# Supporting Statement for Form SSA-8019 Third Party Liability Information Statement 42 CFR 433.136-433.139 OMB No. 0960-0323

#### A. Justification

#### 1. Introduction/Authoring Laws and Regulations

Medicaid state agencies identify third-party insurers liable for medical care or services for Medicaid recipients. Under 42 CFR 433.136-433.139, Medicaid state agencies obtain this information on Medicaid applications and redeterminations as a condition of Medicaid eligibility. Under 42 U.S.C 1383c(a), states may enter into agreements with the Social Security Administration (SSA) to make Medicaid eligibility determinations for aged, blind, and disabled beneficiaries in those states. Applications for and redeterminations of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) eligibility in jurisdictions with such agreements are also applications and redeterminations of Medicaid eligibility.

# 2. Description of Collection

To reduce Medicaid costs, Medicaid state agencies identify third party insurers liable for medical care or services for Medicaid beneficiaries. Applications for and redeterminations of SSI eligibility in jurisdictions with such agreements are applications and redeterminations of Medicaid eligibility. Under these agreements, SSA obtains third party liability information using Form SSA-8019, and provides that information to the Medicaid state agencies. The Medicaid state agencies use the information to bill third parties liable for medical care, support, or services for a beneficiary to guarantee that Medicaid remains the payer of last resort. The respondents are SSI claimants and recipients.

#### 3. Use of Information Technology to Collect the Information

SSA usually collects the information on this form through the SSI Claims System. Within the SSI Claims System, SSA personnel complete the third party liability information, when necessary, for initial claims and redetermination situations (when there is a change in third party liability coverage or other specific post eligibility changes). SSA electronically transmits the third party liability information to the state Medicaid agency. Although we do not require the state to complete any part of the form, there are situations when SSA will mail a paper SSA-8019 to the state third-party liability agency. These situations include:

- Non-SSI Claims System initial claims that are allowed;
- Non-SSI Claims System redetermination or post-eligibility action with changes in third party liability circumstances; or
- SSI Claims System claims when complete third party liability information was not available at the time SSA adjudicated the claim

Again though, only third-party liability agencies complete the paper Form

SSA-8019, and it's completed solely via USPS mail, never in person.

This collection does not currently have a fully public-facing Internet version, as we prioritized other information collections for full electronic conversions. Given that IT Mod programming is an ongoing, dynamic project, we cannot provide specific timelines for when we will be able to make any particular ICR available via Internet web-based application. We will ultimately convert most existing ICRs to full electronic versions depending on how they fall within our overall IT Mod schema, but this may be unconnected to the PRA approval lifecycle.

In the interim, we evaluated this collection for conversion to a submittable PDF. Given the high volume of conversions we are coordinating and the more urgent nature of some of the other conversions, we ultimately decided not to prioritize this ICR for conversion to fully submittable PDF at this time. When we are able to schedule this form for conversion to a submittable PDF, we will submit a Change Request to OMB to request prior approval.

#### 4. Why We Cannot Use Duplicate Information

The nature of the information we collect and the manner in which we collect it precludes duplication. SSA does not use another collection instrument to obtain similar data.

#### 5. Minimizing Burden on Small Respondents

This collection does not significantly affect a substantial number of small businesses or other small entities.

6. Consequences of Not Collecting Information or Collecting it Less Frequently
Congress made the provision of third-party liability information a condition of
Medicaid eligibility, because it saves significant Federal dollars. Since we are
required by law to request the information, SSA cannot collect it less frequently.
There are no technical or legal obstacles to burden reduction.

#### 7. Special Circumstances

There are no special circumstances that would cause SSA to conduct this information collection in a manner inconsistent with 5 *CFR* 1320.5.

8. Solicitation of Public Comment and Other Consultations with the Public The 60-day advance Federal Register Notice published on July 2, 2021 at 86 FR 35371, and we received no public comments. The 30-day FRN published on September 2, 2021 at 86 FR 49403. If we receive any comments in response to this Notice, we will forward them to OMB.

#### 9. Payment or Gifts to Respondents

SSA does not provide payments or gifts to the respondents.

#### 10. Assurance of Confidentiality

SSA protects and holds confidential the information it collects in accordance with 42 *U.S.C.* 1306, 20 *CFR* 401 and 402, 5 *U.S.C.* 552 (Freedom of Information Act), 5 *U.S.C.* 552a (Privacy Act of 1974), and OMB Circular No. A-130.

#### 11. Justification for Sensitive Questions

The information collection does not contain any questions of a sensitive nature.

# 12. Estimates of Public Reporting Burden

Please see the burden chart below:

Modality of Completion	Number of Respondents	Frequency of Response	Average Burden Per Response (minutes)	Estimated Total Annual Burden (hours)	Average Theoretical Hourly Cost Amount (dollars)*	Average Wait Time in Field Office or for Teleservice Centers (minutes) **	Total Annual Opportunity Cost (dollars)***
SSA-8019 (Paper)	200	1	6	20	\$19.01*		\$380***
SSI Claims System (Intranet)	35,257	1	6	3,526	\$19.01*	21**	\$301,613***
Totals	35,457			3,546			\$301,993***

<sup>\*</sup> We based this figure on averaging both the average DI payments based on SSA's current FY 2021 data (<a href="https://www.ssa.gov/legislation/2021FactSheet.pdf">https://www.ssa.gov/legislation/2021FactSheet.pdf</a>), and the average U.S. worker's hourly wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (<a href="https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes">https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes</a> nat.htm).

\*\*\* This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.

In addition, OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs is requiring SSA to use a rough estimate of a 30-minute, one-way, drive time in our calculations of the time burden for this collection. OIRA based their estimation on a spatial analysis of SSA's current field office locations and the location of the average population centers based on census tract information, which likely represents a

<sup>\*\*</sup> We based this figure on averaging both the average FY 2021 wait times for field offices and teleservice centers, based on SSA's current management information data.

13.97-mile driving distance for one-way travel. We depict this on the chart below:

Total Number of	Frequency of	Average One-	Estimated Total	Total Annual
Respondents	Response	Way Travel	Travel Time to a	Opportunity
Who Visit a		Time to a Field	Field Office	Cost for Travel
Field Office		Office (minutes)	(hours)	Time
		, , ,		(dollars)****
17,629****	1	30	8,815	\$167,573

\*\*\*\* We based this figure on half of the number of respondents for the SSI Claims System Screens, as respondents both travel into the FO or call over the phone to complete this modality.

\*\*\*\*\* We based this dollar amount on the Average Theoretical Hourly Cost Amount in dollars shown on the burden chart above.

Per OIRA, we include this travel time burden estimate under the 5 CFR 1320.8(a) (4), which requires us to provide "time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons [for]...transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information," as well as 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3)(iii) which requires us to estimate "the average burden collection...to the extent practicable." SSA notes that we do not obtain or maintain any data on travel times to a field office, nor do we have any data, which shows that the average respondent drives to a field office, rather than using any other mode of transport. SSA also acknowledges that respondents' mode of travel and, therefore, travel times vary widely dependent on region, mode of travel, and actual proximity to a field office.

NOTE: We included the total opportunity cost estimate from this chart in our calculations when showing the total opportunity cost estimates in the paragraph below.

The total burden for this ICR is **3,546** burden hours (reflecting SSA management information data), which results in an associated theoretical (not actual) opportunity cost financial burden of **\$469,566**. SSA does not charge respondents to complete our applications. We base our burden estimates on current management information data, which includes data from actual interviews, as well as from years of conducting this information collection. Per our management information data, we believe that the 6 minutes accurately shows the average burden per response for reading the instructions, gathering the facts, and answering the questions. Based on our current management information data, the current burden information we provided is accurate.

#### 13. Annual Cost to the Respondent

This collection does not impose a known cost burden on the respondents.

#### 14. Annual Cost to the Federal Government

The annual cost to the Federal Government is approximately \$139,250. This estimate accounts for costs from the following areas:

<b>Description of Cost Factor</b>	<b>Methodology for Estimating Cost</b>	Cost in Dollars*
Designing and Printing the Form	Design Cost + Printing Cost	\$1,750
Distributing, Shipping, and Material	Distribution + Shipping + Material	\$2,500
Costs for the Form	Cost	
SSA Employee (e.g., field office, 800 number, DDS staff) Information Collection and Processing Time	GS-9 employee x # of responses x processing time	\$125,000
Full-Time Equivalent Costs	Out of pocket costs + Other expenses for providing this service	\$0
Systems Development, Updating, and Maintenance	GS-9 employee x man hours for development, updating, maintenance	\$10,000
Quantifiable IT Costs	Any additional IT costs	\$0
Total		\$139,250

<sup>\*</sup> We have inserted a \$0 amount for cost factors that do not apply to this collection.

SSA is unable to break down the costs to the Federal government further than we already have. It is difficult for us to break down the cost for processing a single form, as field office staff often help respondents fill out several forms at once, and the time it takes to do so can vary greatly per respondent. As well, because so many employees have a hand in each aspect of our forms, we use an estimated average hourly wage, based on the wage of our average field office employee (GS-9) for these calculations. However, we have calculated these costs as accurately as possible based on the information we collect for creating, updating, and maintaining these information collections.

# 15. Program Changes or Adjustments to the Information Collection Request When we last cleared this IC in 2018, the burden was 4,152 hours. However, we are currently reporting a burden of 3,546 hours. This change stems from a decrease in the number of responses from 49,621 to 35,457. In addition, we increased the completion time per response from 5 to 6 minutes, as we reassessed our burden estimate and found that current MI data supports an increase by one minute. These figures represent current Management Information data.

# **16. Plans for Publication Information Collection Results** SSA will not publish the results of the information collection.

# 17. Displaying the OMB Approval Expiration Date

For the paper Form SSA-8019, OMB granted SSA an exemption from the requirement to print the OMB expiration date on its program forms. SSA produces millions of public-use forms with life cycles exceeding those of an OMB approval. Since SSA does not periodically revise and reprint its public-use

forms (e.g., on an annual basis), OMB granted this exemption so SSA would not have to destroy stocks of otherwise useable forms with expired OMB approval dates, avoiding Government waste.

For the Intranet version (SSI Claims System), SSA is not requesting an exception to the requirement to display the OMB approval expiration date.

#### **18.** Exception to Certification Statement

SSA is not requesting an exception to the certification requirements at *5 CFR 1320.9* and related provisions at *5 CFR 1320.8*(*b*)(*3*).

# B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

SSA does not use statistical methods for this information collection.