III. Solicitation
The agency is soliciting comments to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed information requirement is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden; (3) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) minimize the burden of collecting the information on those who are to respond, including by using appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Interested persons are requested to send comments regarding this information collection by April 10, 2012 to: (1) The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 10202, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention: Nicholas A. Fraser; Desk Officer for the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and via email at nfraser@omb.eop.gov; and (2) The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences by electronic mail message over the Internet addressed to: TPCBMP_Definition@uspto.gov, or by mail addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Board, Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450, marked to the attention of “Lead Judge Michael Tierney, Covered Business Method Patent Review Proposed Definition for Technological Invention.”

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number.

List of Subjects in 37 CFR Part 42
Administrative practice and procedure, Inventions and patents, Lawyers.

Proposed Amendments to the Regulatory Text
For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office propose to amend 37 CFR part 42 as proposed to be added in the February 9, 2012, issue of the Federal Register as follows:

PART 42—TRIAL PRACTICE BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

1. The authority citation for 37 CFR part 42 continues to read as follows:

2. Add § 42.301 to subpart D to read as follows:
§ 42.301 Definitions.

In addition to the definitions in § 42.2, the following definitions apply to proceedings under this subpart D:
(a) Covered business method patent means a patent that claims a method or corresponding apparatus for performing data processing or other operations used in the practice, administration, or management of a financial product or service, except that the term does not include patents for technological inventions.
(b) Technological invention. In determining whether a patent is for a technological invention solely for purposes of the Transitional Program for Covered Business Methods (section 42.301(a)), the following will be considered on a case-by-case basis: whether the claimed subject matter as a whole recites a technological feature that is novel and unobvious over the prior art; and solves a technical problem using a technical solution.

David J. Kappos
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2012–2538 Filed 2–9–12; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs

41 CFR Part 60–741
RIN 1250–AA02

Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination Obligations of Contractors and Subcontractors Regarding Individuals With Disabilities


ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking and extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On December 9, 2011, the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) published a Federal Register notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM). This NPRM (76 FR 77056) proposes revising the regulations implementing the nondiscrimination and affirmative action regulations of section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. This document extends the comment period for the proposed rule for fourteen (14) days. If you have already commented on the proposed rule, you do not need to resubmit your comment. OFCCP will consider all comments received from the date of publication of the proposed rule through the close of the extended comment period.

DATES: The comment period for the NPRM published on December 9, 2011, scheduled to close on February 7, 2012, is extended until February 21, 2012.
ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by RIN 1250–AA02, by any of the following methods:

- Fax: (202) 693–1304 (for comments of six pages or less).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Debra A. Carr, Director, Division of Policy, Planning and Program Development, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room C–3325, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 693–0103 (voice) or (202) 693–1337 (TTY).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 9, 2011, OFCCP published a proposed rule entitled, “Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination Obligations of Contractors and Subcontractors Regarding Individuals with Disabilities” (76 FR 77056). OFCCP was to receive comments on this NPRM on or before February 7, 2012.

Various organizations and entities submitted requests to extend the comment period by an additional 90 days or more. We considered these requests and determined that it is appropriate to provide an additional 14-day period for comment on the proposed regulation. We are, therefore, extending the comment period until, Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

Extension of Comment Period: OFCCP determined that the public could use additional time to review the potential impact of the proposed requirements. Therefore, to allow the public sufficient time to review and comment on the NPRM, OFCCP is extending the comment period until February 21, 2012.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 6th day of February, 2012.

Patricia A. Shiu,
Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs.

[FR Doc. 2012–3106 Filed 2–7–12; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–45–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

42 CFR Part 71
[Docket No. CDC–2012–0002]
RIN 0920–AA47

Establishment of User Fees for Filovirus Testing of Nonhuman Primate Liver Samples

AGENCY: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and request for comments.

SUMMARY: Through this Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), located within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is proposing to establish a user fee for filovirus testing of all nonhuman primates that die during the HHS/CDC-required 31-day quarantine period for any reason other than trauma. We propose to establish a filovirus testing service at HHS/CDC because testing is no longer being offered by the only private, commercial laboratory that previously performed these tests. This testing service will be funded through user fees. Elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, HHS/CDC is simultaneously publishing a companion direct final rule that proposes identical filovirus testing and user fee requirements in this Federal Register because it believes that these requirements are non-controversial and unlikely to generate significant adverse comment. If HHS/CDC does not receive any significant adverse comment on the direct final rule within the specified comment period, it will publish a notice in the Federal Register withdrawing this notice of proposed rulemaking and confirming the effective date of the direct final rule within 30 days after the end of the comment period on the direct final rule. If HHS/CDC receives any timely significant adverse comment, it will withdraw the direct final rule in part or in whole by publication of a notice in the Federal Register within 30 days after the comment period ends and proceed with notice and comment under this notice of proposed rulemaking. A significant adverse comment is one that explains: Why the direct final rule is inappropriate, including challenges to the rule’s underlying premise or approach; or why the direct final rule will be ineffective or unacceptable without a change.

DATES: Submit written or electronic comments by April 10, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by “RIN 0920–AA47”: By any of the following methods:

- Mail: Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE., MS–01, Atlanta, Georgia 30333, ATTN: NHP NPRM. Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number or Regulation Identifier Number (RIN) for this rulemaking. All comments will be posted without change to http://regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on submitting comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the “Public Participation” heading of the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section of this document.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, please go to http://www.regulations.gov. Comments will be available for public inspection Monday through Friday, except for legal holidays, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., Eastern Time, at 1600 Clifton Road NE., Atlanta, Georgia 30333. Please call ahead to 1–866–694–4867 and ask for a representative in the Division of Global Migration and Quarantine (DGMQ) to schedule your visit. To download an electronic version of this rule, access http://www.regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions concerning this notice of proposed rulemaking: Ashley A. Marrone, JD, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE., Mailstop E–03, Atlanta, Georgia 30333; telephone 404 498–1600. For information concerning program operations: Dr. Robert Mullan, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE., Mailstop E–03, Atlanta, Georgia 30333; telephone 404 498–1600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This preamble is organized as follows:

I. Public Participation
II. Background
III. Rationale for Proposal
IV. User Fee
V. Services and Activities Covered by This User Fee
VI. Analysis of User Fee Charge (Cost to Government)
VII. Payment Instructions
VIII. Regulatory Analysis
IX. References