

NATIONAL TRAINING DATES: The Physician National Training session is scheduled for June 19, 2000 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., Eastern Time. The Hospital Outpatient National Training session is scheduled for September 15, 2000 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., Eastern Time.

NATIONAL ADDRESSES: The National meetings on June 19, 2000 and September 15, 2000 will be held in the HCFA Auditorium, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland, 21244-1850.

REGIONAL TRAINING DATES AND CITIES: The Physician Regional Training sessions will be held as follows:

Physician Encounter Data Training Schedule 2000

Date and Location

June 29-30, 2000:

BOSTON, MA—Sheraton Boston Hotel, 39 Dalton Street, Boston, MA 02199, (617) 236-2000

July 6-7, 2000:

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—Hotel Nikko, 222 Mason Street, San Francisco, CA 94102, (415) 394-1111

July 11-12, 2000:

CHICAGO, IL—The Drake Hotel, 140 East Walton Place, Chicago, IL 60611, (312) 787-2200

July 17-18, 2000:

ATLANTA, GA—Hyatt Regency, 265 Peachtree Street, NE, Atlanta, GA 30303, (404) 577-1234

The Hospital Outpatient Regional Training sessions will be held as follows:

Hospital Outpatient Encounter Data Training Schedule 2000

Date and Location

September 18-19, 2000:

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—San Francisco Airport, Marriott 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame, CA 94010, (650) 692-9100

September 21-22, 2000:

ATLANTA, GA—Wyndham Atlanta, 160 Spring Street, Atlanta, GA 30303, (404) 688-8600

October 16-17, 2000:

CHICAGO, IL—Westin O'Hare, 6100 River Road, Rosemont, IL 60018, (847) 698-6000

October 19-20, 2000:

BOSTON, MA—Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington Street, Boston, MA 02116, (617) 426-2000

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Encounter Data Representative at (301) 519-6700 or e-mail us with your questions at encounterdata@aspensys.com. Please refer to the HCFA Advisory Committees Information Lines 1(877) 449-5659 toll free or (410) 786-9379 local or via the Internet at <http://www.hcfa.gov/fac> for additional information and updates on committee activities.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA) (Public Law 105-33) established the Medicare+Choice program. Under the BBA, we must implement a risk adjustment methodology that accounts for variations in per capita costs based on health status and other demographic factors for payment to Medicare+Choice organizations (M+COs). Risk adjustment implementation began January 1, 2000.

The BBA also gives us the authority to collect inpatient hospital data for discharges on or after July 1, 1997, and additional data for services occurring on or after July 1, 1998. Pending OMB approval, M+COs must submit physician and hospital outpatient encounter data on the following schedule:

- October 1, 2000: Submission of physician encounters begins.
- January 1, 2001: Submission of hospital outpatient encounters begin with dates of services retroactive to October 1, 2000.

This notice announces these training sessions to provide an opportunity for M+COs, providers, practitioners, and others to obtain information on the requirements for the collection of physician and hospital outpatient encounter data. These training sessions will also provide additional information on our data collection efforts, systems processes, training approach, and customer service support. Subsequent to these sessions we will implement user groups to facilitate ongoing discussions and training support. We are announcing these training sessions to provide physician and hospital outpatient data requirements and to allow individuals and organizations familiar with issues related to physician and hospital outpatient data collection to raise questions that can be answered in these and subsequent training sessions. The agenda for each session will include presentations by Aspen Systems Corporation, the encounter data training contractor, on related topics and will conclude with a question-and-answer period.

Registration

Registration for these training sessions is required and will be on a first-come, first-served basis, limited to two attendees per organization. A waiting list will be available for additional requests. Registration can be accomplished via the Internet at www.hcfa.gov/events or by completing a paper form available at the aforementioned Internet address. A confirmation notice will be sent to attendees upon finalization of registration.

Attendees will be provided with training materials at the time of the training session. We will accept written questions or requests for training materials either before the session or up to 14 days after the session. These written questions or requests must be sent to: Aspen Systems Corporation, ATTN: Wanda Keyes, Mail Stop 9Y, 2277 Research Boulevard, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

You may also contact Encounter Data Representative: Telephone Number: (301) 519-6700, Fax Number: (301) 519-6360, E-mail: encounterdata@aspensys.com.

(Authority: Sections 1851 through 1859 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-21 through 1395w-28))

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.773 Medicare—Hospital Insurance Program; and No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: May 31, 2000.

Nancy-Ann Min DeParle,

Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration.

[FR Doc. 00-14091 Filed 6-2-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Availability of Additional HRSA Competitive Grants

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of availability of funds.

SUMMARY: The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announces the availability of funds for several HRSA programs. This Notice lists several programs that are announcing competitions for fiscal year (FY) 2000 funds but were not published in the Fall 1999 HRSA Preview.

This Notice includes funding for HRSA discretionary authorities and programs as follows: (1) National Oral Health Policy Center (MCHB); and (2) Partnership for State Oral Health Leadership Cooperative Agreement (MCHB).

These programs were not published in the Fall 1999 HRSA Preview and will only appear in the **Federal Register** and on the HRSA Home Page at: <http://www.hrsa.dhhs.gov/>. The next edition of the HRSA Preview is planned to be published in mid-2000. The purpose of the HRSA Preview is to provide the general public with a single source of

program and application information related to the Agency's competitive grant offerings. The HRSA Preview is designed to replace multiple **Federal Register** notices which traditionally advertised the availability of HRSA's discretionary funds for its various programs.

Dated: May 30, 2000.

Claude Earl Fox,
Administrator.

How To Obtain Further Information

You can download this Notice in Adobe Acrobat format (.pdf) from HRSA's web site at <http://www.hrsa.dhhs.gov/>.

To Obtain an Application Kit

It is recommended that you read the introductory materials, terminology section, and individual program category descriptions to fully assess your eligibility for grants before requesting kits. As a general rule, no more than one kit per category will be mailed to applicants. Upon review of the program descriptions, please determine which category or categories of application kit(s) you wish to receive and call 1-877-477-2123 to register on the specific mailing list. Application kits are generally available 60 days prior to application deadline. If kits are already available, they will be mailed immediately.

Also, you can register on-line to be sent specific grant application materials by following the instructions on the web page or accessing <http://www.hrsa.gov/g-order3.htm> directly. Your mailing information will be added to our database and material will be sent to you as it becomes available.

Grant Terminology

Application Deadlines

Applications will be considered "on time" if they are either received on or before the established deadline date or postmarked on or before the deadline date given in the program announcement or in the application materials.

Authorizations

The citations of provisions of the laws authorizing the various programs are provided immediately preceding groupings of program categories.

CFDA Number

Applicants must use the CFDA number when requesting application materials. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) is a Governmentwide compendium of Federal programs, projects, services, and

activities which provide assistance. Programs listed therein are given a CFDA Number.

Cooperative Agreement

A financial assistance mechanism (grant) used when substantial Federal programmatic involvement with the recipient during performance is anticipated by the Agency.

Eligibility

Authorizing legislation and programmatic regulations specify eligibility for individual grant programs. In general, assistance is provided to nonprofit organizations and institutions, State and local governments and their agencies, and occasionally to individuals. For-profit organizations are eligible to receive awards under financial assistance programs unless specifically excluded by legislation.

Estimated Amount of Competition

The funding level listed is provided for planning purposes and is subject to the availability of funds or congressional action.

Funding Priorities and/or Preferences

Special priorities or preferences are those which the individual programs have identified for the funding cycle. Some programs give preference to organizations which have specific capabilities such as telemedicine networking or established relationships with managed care organizations. Preference also may be given to achieve an equitable geographic distribution and other reasons to increase the effectiveness of the programs.

Key Offices

The Grants Management Office serves as the focal point for grants policy, budgetary, and business matters. The program office contact is provided for questions specific to the project activities of the programs and program objectives.

Matching Requirements

Several HRSA programs require a matching amount, or percentage of the total project support, to come from sources other than Federal funds. Matching requirements are generally mandated in the authorizing legislation for specific categories. Also, matching requirements may be administratively required by the awarding office. Such requirements are set forth in the application kit.

Project Period/Budget Period

The project period is the total time for which support of a discretionary project

has been programmatically approved. The project period consists of one or more budget periods, each generally of one year duration. Continuation of any project from one budget period to the next is subject to satisfactory performance, availability of funds, and program priorities.

Review Criteria

The following are generic review criteria applicable to HRSA programs:

- (1) That the estimated cost to the Government of the project is reasonable considering the anticipated results.
- (2) That project personnel or prospective fellows are well qualified by training and/or experience for the support sought, and the applicant organization or the organization to provide training to a fellow has adequate facilities and manpower.
- (3) That, insofar as practical, the proposed activities (scientific or other), if well executed, are capable of attaining project objectives.
- (4) That the project objectives are capable of achieving the specific program objectives defined in the program announcement and the proposed results are measurable.
- (5) That the method for evaluating proposed results includes criteria for determining the extent to which the program has achieved its stated objectives and the extent to which the accomplishment of objectives can be attributed to the program.
- (6) That, in so far as practical, the proposed activities, when accomplished, are replicable, national in scope and include plans for broad dissemination.

The specific review criteria used to review and rank applications are included in the individual guidance material provided with the application kits. Applicants should pay strict attention to addressing these criteria as they are the basis upon which their applications will be judged.

Technical Assistance

Some programs may have scheduled workshops and conference calls. If you have questions concerning individual programs or the availability of technical assistance, please contact the person listed. Also check your application materials and the HRSA web site at <http://www.hrsa.dhhs.gov/> for the latest technical assistance information.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. HRSA lists many telephone numbers and e-mail addresses. Whom do I phone or e-mail and when?
Phone 1-877-477-2123 (1-877-HRSA-123) to register for application

kits. You must know the program's CFDA number and title.

If, before you register, you want to know more about the program, an e-mail/phone contact is listed. This contact can provide information concerning the specific program's purpose, scope and goals, and eligibility criteria. You will usually be encouraged to request the application kit so that you will have clear, comprehensive and accurate information available to you. The application kit lists telephone numbers for a program expert and a grants management specialist who will provide technical assistance concerning your specific program, if you are unable to find the information within the materials provided.

2. The dates listed in the **Federal**

Register notice and the dates in the application kit do not agree. How do I know which is correct?

First, register at 1-877-477-2123 (1-877-HRSA-123) for each program that you are interested in as shown in the Notice.

Notice dates for application kit availability and application receipt deadline are based upon the best known information at the time of publication. Occasionally, the grant cycle does not begin as projected and dates must be adjusted. The deadline date stated in your application kit is most likely to be correct. If the application kit has been made available and subsequently the date changes, notification of the change will be mailed to known recipients of the application kit. Therefore, if you are registered at 1-877-477-2123 (1-877-HRSA-123), you will receive the most current information.

3. Are programs announced in the **Federal Register** notice ever canceled?

Infrequently, programs announced may be withdrawn from competition. If this occurs, a cancellation notice will be provided at the HRSA Homepage at <http://www.hrsa.dhhs.gov/>.

If you still have unanswered questions, please contact John Gallicchio or Jeanne Conley of the HRSA Grants Policy Branch at 301-443-6507 (jgallicchio@hrsa.gov or jconley@hrsa.gov). Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) Grants Management Office: 301-443-1440.

The MCHB announces the following two grant programs:

1. National Oral Health Policy Center (MCHB)

Authorization: Social Security Act, Title V, 42 U.S.C. 701

Purpose:

The purpose of this Policy Center is to explore critical health policy issues

around access to comprehensive oral health services for children and their families. A special emphasis on policy issues as they pertain to underserved, vulnerable populations (*i.e.* Medicaid and SCHIP eligible populations, children with special health care needs, minority populations) and the oral health care delivery system as a component of the overall health care infrastructure is required.

Eligibility: 42 CFR 51a.3.

Funding Priorities and/or Preferences: None.

Review Criteria:

Final criteria are included in the application kit.

Estimated Amount of This Competition: \$125,000/year.

Estimated Number of Awards: 1.

Estimated Project Period: Three years, from 9/30/00 through 4/30/03.

Application Available: 6/15/00.

To Obtain This Application Kit:

CFDA Number: 93.110AD.

Call for Application Kit: 1-877-477-2123 (1-877-HRSA-123).

Application Deadline: 8/18/00.

Projected Award Date: 9/30/00.

The first budget period is expected to be 7 months; subsequent budget periods will be 12 months.

Contact Person: John P. Rossetti 301 443-6600 e-mail: jrossetti@hrsa.gov.

2. Partnership for State Oral Health Leadership Cooperative Agreement (MCHB)

Authorization: Social Security Act, Title V, 42 U.S.C. 701.

Purpose:

The purpose of this program is to fund a cooperative agreement with a professional organization representing the oral public health community at the State level. The agreement will provide a forum for the gathering of information and data and the provision of technical expertise to the dental public health community that increases access to the prevention of oral disease and access to dental services. This will be accomplished by appropriate needs assessment, program planning, assurance and systems development.

Eligibility: 42 CFR 51a.3.

Funding Priorities and/or Preferences:

A funding preference will be given to institutions of higher learning with extensive experience in early discharge research, linkage with the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality, and published research and recognition in the relevant field.

Review Criteria:

Final criteria are included in the application kit.

Estimated Amount of This Competition: \$130,000/year.

Estimated Number of Awards: 1.

Estimated Project Period: Five years, from 9/30/00 through 7/31/05.

Application Available: 6/15/00.

To Obtain This Application Kit:

CFDA Number: 93.110AD.

Call for Application Kit: 1-877-477-2123 (1-877-HRSA-123).

Application Deadline: 8/18/00.

Projected Award Date: 9/30/00.

The first budget period is expected to be 10 months; subsequent budget periods will be 12 months.

Contact Person: John P. Rossetti 301/443-6600 e-mail: jrossetti@hrsa.gov.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

Meeting of Advisory Committee to the Interagency Task Force To Improve Hydroelectric Licensing Processes

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, this notice advises interested persons that the Advisory Committee to the Interagency Task Force To Improve Hydroelectric Licensing Processes will meet on June 8, 2000, at the National Marine Fisheries Service. The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Update Committee members on the current activities of the Interagency Task Force (ITF); and to
- Review and discuss the ITF Working Group's draft product on improving the conservation of the Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation with the Federal Energy and Regulatory Commission's licensing process.

DATES: The meeting will be held June 8, 2000; 9:00am-3pm.

ADDRESSES: National Marine Fisheries Service, Building SSMC3, 4th Floor Conference Room, 4527, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kimberly St. Bernard, Secretary to the Director, Office of Habitat Conservation (OHC), (301) 713-2325.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Secretary of the Interior and the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, with the concurrence of ITF members, established the Advisory Committee to provide a forum for non-Federal entities to review and provide comments on the deliberations of the ITF. Interested parties are invited to