



## **FFIS Weekly Update – June 8, 2010**

### **GENERAL**

#### **1) June 8, 2010: ARRA FMAP Extension Added Back to Senate Bill**

Before adjourning for Memorial Day recess, the House passed a scaled-back version of a House-Senate compromise on the tax extender bill (H.R. 4213) that dropped provisions to extend COBRA benefits and ARRA Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (FMAPs) for two additional quarters. Today, the Senate released an amendment to the House bill that adds back the FMAP extension. The Senate will begin consideration of the bill this week. The summary and legislative language is available at:

<http://finance.senate.gov/legislation/details/?id=1c237e70-5056-a032-52e9-ef5f959b7a76>

#### **2) June 8, 2010: OMB Issues Guidance to Federal Agencies on Reducing FY 2012 Budget**

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued two memorandums to federal agencies regarding the preparation of the FY 2012 budget request. The first requires that each non-security agency submit a budget request that is 5% below the discretionary total provided in the FY 2011 proposed budget. The second requires each agency identify the programs that have the lowest impact on their mission and constitute at least 5% of the agency's discretionary budget. For more information, see:

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda\\_default/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda_default/)

### **EDUCATION**

#### **June 7, 2010: ED Waives Requirements to Continue Funding for the Comprehensive Centers Program**

The Department of Education (ED) recently published a notice waiving the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) requirements for grantees under the Comprehensive Centers program. EDGAR requirements generally prohibit project periods exceeding five years and project period extensions involving the obligation of additional federal funds. To access this notice, click here:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-13571.pdf>

### **ENERGY**

#### **June 7, 2010: DOE Adopts Final Rule Regarding Treatment of Information Requested on WAP Funds**

The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a final rule adopting an interim final rule published on March 11, 2010, requiring that all states participating in the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) treat all requests for information concerning applicants and recipients of WAP funds in a manner consistent with the federal government's treatment of information requested under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Click here to access the final rule: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-13594.pdf>

### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

#### **1) June 2, 2010: ACF Releases TANF Guidance on Non-Countable Work Activities**

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) released Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) guidance to encourage states to use the "Other Work Activities" data element to report hours of participation in activities that cannot count toward the work participation rates. To view the information, click here: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/policy/im-ofa/2010/im201001.html>

#### **2) HHS Issues Proposed Rule on Safeguarding Child Support Information**

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published a proposed rule, revising a 2008 final rule, to prohibit disclosure of confidential information to private collection agencies and expand disclosure to

child welfare programs and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The proposed rule is available at: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-13021.pdf>

**3) June 7, 2010: HHS Issues Proposed Rule on FMAP Change Included in CHIPRA**

The Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA) specifies that certain significantly disproportionate employer pension or insurance fund contributions be disregarded when computing the per capita income used to calculate the FMAP. Under the proposed rule, any state that believes an individual employer has made a significantly disproportionate employer or insurance contribution would be responsible for submitting data to HHS for verification. For more information, see: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-13680.pdf>

**4) June 4, 2010: SAMHSA Report Shows All States in Compliance with Synar Amendment**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) issued its annual report on the Synar Amendment, a law enacted in 1992 requiring states to enact and enforce laws prohibiting the sale or distribution of tobacco products to individuals under 18. The report found that FY 2009 is the fourth year for which no state was out of compliance with the requirements. To view the report, see: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1006035646.aspx>

**Health Care Reform**

**1) June 7, 2010: HHS Announces \$51 Million in Rate Review Grants**

HHS announced the availability of \$51 million in Health Insurance Premium Review Grants through a new five-year \$250 million grant program created and funded by the health care reform law. All states and the District of Columbia are eligible for this first round of rate review grants, and successful applications will receive a \$1 million grant. For more information, go to:

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/06/20100607a.html>

**2) June 4, 2010: ONC Announces New Enrollment Workgroup**

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) has organized a new enrollment workgroup to develop a set of standards that would facilitate enrollment in federal and state health and human services programs, including offerings by new health insurance exchanges. Additional details are available at:

<http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt?open=512&mode=2&objID=2004&PageID=18539>

**3) June 3, 2010: HHS Announces \$60 Million for Long-Term Care**

HHS announced the availability of \$60 million in grants to states and communities to help individuals and their care givers better understand and navigate their health and long-term care options. For more details, click here: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/06/20100603b.html>

**4) June 2, 2010: HHS Announces the Multi-payer Advanced Primary Care Practice Demonstration**

HHS invited states to apply for participation in the Multi-payer Advanced Primary Care Practice Demonstration, a three-year initiative announced in September 2009 in which Medicare will join Medicaid and private insurers in state-based efforts to improve the delivery of primary care and lower health care costs. HHS anticipates making awards to up to six states. For more information, see:

<http://www.cms.gov/DemoProjectsEvalRpts/MD/itemdetail.asp?itemID=CMS1230016>

**HOUSING**

**1) June 4, 2010: HUD Announces FY 2009 Funding Awards for ROSS Service Coordinators Program**

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced funding decisions for the Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Service Coordinators Program. For more information, click here:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-13471.pdf>

**2) June 3, 2010: HUD Release New FAQs on Housing Choice Voucher Program**

HUD's new question and answer document contains questions asked by public housing authorities (PHAs) concerning the FY 2010 Housing Choice Voucher Program funding process and other financial issues. Click here to access this document: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/hcv/fmd/2010funding-ga.pdf>

### **3) June 1, 2010: HUD Awards Six Housing Authorities \$113.6 Million**

HUD announced that six PHAs (Charlotte, NC; Covington, KY; Dallas, TX; Jersey City and Trenton, NJ; and Memphis, TN) will receive \$113.6 million to transform distressed public housing developments in their cities into mixed-income communities. Click here for additional details:

[http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page/portal/HUD/press/press\\_releases\\_media\\_advisories/2010/HUDNo.10-112](http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page/portal/HUD/press/press_releases_media_advisories/2010/HUDNo.10-112)

### **4) June 1, 2010: HUD Posts 2010 Set-Aside Rewards**

The FY 2010 Appropriations Act for HUD provided for a set-aside of Housing Assistance Payments renewal funds of up to \$150 million, to be used to adjust renewal funding allocations for PHAs for specific purposes set forth in the act. Click here to access the funding that has been awarded by state:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/hcv/hap10.cfm>

## **JUSTICE**

### **May 2010: Update on SORNA Extensions**

As of May 27, 2010, 87 jurisdictions have requested and received extensions until July 27, 2011, to substantially implement the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA). To view the list of extensions granted, click here: [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/smart/pdfs/SORNA\\_Extensions\\_Granted.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/smart/pdfs/SORNA_Extensions_Granted.pdf)

## **TRANSPORTATION**

### **1) June 2, 2010: FHWA Issues FY 2010 Supplementary Apportionment Tables**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recently issued a notice providing supplementary tables related to certain FY 2010 apportionments. For more information, click here:

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/legsregs/directives/notices/n4510727.htm>

### **2) June 3, 2010: FTA Seeks Comments on Evaluation Criteria for Transit Grant Programs**

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) published a proposed rulemaking to seek comments on the cost effectiveness, environmental benefits, and economic development benefits criteria the agency uses to evaluate New Starts and Small Starts projects. The competitive grant programs provide funding for new or major capital investment projects for public transportation systems. To view the notice, see:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-13423.pdf>

## **ARRA**

## **ENERGY**

### **June 4, 2010: DOE Announces \$29 Million in ARRA Funds for Weatherization Training Centers**

DOE announced that 34 projects in 27 states have been selected to receive \$29 million under ARRA to develop and expand weatherization training centers across the country. Click here for additional details:

<http://www.energy.gov/news/9029.htm>

## **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **1) June 3, 2010: HHS Awards \$83.9 Million for HIT Systems**

HHS announced \$83.9 million in grants to help networks of health centers adopt electronic health records (EHR) and other health information technology (HIT) systems. To view the awards by state, see:

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/06/20100603a.html>

### **2) June 4, 2010: Updated ARRA Medicaid Funding Table**

HHS posted updated state-by-state Medicaid grant funding information, as approved in Section 5001 of ARRA, through June 4, 2010:

<http://transparency.cit.nih.gov/RecoveryGrants/grant.cfm?grant=Reinvestment>

## **HOMELAND SECURITY**

### **June 2, 2010: DHS Announces Additional ARRA Funding for Airport Security Technologies**

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced approximately \$78 million in ARRA funding for airport security technology projects. For more information, see:

[http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr\\_1275500818702.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr_1275500818702.shtm)

## **TRANSPORTATION**

### **June 7, 2010: FTA Updates Information on ARRA Reporting Requirements**

FTA has updated its website to include information on ARRA Section 1512 webinars scheduled in June and a reminder for grant recipients to renew their Central Contractor Registration (CCR). For more details, see: [http://www.fta.dot.gov/index\\_9440.html](http://www.fta.dot.gov/index_9440.html)