



FEDERAL REGISTER

SUMMARY

September 16-30 2009

Funding Notices - These funding initiatives warrant your IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. Nonprofits or other entities must submit applications by a specific deadline and meet program criteria to be eligible for the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	None
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Other Notices – Requests for Comments/Nominations that require a response by a specific date and/or corrections to previously published notices, guidance information, or adjusted federal funding for states (i.e. The Developmental Disabilities Act), along with other interesting funding information. Please take note of the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Dept.</u>
9/23/09	HHS/ACF

Request for comments on the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) document entitled, "ACF Disaster Case Management Implementation Guide."

Comment deadline: 10/8/09

Under provisions contained in the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, ACF is seeking comments on the program guidelines of the Disaster Case Management Pilot Program and on program improvements. According to ACF, "Disaster case management is the process of organizing and providing a timely, coordinated approach to assess disaster-related needs as well as existing healthcare, mental health and human services needs that may adversely impact an individual's recovery if not addressed." One of ACF's commitments includes working to address the needs, strengths, and abilities of people with developmental disabilities. See the document at: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-22946.htm>.

- 9/24/09 SSA **Extended testing period for the Social Security Administration's (SSA) disability determination procedures (see the 8/10/06 "Other Notices" section of the *Federal Register Summary* or go to: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/E6-13102.htm>).**
The *Social Security Act* authorizes SSA to test many modifications to the disability determination procedures for settling claims for benefits under Title I, disability insurance and Title XVI, Supplemental Security Income. SSA began the redesign testing in 1999. SSA is now extending case selection for the current disability prototype process to 9/28/2012. See the document at: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-23110.htm>.
- 9/25/09 HHS/CMS **Adjusted amount in controversy (AIC) threshold amounts for hearings and judicial review under the Medicare appeals process.**
Effective date: 1/1/2010
Under provisions contained in the *Social Security Act*, as amended, the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is required to adjust annually the amount that a party to a proceeding must reach before being eligible for an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) hearing and judicial review under the Medicare programs parts A, B, C, and D and health maintenance organizations and competitive medical plans. The adjusted amounts are: \$130 for ALJ hearings and \$1,260 for judicial review. See the document at: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-22955.htm>.
- 9/30/09 USSC **Extended deadline to apply for membership on the Victims Advisory Group (see the 6/10/09 "Other Notices" section of the *Federal Register Summary* or go to: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-13622.pdf>).**
New deadline: 11/30/09
This advisory group assists the United States Sentencing Commission (USSC) in carrying out its statutory responsibilities, provides views on USSC's activities and work, including proposed priorities and amendments to the sentencing guidelines. The commission is looking for individuals with expertise/experience in the area of federal crime victimization. The group is structured for nine members who may not serve more than two consecutive three-year terms. See the document at: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-23574.htm>.
- 9/30/09 HUD **Final Fair Market Rents (FMRs) for fiscal year 2010 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Housing Choice Voucher Program and the Moderate Rehabilitation Single Room Occupancy Program (see the 8/4/09 "Other Notices" section of the *Federal Register Summary* or go to: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-18507.pdf>).**
Effective date: 10/1/09
FMRs, which cover existing housing across the country, allow individuals and families to rent safe and affordable housing under the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) and allow individuals who are homeless to rent rehabilitated dwellings under the Moderate Rehabilitation Program. The Secretary is required by provisions contained in the *U.S. Housing Act of 1937* to publish FMRs annually. See the document at: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-23477.pdf>.

Proposed Rules – Requests for comments that require a response by a specific date. Please take note of the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	
9/16/09	HHS/CMS	<p>Request for comments on the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) proposals to revise funding provisions for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Comment deadline: 11/16/09 CHIP was created in the <i>Balanced Budget Act of 1997</i> and helps states to insure low-income children who are ineligible for Medicaid but cannot afford private insurance. Individual states run the programs according to requirements set by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Based on provisions contained the <i>Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009</i> (CHIPRA), CMS is proposing to appropriate funding for each fiscal year beginning in 2009 through 2012, provide additional funding for state allotments for the period 10/1/2012 through 3/31/2013, and coordinate funding for CHIP in fiscal year 2009. See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-22162.pdf.</p>
9/23/09	EEOC	<p>Request for comments on the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's (EEOC) proposed revisions to the employment regulations governing the <i>Americans with Disabilities Act</i>, as amended. Comment deadline: 11/23/09 EEOC is responsible for enforcement of Title I of the ADA, and has proposed revisions that address the definition of disability to broaden the tighter interpretations handed down in several U.S. Supreme Court decisions. In addition, the proposal would revise the definition of the term "substantially limits" to help a person with a disability meet the standard that is currently governed by whether the limitation is either significant or severe, and would expand the definition of "major life activities" by including two "non-exhaustive lists." See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-22840.htm.</p>

Final Rules – Comments have been received, processed and program implementation policies have been finalized or withdrawn. Please take note of the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	
9/23/09	SSA	<p>Revised rules from the Social Security Administration (SSA) governing authorization of representatives' fees. Effective date: 10/23/09 Based on provisions contained in the <i>Social Security Act</i>, SSA is revising the rules governing fees paid to claimant representatives in certain instances. Claimant representatives are either appointed by a court or chosen by the claimant to represent him or her while doing business with SSA. In the first instance of the rule change, SSA is no longer requiring authorization if the fee is being paid by a third-party, such as an insurance company. In this circumstance, "there is no risk that the claimant or auxiliary beneficiaries will be charged an unreasonable fee. In the second instance, authorization is no longer needed if a legal guardian's or a court-appointed representative's fee has already been authorized by a court. See the document at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-22842.htm.</p>

Meeting Notices – Important information about upcoming federal agency meetings, audio conferences, and web casts. If you are unable to attend a meeting, most panels, committees, etc. will provide a transcript or other documents upon request. Use the contact information provided to request materials. Please take note of the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	
9/18/09	EAC U.S. Election Assistance Commission	<p>Meeting Date: 10/13/09 at 9:00 a.m. Meeting Place: Kellogg Conference Center, Gallaudet University, 800 Florida Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C. EAC serves as a clearinghouse on federal election administration and oversees voting system guidelines. The Commission is hosting a “roundtable discussion regarding research, development and implementation of technologies and other assistance to make voting more accessible.” Panelists will advise the Commission on the kinds of research that should be funded under the Accessible Voting Technology Initiative (AVTI). The public may attend this roundtable, but may not participate in the discussions. For more information on EAC, go to: http://www.eac.gov/. For more information about the meeting, contact Mark Abbott at 202-566-3100.</p>
9/28/09	HHS Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Ethics Subcommittee	<p>Meeting Date: 10/15/09 at 10:00 a.m. Meeting Place: Via teleconference. To participate in the meeting, dial 866-919-3560, then enter passcode 4168828. This subcommittee provides counsel to the Advisory Committee to the Director of CDC on public health ethics questions and issues. On the agenda “Ethical guidance for ventilator distribution during a severe pandemic.” There will be a public comment period between 11:10 and 11:20 a.m. For more information about the subcommittee, go to: http://www.cdc.gov/od/science/phethics/jointMeetings/. For more information about the meeting, contact Dr. Drue Barrett at 404-639-4690 or at d Barrett@cdc.gov.</p>
9/29/09	HHS Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for Health Information Technology’s HIT Standards Committee	<p>Meeting Date: 10/14/09 at 9:00 a.m. Meeting Place: The Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert Street, NW, Washington, D.C. This committee provides recommendations to the ONC on standards, implementation, and other information on the electronic exchange of health information that is consistent with federal health information technology. On the agenda are reports from various workgroups and testimony from security experts on health information technology. The public is invited to present data, information, or a point of view during the meeting. For more information about this committee, go to: http://healthit.hhs.gov and click on “Federal Advisory Committees.” For more information about the meeting, contact Jonathan Ishee at 202-205-8493 or at jonathan.ishee@hhs.gov.</p>
9/30/09	EAC U.S. Election Assistance Commission	<p>Meeting Date: 10/8/09 at 1:00 p.m. Meeting Place: EAC, 1225 New York avenue, NW, Suite 150, Washington, D.C. EAC serves as a clearinghouse on federal election administration and oversees voting system guidelines. One of the agenda items is a panel discussion on voting accessibility. For more information about EAC, go to: www.eac.gov/. For more information about the meeting, contact Bryan Whitener at 202-566-3100.</p>

- 9/30/09 HHS **Meeting Date: 10/21 and 10/22/09 at 8:30 a.m.**
Meeting Place: Four Points by Sheraton, 1201 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C.
 Advisory Committee on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention (ACCLPP)
 ACCLPP provides advice and guidance to the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Assistant Secretary for Health, and the Director of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on childhood lead poisoning prevention efforts, including new scientific knowledge and technological developments. The committee also reports on childhood lead poisoning practices. On the agenda are updates from workgroups related to educational intervention, lead and pregnancy, and consumer products, just to name a few. For more information about the committee, go to: http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/ACCLPP/acclpp_main.htm. For more information about the meeting, contact Claudine Johnson at 770-488-3629.
- 9/30/09 HHS **Meeting Dates: 10/27/09 at 10:00 a.m. and 10/28/09 at 8:30 a.m.**
Meeting Place: The Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert Street, NW, Washington, D.C.
 Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for Health Information Technology's HIT Policy Committee
 The Policy Committee makes recommendations to ONC on the electronic exchange and use of health information through the use of a policy framework and ensures consistency with the federal health IT Strategic Plan. On the agenda are presentations from several workgroups and testimony from experts on "Meaningful Use Objectives." For more information about the committee, go to: <http://healthit.hhs.gov>. For more information about the meeting, contact Judy Sparrow at 202-205-4528 or at judy.sparrow@hhs.gov.

Presidential Documents – These documents are statements, messages, remarks, and other materials released by the White House.

Date Dept

None