

Desk Officer. Fax Number: (202) 395–6974.

Email:

OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: January 24, 2012.

Martique Jones,

Director, Regulations Development Group,
Division-B, 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–855I and CMS–855R]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (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.

1. *Type of Information Collection Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection. *Title of Information Collection:* Medicare Enrollment Application for Physician and Non-Physician Practitioners. *Use:* Health care practitioners who wish to enroll in the Medicare program must complete the CMS 855I enrollment application. It is submitted at the time the applicant first requests a Medicare billing number. The application is used by the Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC), to collect data to assure the applicant has the necessary professional and/or business credentials to provide the health care services for which they intend to bill Medicare

including information that allows the MAC to correctly price, process and pay the applicant's claims. It also gathers information that allows the MAC to ensure that the practitioner is not sanctioned from the Medicare program, or debarred, suspended or excluded from any other Federal agency or program. *Form Number:* CMS–855I (OCN 0938–0685). *Frequency:* Once and Occasionally. *Affected Public:* Private Sector (Business or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions). *Number of Respondents:* 345,000. *Total Annual Responses:* 345,000. *Total Annual Hours:* 824,000. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Kimberly McPhillips at (410) 786–5374. For all other issues call (410) 786–1326.)

2. *Type of Information Collection Request:* New collection. *Title of Information Collection:* Medicare Enrollment Application—Reassignment of Medicare Benefits. *Use:* Health care practitioners who wish to reassign their benefits in the Medicare program must complete the CMS 855R enrollment application. It is submitted at the time the physician or non-physician practitioner first requests reassignment of his/her Medicare benefits to a group practice, as well as any subsequent reassignments or terminations of established reassignments as requested by the physician or non-physician practitioner. The application is used by the Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) to collect data to assure the applicant has the necessary information that allows the MAC to correctly establish or terminate the reassignment. *Form Number:* CMS–855R (OCN 0938–New). *Frequency:* Occasionally. *Affected Public:* Private Sector (Business or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions). *Number of Respondents:* 100,000. *Total Annual Responses:* 100,000. *Total Annual Hours:* 50,000. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Kimberly McPhillips at (410) 786–5374. For all other issues call (410) 786–1326.)

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access CMS' Web Site address at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PaperworkReductionActof1995>, or Email your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and CMS document identifier, to Paperwork@cms.hhs.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office at (410) 786–1326.

In commenting on the proposed information collections please reference the document identifier or OMB control number. To be assured consideration, comments and recommendations must

be submitted in one of the following ways by *March 30, 2012*:

1. *Electronically.* You may submit 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) 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: Document Identifier/OMB Control Number _____ Room C4–26–05, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244–1850.

Dated: January 24, 2012.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS–9970–NC]

Request for Information Regarding the Reinsurance Program Under the Affordable Care Act

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), HHS.

ACTION: Request for information.

SUMMARY: This notice is a request for information (RFI) to gain market information on entities that could administer a transitional reinsurance program. This RFI will inform one or more future Requests for Proposals (RFP). This RFI solicits information about entities that could function as a reinsurance entity for the transitional reinsurance program. CMS or one or more States may contract for services required to fulfill the statutory and regulatory requirements of the reinsurance entity.

DATES: Submit written or electronic comments by February 29, 2012.

ADDRESSES: In responding, please refer to file code CMS–9970–NC. Because of staff and resource limitations, we cannot accept comments by facsimile (FAX) transmission.

You may submit responses in one of four ways (please choose only one of the ways listed):

1. *Electronically.* You may submit electronic comments on this regulation