephone or cable lines). Grantees may not use federal funds to build or acquire real property or for construction, except to the extent that such funds are used for minor renovations related to the installation of telemedicine equipment. No more than 20% of the amounts provided under the grants can be used to pay for the indirect costs associated with carrying out the activities under the grant.

Eligibility: In general, any public (non-federal) or private-nonprofit entity that is: (1) A health care provider and a member of an existing or proposed telemedicine network, or (2) a consortium of providers that are members of an existing or proposed telemedicine network. The applicant must be a legal entity capable of receiving federal grant funds. The applicant may be located in either a rural or urban area. Other telemedicine network members may be public or private, nonprofit or for-profit. Health facilities operated by a federal agency may be members of the network but not the applicant. A telemedicine network shall, at a minimum, be composed of a multi-specialty entity that is located in an urban or rural area, which can provide 24-hour-a-day access to a range of specialty care services, and at least two rural health care facilities, which may include rural hospitals (fewer than 100 staffed beds), rural physician offices, rural health clinics, rural community health clinics and rural nursing homes.

Evaluation Criteria: Final criteria are reflected in the application kit.

Estimated Amount of Competition: \$4-5 Million.

Number of expected Awards: 10-14.

Funding Priorities and/or Preferences: Funding preference will be given to applicant networks that include: (1) A majority of the health care providers serving the area or region to be served by the network; (2) any federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, and local public health departments serving in the area or region; (3) outpatient mental health providers serving in the area or region; or (4) appropriate social service providers (e.g., agencies on aging, school systems, and providers under the WIC program) to improve access to, and coordination of, health care services.

Projected Award Date: 09/97.

Contact: 1-888-333-HRSA.

Application Deadline: 06/97.

Application Availability: 04/97.

CFDA Number: 93.211.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4200-N-53]

Notice of Proposed Information Collection for Public Comment

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

DATES: *Comments due:* June 23, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Oliver Walker, Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451—7th Street, SW, room 9116, Washington, DC 20410.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph McCloskey, telephone number (202) 708-1672 (this is not a toll-free number) for copies of the proposed forms and other available documents.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department will submit the proposed

information collection to OMB for review, as required by Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended).

The Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affecting agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

Title of Proposal: Recertification of Family Income and Composition, Section 235(b) and Statistical Report Section 235 (b), (j) and (i).

OMB Control Number: 2502-0082.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: This Notice requests to extend the use of Form HUD-93101 and HUD-93101A to be submitted by homeowners to mortgagees to determine their continued eligibility for assistance and to determine the amount of assistance a homeowner is to receive. The forms are also used by mortgagees to report statistical and general program data to HUD.

Agency forms, if applicable: HUD 93101 and HUD-93101A.

Members of affected public: An estimation of the total number of hours needed to prepare the information collection is 1, the number of respondents is 150,962, and frequency of responses is varied.

Status of the proposed information collection: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Authority: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, amended.

Dated: April 16, 1997.

Nicolas P. Retsinas,
Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner.

[FR Doc. 97-16279 Filed 4-18-97; 8:45 am]

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