Dear Jennifer,

Thank you for your submission on May 4, 2021, of Wisconsin’s request for a modification of normal post-award forum procedures during the public health emergency pursuant to 45 CFR § 155.1320(c)(2). After evaluating your request, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of the Treasury have determined that your proposed modified post-award forum procedures to hold your forum virtually meet the requirements set forth in 45 CFR § 155.1320(c)(2).

Within 15 calendar days of your receipt of this modification determination, please post it and your modification request to your public website along with any information related to the approved revised timeline to hold the post-award forum, as applicable and consistent with 45 CFR § 155.1320(c)(2)(ii)(E). Please also ensure that you summarize your modified post-award forum procedures in applicable quarterly and annual reports consistent with 45 CFR § 155.1320(c).

Sincerely,

CMS Waiver Support Team
Hi,

Thank you for the follow up. Please see my responses below in red.

Thank you,
Jennifer

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Dear Jennifer,

Thank you for submitting Wisconsin’s request for a modification of normal post-award forum procedures. We are requesting additional information on your proposed procedures related to:

- **How you will ensure that attendees can ask questions**  
  In 2020 we used Zoom and would do that again for 2021, if allowed to hold a virtual forum. Using that platform allows us to both accept questions and comments through the chat feature and allow individuals to unmute themselves to ask questions. This meeting typically yields a manageable number of people and I think we would allow them to unmute themselves. However, another option would be for us to ask attendees to signify through chat that they’d like to ask a question and we could unmute the individuals from our end.

- **How you will track attendance**  
  Zoom can be set up to capture a list of individuals who join, that is what we did last year. If preferred, we can ask attendees to introduce themselves.

- **How you will ensure compliance with applicable federal civil rights requirements and other accessibility requirements** (see preamble of 2012 rule)  
  The meeting will be publicly posted to the OCI website and distributed to anyone who is signed up to receive OCI meeting notifications. In addition, the meeting notice is physically posted to the OCI official open meetings bulletin board (in the lobby of the office building), and posted to the Wisconsin Public Meetings, Notices, & Minutes website [https://publicmeetings.wi.gov/](https://publicmeetings.wi.gov/). The following language is included on all of our meeting notices: “If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please call the OCI contact person on this notice. For the hearing impaired, call 711 and give them the OCI contact person’s number as listed in this notice.” The meeting notice used last year is attached for your reference.

We would like to share our determination within the approximate 15-day timeframe provided under the regulation, so we would appreciate if you could share any additional information you have as soon as possible.
Thank you,

CMS Waiver Support Team

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From: Stegall, Jennifer - OCI <Jennifer.Stegall@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:11 PM
To: CMS 1332-WaiverSupport <1332-WaiverSupport@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: Request to hold a virtual annual public forum

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to request that WI OCI be allowed to hold the annual public forum this summer virtually to mitigate the potential risk associated with COVID-19. OCI held the forum virtually last year with success. If allowed to do so again this year, we will publicly notice the meeting and ensure the public can attend and offer comments. The virtual location, date, and time of the hearing will be included in the notice. A power point presentation will be used to share information with attendees and will be posted to the OCI website. Attendees will be able to ask questions during the presentation or submit comments afterwards. The exact date of the forum is not yet set but we will post hearing information at least 30 days in advance of the hearing.

Please let me know if you need any further information.

Thank you,

Jennifer Stegall | Executive Senior Policy Advisor
Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance
Jennifer.Stegall@wisconsin.gov | 608-267-7911 | www.oci.wi.gov

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