

withdrawal of a retaining element, such as a guidewire, to secure the closure device to the wall.

Potential Commercial Applications: Endovascular interventions.

Inventors: Toby Rogers, Merdim Sonmez, Robert Lederman, Ozgur Kocaturk, (NHLBI).

Intellectual Property: HHS Reference No. E-273-2015/0, U.S. Provisional Patent Application 62/236,734 filed October 2, 2015, International Patent Application PCT/US2016/054961 filed September 30, 2016.

Licensing Contact: Michael Shmilovich, Esq, CLP; 301-435-5019; shmilovm@nih.gov.

Dated: October 23, 2017.

Michael Shmilovich,

Senior Licensing and Patenting Manager, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, Office of Technology Transfer and Development.

[FR Doc. 2017-23863 Filed 11-1-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the NHLBI Special Emphasis Panel meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel; T32: Institutional Training to Promote Diversity.

Date: November 30, 2017.

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Suite 7189, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Lindsay M. Garvin, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Office of Scientific Review, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Suite 7189, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-827-7911, lindsay.garvin@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel; National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute—Factor VIII Immune Response (U54).

Date: November 30–December 1, 2017.

Time: 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1480 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202.

Contact Person: William J. Johnson, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Office of Scientific Review/DERA, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 7178, Bethesda, MD 20892-7924, 301-827-7938, johnsonwj@nhlbi.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.233, National Center for Sleep Disorders Research; 93.837, Heart and Vascular Diseases Research; 93.838, Lung Diseases Research; 93.839, Blood Diseases and Resources Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 27, 2017.

Michelle Trout,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2017-23819 Filed 11-1-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Special Emphasis Panel; NIAMS Ancillary Studies Review Meeting.

Date: November 15, 2017.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institute of Health/NIAMS, 6701 Democracy Blvd., Suite 824, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Teleconference).

Contact Person: Yin Liu, Ph.D., MD, Scientific Review Officer, Scientific Review Branch, National Institute of Health/NIAMS, 6701 Democracy Blvd., Suite 824, Bethesda,

MD 20892, 301-594-4952, liuy@exchange.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.846, Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 30, 2017.

Sylvia L. Neal,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2017-23864 Filed 11-1-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-6044-N-01]

Notice of Certain Operating Cost Adjustment Factors for 2018

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice establishes operating cost adjustment factors (OCAFs) for project-based rental assistance contracts issued under Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 and renewed under the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (MAHRA) with an anniversary date on or after February 11, 2018. OCAFs are annual factors used primarily to adjust the rents for contracts renewed under section 515 or section 524 of MAHRA. OCAFs are distinct from, and do not apply to the same properties as Annual Adjustment Factors (AAFs). AAFs are used to adjust contract rents for units assisted in certain Section 8 housing assistance payment programs during the initial (*i.e.*, pre-renewal) term of the HAP contract and for all units in the Project-Based Certificate program.

DATES: *Applicable:* February 11, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carisa L. Janis, Program Analyst, Office of Asset Management and Portfolio Oversight, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW., Washington, DC 20410; telephone number 202-402-2487 (this is not a toll-free number). Hearing- or speech-impaired individuals may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. OCAFs

Section 514(e)(2) and section 524(c)(1) of MAHRA (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) require HUD to establish guidelines for the development of OCAFs for rent

adjustments. Sections 524(a)(4)(C)(i), 524(b)(1)(A), and 524(b)(3)(A) of MAHRA, all of which prescribe the use of the OCAF in the calculation of renewal rents, contain similar language. HUD has therefore used a single methodology for establishing OCAFs, which varies from State to State.

MAHRA gives HUD broad discretion in setting OCAFs, referring, for example, in sections 524(a)(4)(C)(i), 524(b)(1)(A), 524(b)(3)(A) and 524(c)(1) simply to “an operating cost adjustment factor established by the Secretary.” The sole limitation to this grant of authority is a specific requirement in each of the foregoing provisions that application of an OCAF “shall not result in a negative adjustment.” Contract rents are adjusted by applying the OCAF to that portion of the rent attributable to operating expenses exclusive of debt service.

The OCAFs provided in this notice are applicable to eligible projects having a contract anniversary date of February 11, 2018 or after and were calculated using the same method as those published in HUD’s 2017 OCAF notice originally published on October 5, 2016 (81 FR 69073) and amended and republished on December 27, 2016 (81 FR 95162). Specifically, OCAFs are calculated as the sum of weighted average cost changes for wages, employee benefits, property taxes, insurance, supplies and equipment, fuel oil, electricity, natural gas, and water/sewer/trash using publicly available indices. The weights used in the OCAF calculations for each of the nine cost component groupings are set using current percentages attributable to each of the nine expense categories. These weights are calculated in the same manner as in the December 27, 2016, notice. Average expense proportions were calculated using three years of audited Annual Financial Statements from projects covered by OCAFs. The expenditure percentages for these nine categories have been found to be very stable over time, but using three years of data increases their stability. The nine cost component weights were calculated at the state level, which is the lowest level of geographical aggregation with enough projects to permit statistical analysis. These data were not available for the Western Pacific Islands, so data for Hawaii were used as the best available indicator of OCAFs for these areas.

The best current price data sources for the nine cost categories were used in calculating annual change factors. State-level data for fuel oil, electricity, and natural gas from Department of Energy surveys are relatively current and continue to be used. Data on changes in

employee benefits, insurance, property taxes, and water/sewer/trash costs are only available at the national level. The data sources for the nine cost indicators selected used were as follows:

- *Labor Costs*: First quarter, 2017 Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) ECI, Private Industry Wages and Salaries, All Workers (Series ID CIU2020000000001) at the national level and Private Industry Benefits, All Workers (Series ID CIU2030000000001) at the national level.

- *Property Taxes*: Census Quarterly Summary of State and Local Government Tax Revenue—Table 1 <http://www2.census.gov/govs/qtax/20162017/q1t1.xls> <http://www2.census.gov/govs/qtax/2017/q1t1.xls>. 12-month property taxes are computed as the total of four quarters of tax receipts for the period from April through March. Total 12-month taxes are then divided by the number of occupied housing units to arrive at average 12-month tax per housing unit. The number of occupied housing units is taken from the estimates program at the Bureau of the Census. <http://www.census.gov/housing/hvs/data/histtab8.xls>.

- *Goods, Supplies, Equipment*: May 2016 to May 2017 Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Consumer Price Index, All Items Less Food, Energy and Shelter (Series ID CUUR0000SA0L12E) at the national level.

- *Insurance*: May 2016 to May 2017 Bureau of Labor Statistic (BLS) Consumer Price Index, Tenants and Household Insurance Index (Series ID CUUR0000SEHD) at the national level.

- *Fuel Oil*: October 2016–March 2017 U.S. Weekly Heating Oil and Propane Prices report. Average weekly residential heating oil prices in cents per gallon excluding taxes for the period from October 5, 2016 through March 28, 2017 are compared to the average from October 13, 2015 through March 30, 2016. For the States with insufficient fuel oil consumption to have separate estimates, the relevant regional Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) change between these two periods is used; if there is no regional PADD estimate, the U.S. change between these two periods is used. http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pri_wfr_a_EPD2F_prs_dpgal_w.htm.

- *Electricity*: Energy Information Agency, February 2017 “Electric Power Monthly” report, Table 5.6.B. http://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm_table_grapher.cfm?t=epmt_5_06_b.

- *Natural Gas*: Energy Information Agency, Natural Gas, Residential Energy Price, 2016–2017 annual prices in dollars per 1,000 cubic feet at the state level. Due to EIA data quality standards

several states were missing data for one or two months in 2016; in these cases, data for these missing months were estimated using data from the surrounding months in 2016 and the relationship between that same month and the surrounding months in 2015.

http://www.eia.gov/dnav/ng/ng_pri_sum_a_EPG0_PRS_DMcf_a.htm.

- *Water and Sewer*: May 2016 to May 2017 Consumer Price Index, All Urban Consumers, Water and Sewer and Trash Collection Services (Series ID CUUR0000SEHG) at the national level.

The sum of the nine cost component percentage weights equals 100 percent of operating costs for purposes of OCAF calculations. To calculate the OCAFs, state-level cost component weights developed from AFS data are multiplied by the selected inflation factors. For instance, if wages in Virginia comprised 50 percent of total operating cost expenses and increased by 4 percent from 2017 to 2018 the wage increase component of the Virginia OCAF for 2018 would be 2.0 percent (50% * 4%). This 2.0 percent would then be added to the increases for the other eight expense categories to calculate the 2018 OCAF for Virginia. For states where the OCAF is less than 0 percent, the OCAF is floored at 0 percent. The OCAFs for 2018 are included as an Appendix to this Notice.

II. MAHRA OCAF Procedures

Sections 514 and 515 of MAHRA, as amended, created the Mark-to-Market program to reduce the cost of federal housing assistance, to enhance HUD’s administration of such assistance, and to ensure the continued affordability of units in certain multifamily housing projects. Section 524 of MAHRA authorizes renewal of Section 8 project-based assistance contracts for projects without restructuring plans under the Mark-to-Market program, including projects that are not eligible for a restructuring plan and those for which the owner does not request such a plan. Renewals must be at rents not exceeding comparable market rents except for certain projects. As an example, for Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation projects, other than single room occupancy projects (SROs) under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11301 *et seq.*), that are eligible for renewal under section 524(b)(3) of MAHRA, the renewal rents are required to be set at the lesser of: (1) The existing rents under the expiring contract, as adjusted by the OCAF; (2) fair market rents (less any amounts allowed for tenant-purchased utilities); or (3) comparable market rents for the market area.

III. Findings and Certifications

Environmental Impact

This notice sets forth rate determinations and related external administrative requirements and procedures that do not constitute a development decision affecting the physical condition of specific project areas or building sites. Accordingly, under 24 CFR 50.19(c)(6), this notice is categorically excluded from environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321).

Paperwork Reduction Act

This notice does not impact the information collection requirements already submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520). In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for this program is 14.195.

Dated: October 27, 2017.

Dana T. Wade,

General Deputy, Assistant Secretary for Housing.

APPENDIX

Operating Cost Adjustment Factors for 2018

State	OCAF (%)
Alabama	2.3
Alaska	2.9
Arizona	2.0
Arkansas	2.2
California	2.4
Colorado	1.9
Connecticut	2.2
Delaware	2.1
District of Columbia	2.0
Florida	2.1
Georgia	2.2
Hawaii	0.9
Idaho	2.4
Illinois	2.2
Indiana	2.1
Iowa	2.5
Kansas	2.4
Kentucky	2.1
Louisiana	2.1
Maine	1.6
Maryland	2.3
Massachusetts	1.9
Michigan	2.2
Minnesota	2.2
Mississippi	2.0
Missouri	1.8

State	OCAF (%)
Montana	1.9
Nebraska	2.2
Nevada	1.8
New Hampshire	2.0
New Jersey	2.4
New Mexico	1.7
New York	2.0
North Carolina	2.1
North Dakota	2.5
Ohio	1.9
Oklahoma	2.1
Oregon	2.3
Pacific Islands	0.9
Pennsylvania	2.1
Puerto Rico	2.0
Rhode Island	1.9
South Carolina	2.3
South Dakota	2.4
Tennessee	2.2
Texas	2.2
Utah	2.2
Vermont	2.2
Virgin Islands	2.0
Virginia	2.1
Washington	2.3
West Virginia	2.8
Wisconsin	2.3
Wyoming	2.1
U.S.	2.2

[FR Doc. 2017-23901 Filed 11-1-17; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4210-67-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[189A2100DD/AAKC001030/
A0A501010.999900 253G; OMB Control
Number 1076-0131]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Indian Child Welfare Quarterly and Annual Report

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is proposing to renew an information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 2, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments on the information collection request (ICR) by mail to Ms. Evangeline Campbell, Chief, Division of Human Services, Office of Indian Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1849 C Street NW., MS-4513-MIB, Washington, DC 20240; facsimile: (202) 208-5113; email:

Evangeline.Campbell@bia.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 1076-

0131 in the subject line of your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this ICR, contact Ms. Evangeline Campbell, (202) 513-7621.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

We are soliciting comments on the proposed ICR that is described below. We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is the collection necessary to the proper functions of the BIA; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the BIA enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the BIA minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: The BIA is seeking to renew the information collection conducted under 25 CFR 23, related to the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). BIA collects information using a consolidated caseload form, which tribal ICWA program directors fill out. BIA uses the information to determine the extent of service needs in local Indian communities, assess ICWA program effectiveness, and provide data for the annual program budget justification. The aggregated report is not considered confidential.

This form must be completed by tribes that operate child protection programs.