

Issued by the Commission in Washington, D.C. on November 20, 1998.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 98-31631 Filed 11-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Defense Finance and Accounting Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service announces the proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by January 25, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to the Denver Center, Defense Finance and Accounting Service, DFAS-DE/FJPD, Attn: Carolyn Crane, 6760 East Irvington Place, Denver, CO 80279-3000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the above address, or call Carolyn Crane, 303-676-7818.

Title, Associated Form, and OMB Number: Dependency Statement—Ward of a Court.

Needs and Uses: A military member may claim a ward of a court for monetary allowances. Pursuant to 37 U.S.C. 401, 403 and 406, the member must provide over one-half of the claimed ward's monthly expenses. DoDFMR 7000.14, Volume 7A defines the definition of dependent and directs that dependency be proved. This form

may be prepared by the military member or may be prepared by another individual who may be a member of the public.

Affected Public: Individuals.

Annual Burden Hours: 187.5 hours.

Number of Respondents: 150.

Responses per Respondent: 1 (new form may be required if circumstances change).

Average Burden per Response: 1.25 hours.

Frequency: On occasion.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Summary of Information Collection

When military members apply for benefits, they will complete this form, Dependency Statement—Ward of a Court. While members would normally complete this form, they could also be completed by others considered members of the public. Dependency claim examiners will use information from these forms to determine the degree of benefits. This collection will also decrease the possibility of monetary allowances being approved on behalf of ineligible dependents, and alleviate the opportunity for fraud, waste and abuse.

Dated: November 19, 1998.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc 98-31418 Filed 11-24-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

TRICARE; the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS); Specialized Treatment Services (STS) Program

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice is to advise interested parties that Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC), Washington, DC, located in TRICARE Region 1 has been designated a Multi-Regional Specialized Treatment Services Facility (STSF) for Liver Transplantation and a National STSF for Renal Transplantation. The application for the STSF designation was submitted by WRAMC and approved by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs). The Lead Agent for Region 1 will ensure that the STSF maintains the quality and standards required for specialized treatment services. The designation covers the following Diagnosis Related Groups: 480—Liver Transplant

302—Kidney Transplant

Travel and lodging for the patient and, if stated to be medically necessary by a referring physician, for one non-medical attendant, will be reimbursed by WRAMC in accordance with the provisions of the Joint Federal Travel Regulation. DOD beneficiaries who reside in the Multi-Regional STS Catchment Area for liver transplant which includes TRICARE Regions 1, 2, and 5 must be evaluated by WRAMC before receiving TRICARE/CHAMPUS cost sharing for liver transplantation that falls under Diagnosis Related Group 480. DOD beneficiaries who reside in the National STS Catchment Area must be evaluated by WRAMC before receiving TRICARE/CHAMPUS cost sharing for kidney transplantation that falls under Diagnosis Related Group 302. Evaluation in person is preferred, and travel and lodging expenses for the evaluation will be reimbursed as stated above. It is possible to conduct the evaluation telephonically if the patient is unable to travel to WRAMC. If the procedures cannot be performed at WRAMC, the facility will provide a medical necessity review prior to issuance of a Nonavailability Statement.

The STS Multi-Regional Catchment Area for liver transplant covering TRICARE Regions 1, 2, and 5 includes all zip codes within those TRICARE Regions. The STS National Catchment Area for kidney transplant is defined as the continental United States (i.e., 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia excluding Alaska and Hawaii).

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ms. Kendra Drew, WRAMC, at (202) 782-4302, or Captain D. Michael Jones, TRICARE Region 1 Lead Agent Office, at (202) 782-1483; or Lieutenant Colonel Teresa Somme, TRICARE Management Activity, (703) 681-3628, extension 5029; or Mr. Tariq Shahid, TRICARE Management Activity, (303) 676-3801.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In FR DOC 93-27050, appearing in the **Federal Register** on November 5, 1993 (Vol. 58, FR 58955-58964), the final rule on the STS Program was published. Included in the final rule was a provision that a notice of all military and civilian STS facilities be published in the **Federal Register** annually. This notice is issued under the authority of 10 U.S.C. 1105 and 32 CFR 199.4(a)(10).

Dated: November 19, 1998.

L.M. Bynum,

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison
Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 98-31419 Filed 11-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

TRICARE; the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS); Specialized Treatment Services (STS) Program

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice is to advise interested parties that Keesler Medical Center, Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Mississippi, has been designated a regional Specialized Treatment Services Facility (STSF) for TRICARE Region Four. The application for this STSF designation was submitted by the Lead Agent for TRICARE Region Four and approved by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs). The Lead Agent will ensure that the STSF maintains the quality and standards required for specialized treatment services. This designation covers the following Diagnostic Related Groups:

- 001—Craniotomy, Age Greater than 17, Except for Trauma
- 003—Craniotomy, Age, 0-17
- 004—Spinal Procedures
- 049—Major Head and Neck Procedures
- 191—Pancreas, Liver and Shunt Procedures with CC
- 209—Major Joint and Limb Reattachment Procedures of Lower Extremity
- 286—Adrenal and Pituitary Procedures
- 357—Uterine and Adnexa Procedures for Ovarian or Adnexal Malignancy
- 491—Major joint and Limb Reattachment Procedures of Upper Extremity

Keesler Medical Center continues to be an STS facility for Cardiac Surgery (DRG 104, DRG 105, DRG 106, DRG 107, DRG 108, DRG 110, DRG 111, DRG 112, DRG 124, DRG 125); Complicated Obstetrics (DRG 370, DRG 372, DRG 383); and Neonatal care (DRG 604, DRG 607, DRG 611, DRG 612, DRG 613, DRG 617, DRG 618, DRG 622, DRG 626, DRG 636).

Travel and lodging for the patient and, if stated to be medically necessary by a referring physician, for one nonmedical attendant, will be reimbursed by Keesler Medical Center in accordance with the provisions of the Joint Federal Travel Regulation. DoD

beneficiaries who reside in the Regional STS Catchment Area for TRICARE Region Four must be evaluated by Keesler Medical Center before receiving TRICARE/CHAMPUS cost sharing for procedures that fall under the above Diagnosis Related Groups. Evaluation in person is preferred, and travel and lodging expenses for the evaluation will be reimbursed as stated above. It is possible to conduct the evaluation telephonically if the patient is unable to travel to Keesler Medical Center. If the procedure cannot be performed at Keesler Medical Center, the facility will provide a medical necessity review prior to issuance of a Nonavailability Statement.

The Regional STS Catchment Area covering TRICARE Region four is defined by zip codes in the Defense Medical Information System STS Facilities Catchment Area Directory. The Catchment Area includes zip codes within TRICARE Region Four that fall within a 200 mile radius of Keesler Medical Center.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Captain David Johnson, Keesler Medical Center, (228) 377-7685; or Colonel Joe Taylor, Office of the Lead Agent, TRICARE Region Four, (228) 377-9643; or Lieutenant Colonel Teresa Sommese, TRICARE Management Activity, (703) 681-3628, extension 5029; or Mr. Tariq Shahid, TRICARE Management Activity, (303) 676-3801.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In FR DOC 93-27050, appearing in the **Federal Register** on November 5, 1993 (Vol. 58, FR 58955-58964), the final rule on the STS Program was published. Included in the final rule was a provision that a notice of all military and civilian STS facilities be published in the **Federal Register** annually. This notice is issued under the authority of 10 U.S.C. 1105 and 32 CFR 199.4(a)(10).

Dated: November 19, 1998.

L.M. Bynum,

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison
Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 98-31420 Filed 11-24-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

TRICARE; the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS); Specialized Treatment Services (STS) Program

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice is to advise interested parties that St. Joseph Hospital, 5665 Peachtree Dunwoody Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30342; The Medical University of South Carolina, 171 Ashley Avenue, Charleston, SC 29425; Tampa General Hospital, Davis Island, P.O. Box 1289, Tampa FL 33601; St. Thomas Hospital, 3401 West End Avenue, Suite 120, Nashville, TN 37203; The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Transplant Center, 102 Mortimer Jordan Hall, 1825 University Boulevard, Birmingham, AL 35294-2010; Egleston Children's Hospital, 1405 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30322-1101; and Jackson Memorial Hospital, 1611 NW 12th Avenue, Miami, FL 33136-1094, have been designated as Regional Specialized Treatment Services Facilities (STSFs) for various Transplant procedures. The application for the STSF designation for these facilities was submitted by the Humana Military Health Services, Inc. (HMHS) in coordination with the Lead Agents for TRICARE Regions 3 and 4 and approved by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs). The HMHS will oversee that these STSFs maintain the quality and standards required for specialized treatment services. This designation covers the following Diagnosis Related Groups:

- 103—Heart Transplant (Medical University of South Carolina, University of Alabama-Birmingham, Egleston Children's Hospital, Jackson Memorial Hospital, St. Joseph Hospital, St. Thomas Hospital, and Tampa General Hospital)
- 480—Liver Transplants (Medical University of South Carolina, University of Alabama-Birmingham, Egleston Children's Hospital, and Jackson Memorial Hospital)
- 495—Lung Transplant (University of Alabama-Birmingham)
- 495—Heart-Lung Transplant (University of Alabama-Birmingham)

As part of the STS program within TRICARE Regions 3 and 4, HMHS will assume responsibility for transportation, food and lodging for patients within a radius ranging from over 40 miles and up to 200 miles from designated STS Transplantation Centers. Under this plan, HMHS will reimburse patients the mileage allowance for travel, pay up to the per diem allowed by the government for food and lodging, or the actual cost, whichever is less, and will adjust per diems and mileage allowances according to government regulations. Whenever possible, HMHS will also make lodging arrangements for the patients and one non-medical attendant.