

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Health Resources and Services Administration**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Public Comment Request; Information Collection Request Title: NURSE Corps Scholarship Program, OMB No. 0915-0301—Revision**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirement for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, HRSA announces plans to submit an Information Collection Request (ICR), described below, to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Prior to submitting the ICR to OMB, HRSA seeks comments from the public regarding the burden estimate, below, or any other aspect of the ICR.

**DATES:** Comments on this ICR must be received no later than January 29, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments to [paperwork@hrsa.gov](mailto:paperwork@hrsa.gov) or mail the HRSA Information Collection Clearance Officer, 14N39, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and draft instruments, email [paperwork@hrsa.gov](mailto:paperwork@hrsa.gov) or call Lisa Wright-Solomon, the HRSA Information Collection Clearance Officer at (301) 443-1984.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** When submitting comments or requesting information, please include the information request collection title for reference.

*Information Collection Request Title:* NURSE Corps Scholarship Program OMB No. 0915-0301—Revision

*Abstract:* The NURSE Corps Scholarship Program (SP), administered by the Bureau of Health Workforce in HRSA, provides scholarships to nursing students in exchange for a minimum two-year full-time service commitment (or part-time equivalent), at an eligible health care facility with a critical shortage of nurses (*i.e.*, Critical Shortage Facility (CSF)). The scholarship consists of payment of tuition, fees, other reasonable educational costs, and a monthly support stipend. Program recipients are required to fulfill NURSE Corps SP service commitments at CSFs located in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

*Need and Proposed Use of the Information:* The NURSE Corps SP collects data to determine an applicant's eligibility for the program, monitor a participant's continued enrollment in a school of nursing, monitor the participant's compliance with the NURSE Corps SP service obligation, and prepare annual reports to Congress. The following information will be collected (1) from the schools, on a quarterly basis—general applicant and nursing school data such as full name, location,

tuition/fees, and enrollment status; (2) from the schools, on an annual basis—data concerning tuition/fees and overall student enrollment status; and (3) from the participants and their employing CSF, on a biannual basis—data concerning the participant's employment status, work schedule and leave usage.

The revision to this clearance package will incorporate one new form and one updated form. The CSF Verification Form will be used to verify participant transfers to critical shortage facilities. The Initial Employment Verification Form has been revised to include all eligible service site types listed in the NURSE Corps SP Application and Program Guidance.

*Likely Respondents:* NURSE Corps SP scholars in school and graduates, educational institutions, and critical shortage facilities.

*Burden Statement:* Burden in this context means the time expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information requested. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information; to search data sources; to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information. The total annual burden hours estimated for this ICR are summarized in the table below.

**TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS**

Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Total responses	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
Eligible Applications/Application Program Guidance .....	2,600	1	2,600	2	5,200
School Enrollment Verification Form .....	500	4	2,000	.33	660
Confirmation of Interest Form .....	250	1	250	.2	50
Data Collection Worksheet Form .....	500	1	500	1	500
Graduation Close Out Form .....	200	1	200	.17	34
Initial Employment Verification Form .....	500	1	500	.42	210
Employer—Participant Service Verification Form .....	1,000	2	2,000	.12	240
CSF Verification Form .....	200	1	200	.2	40
Total .....	5,750	.....	8,250	.....	6,934

HRSA specifically requests comments on (1) the necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

**Amy McNulty,**

*Acting Director, Division of the Executive Secretariat.*

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**BILLING CODE 4165-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Health Resources and Services Administration

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Public Comment Request Information Collection Request Title: Health Professions Student Loan (HPSL) Program and Nursing Student Loan (NSL) Program Administrative Requirements (Regulations and Policy). OMB No. 0915-0047—Revision

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirement for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, HRSA announces plans to submit an Information Collection Request (ICR), described below, to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Prior to submitting the ICR to OMB, HRSA seeks comments from the public regarding the burden estimate, below, or any other aspect of the ICR.

**DATES:** Comments on this ICR should be received no later than January 29, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments to [paperwork@hrsa.gov](mailto:paperwork@hrsa.gov) or mail the HRSA Information Collection Clearance Officer, Room 14N39, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on the

proposed project or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and draft instruments, email [paperwork@hrsa.gov](mailto:paperwork@hrsa.gov) or call Lisa Wright-Solomon, the HRSA Information Collection Clearance Officer at (301) 443-1984.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** When submitting comments or requesting information, please include the information request collection title for reference.

*Information Collection Request Title:* Health Professions Student Loan (HPSL) Program and Nursing Student Loan (NSL) Program Administrative Requirements (Regulations and Policy). OMB No. 0915-0047—Revision.

*Abstract:* The Health Professions Student Loan (HPSL) Program, as authorized by Public Health Service (PHS) Act sections 721-722 and 725-735, provides long-term, low-interest loans to students attending schools of medicine, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, podiatric medicine, and pharmacy. The Nursing Student Loan (NSL) Program, as authorized by PHS Act sections 835-842, provides long-term, low-interest loans to students who attend eligible schools of nursing in programs leading to a diploma, an associate degree, a baccalaureate degree, or graduate degree in nursing. It also contains a number of recordkeeping and reporting requirements for academic institutions and loan applicants. The applicable regulations for these programs under 42 CFR part 57 implement and detail the various statutory requirements (see chart below).

In an effort to consolidate information collection requests and achieve greater programmatic efficiency, HRSA is incorporating the Deferment-HRSA Form 519 and AOR-HRSA Form 501 (OMB No. 0915-0044) into this information collection request. As a result, the OMB No. 0915-0044 package will be discontinued.

*Need and Proposed Use of the Information:* Participating HPSL and NSL schools are responsible for determining eligibility of applicants, making loans, and collecting monies owed by borrowers on their outstanding loans. The Deferment Form (Deferment-HRSA Form 519), formerly incorporated under OMB No. 0915-0044, provides the schools with documentation of a

borrower's deferment status, as detailed for the HPSL program under 42 CFR part 57.210 and for NSL under 42 CFR part 57.310. The Annual Operating Report (AOR-HRSA Form 501), formerly incorporated under OMB No. 0915-0044, provides the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) with information from participating schools (including schools that are no longer disbursing loans but are required to report and maintain program records, student records, and repayment records until all student loans are repaid in full and all monies due to the Federal Government are returned) relating to HPSL and NSL program operations and financial activities. Moreover, the HPSL and NSL program requirements are essential for assuring that borrowers are aware of their rights and responsibilities, academic institutions have accurate records of the history and status of each loan account in order to pursue aggressive collection efforts to reduce default rates, and that academic institutions maintain adequate records for audit and assessment purposes to help HHS safeguard federal funds made through the Federal Capital Contribution (FCC). Academic institutions are free to use improved information technology to manage the information required by the regulations.

*Likely Respondents:* Financial Aid Directors working at institutions participating in the HPSL and/or NSL Programs.

*Burden Statement:* Burden in this context means the time expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information requested. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information; to search data sources; to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information. The total annual burden hours estimated for this ICR are summarized in the tables below.