

## Background

Section 332 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, 42 U.S.C. 254e, provides that the Secretary shall designate HPSAs based on criteria established by regulation. HPSAs are defined in section 332 to include (1) urban and rural geographic areas with shortages of health professionals, (2) population groups with such shortages, and (3) facilities with such shortages. Section 332 further requires that the Secretary annually publish lists of the designated geographic areas, population groups, and facilities. The lists of HPSAs are to be reviewed at least annually and revised as necessary.

Final regulations (42 CFR part 5) were published in 1980 that include the criteria for designating HPSAs. Criteria were defined for seven health professional types: Primary medical care, dental, psychiatric, vision care, podiatric, pharmacy, and veterinary care. The criteria for correctional facility HPSAs were revised and published on March 2, 1989 (54 FR 8735). The criteria for psychiatric HPSAs were expanded to mental health HPSAs on January 22, 1992 (57 FR 2473). Currently funded PHS Act programs use only the primary medical care, mental health, or dental HPSA designations.

HPSA designation offers access to potential federal assistance. Public or private nonprofit entities are eligible to apply for assignment of National Health Service Corps (NHSC) personnel to provide primary medical care, mental health, or dental health services in or to these HPSAs. NHSC health professionals enter into service agreements to serve in federally designated HPSAs. Entities with clinical training sites located in HPSAs are eligible to receive priority for certain residency training program grants administered by HRSA's BHW. Other federal programs also utilize HPSA designations. For example, under authorities administered by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, certain qualified providers in geographic area HPSAs are eligible for increased levels of Medicare reimbursement.

## Content and Format of Lists

The three lists of designated HPSAs are available on the HRSA Data Warehouse shortage area topic web page and include a snapshot of all geographic areas, population groups, and facilities that were designated HPSAs as of April 30, 2021. This notice incorporates the most recent annual reviews of designated HPSAs and supersedes the HPSA lists published in the **Federal**

**Register** on June 15, 2020 (**Federal Register**/Vol. 85, No. 115/Monday, June 15, 2020/Notices 36219).

In addition, all Indian Tribes that meet the definition of such Tribes in the Indian Health Care Improvement Act of 1976, 25 U.S.C. 1603, are automatically designated as population groups with primary medical care and dental health professional shortages. Further, the Health Care Safety Net Amendments of 2002 provides eligibility for automatic facility HPSA designations for all federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics that offer services regardless of ability to pay. Specifically, these entities include FQHCs funded under section 330 of the PHS Act, FQHC Look-Alikes, and Tribal and urban Indian clinics operating under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 450) or the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. Many, but not all, of these entities are included on this listing. Absence from this list does not exclude them from HPSA designation; facilities eligible for automatic designation are included in the database when they are identified.

Each list of designated HPSAs is arranged by state. Within each state, the list is presented by county. If only a portion (or portions) of a county is (are) designated, a county is part of a larger designated service area, or a population group residing in a county or a facility located in the county has been designated, the name of the service area, population group, or facility involved is listed under the county name. A county that has a whole county geographic or population group HPSA is indicated by the phrase "County" following the county name.

## Development of the Designation and Withdrawal Lists

Requests for designation or withdrawal of a particular geographic area, population group, or facility as a HPSA are received continuously by BHW. Under a Cooperative Agreement between HRSA and the 54 state and territorial Primary Care Offices (PCOs), PCOs conduct needs assessments and submit applications to HRSA to designate areas as HPSAs. BHW refers requests that come from other sources to PCOs for review. In addition, interested parties, including Governors, State Primary Care Associations, and state professional associations, are notified of requests so that they may submit their comments and recommendations.

BHW reviews each recommendation for possible addition, continuation, revision, or withdrawal. Following review, BHW notifies the appropriate

agency, individuals, and interested organizations of each designation of a HPSA, rejection of recommendation for HPSA designation, revision of a HPSA designation, and/or advance notice of pending withdrawals from the HPSA list. Designations (or revisions of designations) are effective as of the date on the notification from BHW and are updated daily on the HRSA Data Warehouse Find Shortage Area website. The effective date of a withdrawal will be the next publication of a notice regarding the list of designated HPSAs in the **Federal Register**.

**Diana Espinosa,**

*Acting Administrator.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Health Resources and Services Administration

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Public Comment Request; Information Collection Request Title: The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program Quarterly Performance Report, OMB No. 0906-0016, Revision**

**AGENCY:** Health Resources and Service's 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 September 7, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments to [paperwork@hrsa.gov](mailto:paperwork@hrsa.gov) or mail the HRSA Information Collection Clearance Officer, 14N136B, 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:**

*Information Collection Request Title:* The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program Quarterly Performance Report, OMB No. 0906-0016, Revision

*Abstract:* This clearance request is for continued approval of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program Quarterly Performance Report. The MIECHV Program, administered by HRSA in partnership with the Administration for Children and Families, supports voluntary, evidence-based home visiting services during pregnancy and to parents with young children up to kindergarten entry. States, certain non-profit organizations, and tribal entities are eligible to receive funding from the MIECHV Program and have the flexibility to tailor the program to serve the specific needs of their communities. HRSA is revising the data collection forms for the MIECHV Program by making the following changes:

- *Form 4, reporting guidance:* Revise reporting instructions to reflect updated reporting requirements

- *Form 4, Definition of Key Terms:* Update definitions for Table A.1
- *Form 4, Definition of Key Terms:* Add definitions for Table A.2

HRSA is also requesting approval to expand the use of Form 4 in order to collect quarterly performance data from awardees who receive MIECHV funding appropriated by section 9101 of the American Rescue Plan Act (Pub. L. 117-2).

*Need and Proposed Use of the Information:* HRSA uses quarterly performance information to demonstrate program accountability and continuously monitor and provide oversight to MIECHV Program awardees. The information is also used to provide quality improvement guidance and technical assistance to awardees and help inform the development of early childhood systems at the national, state, and local level. HRSA is seeking to revise reporting instructions and definitions of key terms and to expand the use of Form 4 in order to collect distinct quarterly performance data related to the use of the American Rescue Plan Act funds. This notice is subject to the appropriation of funds, and is a contingency action taken to

ensure that, should funds become available for this purpose, information can be collected in a timely manner.

*Likely Respondents:* MIECHV Program awardees that are states, territories, and, where applicable, nonprofit organizations receiving MIECHV funding to provide home visiting services within states.

*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 |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|--|--------------------|
| Form 4: Section A—Quarterly Performance Report .....             | 56                    | 8                                  | 448             | 24                                     | 10,752             |
| Form 4: Section B Quarterly Benchmark Performance Measures ..... | 10                    | 4                                  | 40              | 200                                    | 8,000              |
| Total .....  | * 56                  | .....                              | 488             | .....                                  | 18,752             |

\*The 10 responses for Section B are a sub-set of 56 total awardees funded through the MIECHV Program.

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.

**Maria G. Button,**

*Director, Executive Secretariat.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Office of the Secretary**

**Extension of Designation of Scarce Materials or Threatened Materials Subject to COVID-19 Hoarding Prevention Measures; Extension of Effective Date With Modifications**

**AGENCY:** Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Temporary notice; solicitation of comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) provides notice of the extension of the designation issued on February 1, 2021, under Executive Order 13910 (Executive Order) and section 102 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (the Act), as

amended, designating health and medical resources necessary to respond to the spread of the virus associated with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) that are scarce or the supply of which would be threatened by excessive accumulation by people or entities not needing the excess supplies. These designated materials are subject to the hoarding prevention measures authorized under the Executive Order and the Act.

**DATES:** This action took effect on July 1, 2021, and terminates on November 15, 2021. To be assured consideration, comments on this extension and update to the list of scarce or threatened materials must be received at the address provided below by August 6, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** In commenting, please refer to Paige Ezernack: 202-260-0365;