

Health Resources and Services Administration
SUPPORTING STATEMENT
HRSA Bureau of Health Professions (BHP) Funding Strategy Evaluation

A. Justification

1. Circumstances of Information Collection

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) currently has approval under the generic clearance, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control No. 0915-0212, to conduct customer satisfaction surveys and focus groups. This collection of information helps fulfill the requirements of:

- a. Executive Order 12862, "Setting Customer Service Standards," which directs Agencies to continually reform their management practices and operations to provide service to the public that matches or exceeds the best service available in the private sector.

This is a request for OMB approval of a qualitative voluntary customer satisfaction survey under HRSA's generic clearance. HRSA's Office of Planning, Analysis and Evaluation (OPAE) will obtain feedback from applicants of a Bureau of Health Profession's (BHP) Primary Care Expansion Program that was recently funded through the Public Health and Prevention Fund (P.L. 111-148, Section 4002) of the Affordable Care Act. This program, the Primary Care Residency Expansion (PCRE) (Sec. 5301), has explicit requirements to expand primary care training programs, and received \$167 million in funding.

Executive Order 12862 directs agencies that "provide significant services directly to the public" to "survey customers to determine the kind and quality of services they want and their level of satisfaction with existing services". The objective of surveying the primary care residency training programs is to provide insight regarding organizations' opinions, experiences, and perceptions of the funding opportunities, including any potential barriers or restrictions of applying for these funding opportunities.

2. Purpose and Use of the Information

The expected impact on the need for primary care providers over the next 5 years led the Administration to invest \$167 million from the Public Health and Prevention Fund in the Primary Care Residency Expansion program. Most of Bureau of Health Profession's (BHP) training programs have traditionally focused on overall quality improvement of programs, including curriculum and faculty development. However, the recent Affordable Care Act funding focused on adding new slots in residency training programs and building capacity to expand the primary care workforce.

The primary use for information gathered through the surveys is to identify strengths and weaknesses of the primary care residency expansion funding strategy, to determine the level of

satisfaction with the funding opportunity and to identify areas for general service improvement. HRSA will only use the information gathered for internal purposes to get a better understanding of this recent funding opportunity.

Survey respondents from Primary Care Residency Expansion program will consist of applicants who did not qualify for funding. The surveys will include questions regarding availability of the funding opportunity announcement, barriers in the application process, perceptions of the impact of adding new residents on respondents' organizations, and any general feedback of the funding opportunity. Copies of the survey instruments are attached.

OPAE staff will use the survey script and inform each respondent that participation in the survey is voluntary and the information provided will only be shared internally with the evaluation team members. The information provided from the surveys will be important feedback regarding our customers' satisfaction and suggestions for improvement of aspects of BHP's Primary Care Residency training program and information materials.

3. Use of Improved Information Technology

The surveys will not employ information technology but will be conducted by telephone which is the most appropriate methodology to obtain feedback from respondents. If respondents permit, their responses will be tape recorded to verify notes, taken by OPAE staff, for accuracy. Once notes are verified for accuracy, the tape(s) will be destroyed.

4. Efforts to Avoid Duplication

Surveys targeting residency programs that applied to the Primary Care Residency Expansion Program and received funding, along with those that didn't apply, have already been approved through this generic clearance package. This survey is unique in that it specifically targets residency programs that applied yet did not receive funding. The proposed survey is unique to this activity and the information is not found elsewhere.

5. Involvement of Small Entities

These surveys will not have a significant impact on small businesses or other small entities.

6. Consequences if Information Collected Less Frequently

These surveys are for a one-time project that will help evaluate delivery of funding of the primary care provider expansion programs.

7. Consistency With the Guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2)

These surveys will be implemented in a manner fully consistent with 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2).

8. Consultation Outside the Agency

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PCRE Survey- Applicants who did not receive funding	50	1	50	0.50	25	\$44/hr	\$1100
Total	50	--	50	--	25		\$1100

Planned frequency of information collection

This is a one-time project.

13. Estimates of Annualized Cost Burden to Respondents

The only associated cost to respondents is their time to provide the requested information.

14. Estimates of Annualized Cost to the Government

The telephone surveys will be carried out by a team of OP&E staff. The estimated annual cost to the government is \$7,123 which includes 2% each from 2 GS9 employees (\$51,630), 2% from 1 GS12 employee (\$74,872), and 2% each from 2 GS13 employees (\$89,033).

15. Change in Burden

Not Applicable. This is a new activity under HRSA's generic clearance and will be included in the total burden currently approved by OMB under OMB Control No. 0915-0212.

16. Plans for Analysis and Timetable of Key Activities

The telephone surveys will be conducted in a period of 1-2 months. OP&E staff will prepare, organize and consolidate their notes from the surveys. Narrative information from the surveys will be summarized and examined using descriptive analysis. Findings will only be used for internal service improvement and will not be generalized to the public. There are no plans for publication of any survey results.

17. Exemption for Display of Expiration Date

No exemption is being requested. The expiration date will be displayed.

18. Certifications

This information collection activity will comply with the requirements in 5 CFR 1320.9.