

EXHIBIT 2—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST BURDEN—Continued

Form name	Number of respondents	Total burden hours	Average hourly wage rate	Total cost burden
<b>Electronic Health Record (EHR) Extracts</b>				
Initial data pull for 10% of hospitals that do not confer rights to their NHSN data (once at baseline for ICU and non-ICU cohorts, 800 units total) .....	27	135	^35.17	4,747.95
Initial data pull for hospital onset bacteremia (including MSSA) and MRSA-positive clinical cultures (not available in NHSN) (once at baseline for ICU and non-ICU cohorts, 800 units total) .....	267	935	^35.17	32,866.37
Initial data pull for 10% of units that submit point prevalence survey data (once at baseline for ICU and non-ICU cohorts, 800 units total) .....	27	14	^35.17	474.80
Initial data pull for 20% of surgical settings that do not confer rights to NHSN data (once at baseline for Surgical cohort, 300 settings total) .....	20	10	^35.17	351.70
Initial data pull (once at baseline for LTC cohort, 300 facilities total) .....	100	500	^35.17	17,585.00
Quarterly data (quarterly during 18 months of implementation for ICU and non-ICU cohorts, 1,100 units total) .....	267	801	^35.17	28,171.17
Quarterly data collection of monthly data for 20% of hospitals that do not confer rights to their NHSN data (quarterly during 18 months of implementation for surgical cohorts, 300 units total) .....	20	60	^35.17	2,110.20
Monthly data (monthly per facility during 18 months of implementation for LTC cohort, 100 facilities total) .....	100	900	^35.17	31,653.00
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>13,429</b>	<b>11,552</b>	.....	<b>540,325.83</b>

\* This is an average of the average hourly wage rate for physician, nurse, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, and nurse's aide from the May 2019 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, United States, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ([https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_nat.htm#00-0000](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm#00-0000)).

^ This is an average of the average hourly wage rate for nurse and IT specialist from the May 2019 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, United States, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ([https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_nat.htm#00-0000](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm#00-0000)).

**Request for Comments**

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520, comments on AHRQ's information collection are requested with regard to any of the following: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of AHRQ's health care research and health care information dissemination functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of AHRQ's estimate of burden (including hours and costs) of the proposed collection(s) of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information upon the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the Agency's subsequent request for OMB approval of the proposed information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 19, 2021.

**Marquita Cullom,**  
Associate Director.

[FR Doc. 2021–15621 Filed 7–21–21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4160–90–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

**Public Health Determination Regarding an Exception for Unaccompanied Noncitizen Children From the Order Suspending the Right To Introduce Certain Persons From Countries Where a Quarantinable Communicable Disease Exists**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), a component of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), announces an Order excepting unaccompanied noncitizen children (UC) from the Order Suspending the Right to Introduce Certain Persons from Countries Where a Quarantinable Communicable Disease Exists, issued on October 13, 2020 (October Order). CDC finds that, at this time, there is appropriate infrastructure in place to protect the children, caregivers, and local communities from elevated risk of COVID–19 transmission as a result of the introduction of UC, and U.S. healthcare resources are not significantly impacted by providing UC necessary care. CDC believes the

COVID–19-related public health concerns associated with UC introduction can be adequately addressed without the UC being subject to the October Order, thereby permitting the government to better address the humanitarian challenges for these children. Therefore, CDC is fully excepting UC from the October Order, and the Notice regarding the temporary exception of UC published February 17, 2021 is hereby superseded.

**DATES:** This Order went into effect July 16, 2021.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tiffany Brown, Deputy Chief of Staff, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS H21–10, Atlanta, GA 30329. Phone: 404–639–7000. Email: [cdcregulations@cdc.gov](mailto:cdcregulations@cdc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As part of government efforts to mitigate the introduction, transmission, and spread of COVID–19, CDC issued the October Order,<sup>1</sup> suspending the right to

<sup>1</sup> Order Suspending the Right to Introduce Certain Persons from Countries Where a Quarantinable Communicable Disease Exists, 85 FR 65806 (Oct. 16, 2020). The October Order replaced the Order Suspending Introduction of Certain Persons from Countries Where a Communicable Disease Exists, issued on March 20, 2020. 85 FR 17060 (Mar. 26, 2020); Extension of Order Under Sections 362 and 365 of the Public Health Service Act; Order Suspending Introduction of Certain Persons From Countries Where a Communicable Disease Exists,

introduce certain persons into the United States (U.S.) from countries or places where a quarantinable communicable disease exists to protect the public's health from an increase in risk of the introduction of COVID-19. The Order applied specifically to certain noncitizens as defined<sup>2</sup> who would otherwise be introduced into a congregate setting in land or coastal ports of entry (POE) or Border Patrol stations at or near the U.S. borders with Canada and Mexico. On February 17, 2021,<sup>3</sup> CDC published a notice announcing the temporary exception from expulsion of unaccompanied noncitizen children<sup>4</sup> (UC) encountered in the United States from the October Order.<sup>5</sup>

As detailed in the Order, CDC has reviewed the current situation with regards to the COVID-19 public health emergency and UC in immigrations facilities and has concluded that it is appropriate to fully except UC from the October Order given the measures in place to prevent and mitigate transmission of COVID-19 in this population. CDC finds that the robust network UC care facilities operated by the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), a component of HHS, the testing and medical care available therein, as well as COVID-19 mitigation protocols including vaccination for personnel and eligible UC, result in very low likelihood that processing UC in accordance with existing immigration procedures under Title 8 of the U.S. Code will result in undue strain on the U.S. healthcare system or healthcare resources. Moreover, UC released to a vetted sponsor or placed in a permanent ORR shelter do not pose a significant level of risk for COVID-19 spread into the community because they are released after having undergone testing, quarantine and/or isolation, and

85 FR 22424 (Apr. 22, 2020); Amendment and Extension of Order Under Sections 362 and 365 of the Public Health Service Act; Order Suspending Introduction of Certain Persons from Countries Where a Communicable Disease Exists, 85 FR 31503 (May 26, 2020).

<sup>2</sup> See 85 FR 65806, 65807.

<sup>3</sup> Notice of Temporary Exception from Expulsion of Unaccompanied Noncitizen Children Encountered in the United States Pending Forthcoming Public Health Determination, 86 FR 9942 (Feb. 17, 2021).

<sup>4</sup> CDC's understanding is that this class of individuals is similar to or the same as those individuals who would be considered "unaccompanied alien children" (see 6 U.S.C. 279) for purposes of HHS ORR custody, were DHS to make the necessary immigration determinations under Title 8 of the U.S. Code.

<sup>5</sup> Notice of Temporary Exception from Expulsion of Unaccompanied Noncitizen Children Encountered in the United States Pending Forthcoming Public Health Determination, 86 FR 9942 (Feb. 17, 2021).

vaccination when possible, and their sponsors are provided with appropriate medical and public health direction.

A copy of the Order is provided below, and a copy of the signed Order can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/pdf/NoticeUnaccompaniedChildren.pdf>.

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

#### Order Under Sections 362 & 365 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 265, 268) and 42 CFR 71.40

#### Public Health Determination Regarding an Exception for Unaccompanied Noncitizen Children From the Order Suspending the right to Introduce Certain Persons From Countries Where a Quarantinable Communicable Disease Exists

As part of U.S. government efforts to mitigate the introduction, transmission, and spread of COVID-19, CDC issued an Order on March 20, 2020 (March Order), later replaced on October 13, 2020 (October Order),<sup>6</sup> suspending the right to introduce<sup>7</sup> certain persons into the United States from countries or places where a quarantinable communicable disease<sup>8</sup> exists in order to protect the

<sup>6</sup> Order Suspending the Right to Introduce Certain Persons from Countries Where a Quarantinable Communicable Disease Exists, 85 FR 65806 (Oct. 16, 2020). The October Order replaced the Order Suspending Introduction of Certain Persons from Countries Where a Communicable Disease Exists, issued on March 20, 2020, extended on April 20, 2020, and amended May 19, 2020. Notice of Order Under Sections 362 and 365 of the Public Health Service Act Suspending Introduction of Certain Persons from Countries Where a Communicable Disease Exists, 85 FR 17060 (Mar. 26, 2020); Extension of Order Under Sections 362 and 365 of the Public Health Service Act; Order Suspending Introduction of Certain Persons from Countries Where a Communicable Disease Exists, 85 FR 22424 (Apr. 22, 2020); Amendment and Extension of Order Under Sections 362 and 365 of the Public Health Service Act; Order Suspending Introduction of Certain Persons from Countries Where a Communicable Disease Exists, 85 FR 31503 (May 26, 2020).

<sup>7</sup> "Suspension of the right to introduce" means to cause the temporary cessation of the effect of any law, rule, decree, or order pursuant to which a person might otherwise have the right to be introduced or seek introduction into the United States. 42 CFR 71.40(b)(5).

<sup>8</sup> Quarantinable communicable diseases are any of the communicable diseases listed in Executive Order, as provided under § 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 264). 42 CFR 71.1. The list of quarantinable communicable diseases currently includes cholera, diphtheria, infectious tuberculosis, plague, smallpox, yellow fever, viral hemorrhagic fevers (Lassa, Marburg, Ebola, Crimean-Congo, South American, and others not yet isolated or named), severe acute respiratory syndromes (including Middle East respiratory syndrome and COVID-19), and influenza caused by novel or reemerged influenza viruses that are

public health from an increase in risk of the introduction of COVID-19. The Orders applied specifically to covered noncitizens<sup>9</sup> who would otherwise be introduced into a congregate setting in land or coastal ports of entry (POE) or Border Patrol stations at or near the U.S. borders<sup>10</sup> with Canada and Mexico. On February 17, 2021, CDC published a notice<sup>11</sup> (February Notice) announcing the temporary exception of unaccompanied noncitizen children from the October Order; the February Notice stated that CDC would complete a public health assessment and publish an additional notice or a modified Order. As explained below, CDC has concluded that it is appropriate to except unaccompanied noncitizen children<sup>12</sup> (UC) from the October Order given the measures in place to prevent and mitigate transmission of COVID-19 in this population.

Under the March and October Orders, UC were included as part of the covered noncitizens for whom the right of introduction into the United States was suspended; however, UC largely have been excepted from the application of the Order, first pursuant to judicial

causing, or have the potential to cause, a pandemic. See Exec. Order 13295, 68 FR 17255 (Apr. 4, 2003), as amended by Exec. Order 13375, 70 FR 17299 (Apr. 1, 2005) and Exec. Order 13674, 79 FR 45671 (July 31, 2014).

<sup>9</sup> This Order is using the term "covered noncitizens" to have the same meaning as "covered aliens" in the October Order. See October Order, 85 FR 65806, 65807 (defining "covered aliens" as "persons traveling from Canada or Mexico (regardless of their country of origin) who would otherwise be introduced into a congregate setting in a land or coastal Port of Entry (POE) or Border Patrol station at or near the United States borders with Canada or Mexico," subject to certain exceptions. These persons "would typically be aliens seeking to enter the United States at POEs who do not have proper travel documents, aliens whose entry is otherwise contrary to law, and aliens who are apprehended near the border seeking to unlawfully enter the United States between POEs.").

<sup>10</sup> When U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) or the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) partner agencies encounter noncitizens off the coast closely adjacent to the land borders, it transfers the noncitizens for processing in POE or Border Patrol stations closest to the encounter. Absent the October Order, such noncitizens would be held in the same congregate settings and holding facilities as any encounters along the land border, resulting in similar public health concerns related to the introduction, transmission, and spread of COVID-19.

<sup>11</sup> Notice of Temporary Exception from Expulsion of Unaccompanied Noncitizen Children Encountered in the United States Pending Forthcoming Public Health Determination, 86 FR 9942 (Feb. 17, 2021).

<sup>12</sup> CDC's understanding is that this class of individuals is similar to or the same as those individuals who would be considered "unaccompanied alien children" (see 6 U.S.C. 279) for purposes of HHS ORR custody, were DHS to make the necessary immigration determinations under Title 8 of the U.S. Code.

action,<sup>13</sup> and later under the February Notice. As a result, since November 18, 2020, UC have generally been processed under regular immigration processes under Title 8 of the U.S. Code and therefore referred from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), an agency within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Administration for Children and Families (ACF) for care and custody, according to the usual legal framework governing such referrals.<sup>14</sup> Pursuant to these requirements, UC encountered in the United States by CBP generally are transferred to ORR within 72 hours of intake at a POE or Border Patrol station.<sup>15</sup> Upon transfer to ORR custody, UC are transported to facilities that operate under cooperative agreements or contracts with HHS and must meet ORR requirements to ensure a high level of quality, child-focused care by appropriately trained staff. ORR operates 210 facilities in 22 states. At these facilities, case managers work to identify and ultimately place UC with vetted sponsors (usually family members within the United States).

Beginning in mid-2020, the United States began experiencing an increase in the number of UC arriving daily at the southern border. By February 2021, due to the record numbers of transfers to ORR, UC being held in CBP custody awaiting ORR transfer increased due to a lack of available space in ORR facilities. ORR and other government agencies responded to the influx of UC by rapidly expanding capacity and developing robust, safe COVID-19 protocols in consultation with CDC.

In conjunction with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and with the assistance of the Department of Defense, HHS and ORR opened temporary intake facilities along the U.S. southern border and in the interior to add capacity. A total of 14 Emergency Intake Sites (EIS)<sup>16</sup> were opened across the United States. CDC

assisted ORR by sending medical epidemiologists and other public health professionals to provide technical assistance on COVID-19 mitigation protocols. ORR now has a capacity of over 20,000 beds; currently, over 15,100 children are in its care. ORR has successfully processed and discharged over 55,000 UC since January 20, 2021. The successful efforts to expand capacity for UC have resulted in sufficient capacity at ORR sites—both along the border and in the interior—significantly reducing the length of time that UC remain in CBP custody. As of July 13, 2021, the current average time a UC remained in CBP custody before transferring to ORR custody was 26 hours, and four UC have been in CBP custody for over 72 hours.<sup>17</sup> This represents a substantial improvement from early 2021.<sup>18</sup> While the number of UC encountered may remain at elevated levels, expanded ORR capacity and improved processing methods have resulted in UC remaining in CBP custody for shorter periods of time.

The processes in place at the EIS and at ORR's regular facilities afford sufficient resources and time to identify SARS-CoV-2 cases and implement environmental controls to attenuate the risk of COVID-19 infection and spread.<sup>19</sup> With CDC's assistance and guidance, ORR also has implemented COVID-19 testing regimes for UC in its care and continues to practice other mitigation measures to further prevent and curtail any transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus among UC in its care. These strategies include universal and proper wearing of masks, physical distancing, frequent hand washing,

cleaning and disinfection, improved ventilation, staff vaccination, and cohorting UC according to their COVID-19 test status. Per CDC recommendation, ORR conducts serial testing of staff to allow early detection of a possible outbreak.<sup>20</sup> ORR contract staff working in facilities serving UC are encouraged to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.<sup>21</sup> As advised by CDC, ORR restricts movement of unvaccinated personnel between facilities to reduce potential outbreaks resulting from transfer of unvaccinated staff between shelters. These measures help reduce the spread of COVID-19 among UC prior to being introduced into U.S. communities.

In addition to the mitigation measures at EIS and ORR facilities outlined above, following FDA expansion of the emergency use authorization for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for adolescents 12 to 15 years of age, CDC provided updated recommendations to ORR regarding the vaccination of UC ages 12 and older. ORR subsequently approved the administration of COVID-19 vaccine for age-eligible children. Under ORR care, children ages 12 and over are offered a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible, as long as there are no contraindications and vaccination does not delay unification of UC with sponsors. Of the total population of UC in ORR care, approximately 90% are eligible for vaccination and, as of July 12, 2021, ORR has administered at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine to 10,124 UC. CDC considers these vaccination efforts to be a critical risk reduction measure that supports exempting UC from the October Order.

Although 8,435 UC have tested positive for COVID-19 while at ORR shelters during the period of March 24, 2020 to July 8, 2021, 8,081 of those UC testing positive have successfully completed medical isolation, with few requiring medical treatment. Similarly, 6,590 COVID-19 cases have been reported among 14 EIS as of July 7, 2021; however only 14 (0.5%) of the UC in this group have required hospitalization (including two severe

<sup>17</sup> HHS Executive Leadership Information Brief (internal document). Published July 12, 2021.

<sup>18</sup> For comparison, on March 29, 2021, nearly 5,500 UC were in CBP custody, with 3,540 of those UC in custody for longer than 72 hours; as of March 31, 2021, the average time in CBP custody for UC was 131 hours.

<sup>19</sup> Specifically, ORR currently uses the following COVID-19 protocols for UC at EIS: UC are tested for COVID-19 by CBP prior to being transported to an EIS and then are also tested upon arrival to EIS. UC are required to quarantine for the first 7 days after admission to an EIS and can be released from quarantine on the morning of day 8 if they remain asymptomatic and had a negative COVID-19 test in the 48 hours prior. In addition to testing at admission and during quarantine, UC are routinely tested during their stay at EIS (e.g., every three days), and any UC that develops symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection is immediately tested. UC who test positive for COVID-19 are required to be isolated for 10 days from the date the positive test was collected, or 10 days from the date of symptom onset if asymptomatic. Contact tracing is conducted whenever anyone tests positive for COVID-19; UC exposed to COVID-19 are quarantined for seven days, tested on the 5th, 6th, or 7th day of their quarantine, and are released upon receiving a negative test result. ORR has also issued similar COVID-19 guidance to licensed facilities.

<sup>20</sup> In ORR facilities where the risk of transmission is moderate to high, public health officials working collaboratively with ORR facilities can determine the appropriateness of offering screening and repeat testing of randomly selected asymptomatic staff and children at the facility, as feasible, to identify cases and prevent secondary transmission.

<sup>21</sup> Additional criteria (e.g., continued symptom monitoring and correct and consistent wearing of masks) should be met by ORR as outlined on CDC's website. See Science Brief: Options to Reduce Quarantine for Contacts of Persons with SARS-CoV-2 Infection Using Symptom Monitoring and Diagnostic Testing, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/scientific-brief-options-to-reduce-quarantine.html> (last updated Dec. 2, 2020).

<sup>13</sup> Dkt. No. 80, *P.J.E.S. v. Mayorkas et al.*, No. 1:20-cv-02245 (D.D.C. Nov. 18, 2020).

<sup>14</sup> See 8 U.S.C. 1232; Stipulated Settlement Agreement, *Flores v. Reno*, No. CV 85-cv-4544 (C.D. Cal. Jan. 17, 1997).

<sup>15</sup> 8 U.S.C. 1232(b)(3).

<sup>16</sup> EIS are intended to be a temporary measure providing a standard of care consistent with the best interest of children during an emergency situation. When fully operational with appropriate staffing and basic medical resources, EIS provide a safer, less crowded environment where UC are cared for, processed as quickly as possible, and are either released to a sponsor or transferred to an appropriate ORR facility for longer-term care. When no longer necessary, EIS facilities are demobilized.

cases requiring intensive care). These numbers indicate that the risk of overburdening the local healthcare systems by UC presenting with severe COVID-19 disease remains low. Based on the robust network of ORR care facilities and the testing and medical care available therein, as well as COVID-19 mitigation protocols including vaccination for personnel and eligible UC, there is very low likelihood that processing UC in accordance with existing Title 8 procedures will result in undue strain on the U.S. healthcare system or healthcare resources. Moreover, UC released to a vetted sponsor or placed in a permanent ORR shelter do not pose a significant level of risk for COVID-19 spread into the community because they are released after having undergone testing, quarantine and/or isolation, and vaccination when possible, and their sponsors are provided with appropriate medical and public health direction.

CDC thus finds that, at this time,<sup>22</sup> there is appropriate infrastructure in place to protect the children, caregivers, and local communities from elevated risk of COVID-19 transmission as a result of the introduction of UC, and U.S. healthcare resources are not significantly impacted by providing UC necessary care. CDC believes the COVID-19-related public health concerns associated with UC introduction can be adequately addressed without UC being subject to the October Order, thereby permitting the government to better address the humanitarian challenges for these children. Based on the foregoing, CDC is fully excepting UC from the October Order,<sup>23</sup> and the February Notice is hereby superseded. This Order shall be immediately effective. I consulted with DHS and other federal departments as needed before I issued this Order and requested that DHS continue to aid in the enforcement of this Order because CDC does not have the capability, resources, or personnel needed to do so.<sup>24</sup>

This Order is not a rule subject to notice and comment under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). Even if it were, notice and comment and a delay in effective date are not required because there is good cause to dispense with prior public notice and the opportunity to comment on this Order and a delayed effective date. Given the public health emergency caused by

COVID-19 and the highly unpredictable nature of its transmission and spread, it would be impracticable and contrary to public health practices and the public interest to delay the issuing and effective date of this Order with respect to UC. In addition, because this Order concerns the ongoing discussions with Canada and Mexico on how best to control COVID-19 transmission over our shared borders, it directly “involve[s] . . . a . . . foreign affairs function of the United States.” 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1). Notice and comment and a delay in effective date would not be required for that reason as well.

#### Authority

The authority for this Order is Sections 362 and 365 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 265, 268) and 42 CFR 71.40.

Dated: July 19, 2021.

#### Sherri Berger,

Chief of Staff, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[FR Doc. 2021-15699 Filed 7-20-21; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 4163-18-P

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Docket No. CDC-2021-0071; NIOSH-341]

#### World Trade Center Health Program; Request for Information

**AGENCY:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HHS.

**ACTION:** Request for information.

**SUMMARY:** The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is soliciting public comment on the scope of an upcoming funding announcement for FY2022 regarding the World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program’s research priorities involving WTC survivors. The WTC Health Program’s research program helps answer critical questions about potential 9/11-related physical and mental health conditions as well as diagnosing and treating health conditions on the List of WTC-Related Health Conditions.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by August 23, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted through either of the following two methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov> (follow the instructions for submitting comments), or

- *By Mail:* NIOSH Docket Office, Robert A. Taft Laboratories, MS C-34, 1090 Tusculum Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226-1998.

*Instructions:* All written submissions received in response to this notice must include the agency name (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HHS) and docket number (CDC-2021-0071; NIOSH-341) for this action. All relevant comments, including any personal information provided, will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rachel Weiss, Program Analyst, 1090 Tusculum Avenue, MS: C-48, Cincinnati, OH 45226; telephone (855) 818-1629 (this is a toll-free number); email [NIOSHregs@cdc.gov](mailto:NIOSHregs@cdc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Title I of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010 (Pub. L. 111-347, as amended by Pub. L. 114-113 and Pub. L. 116-59), added Title XXXIII to the Public Health Service (PHS) Act,<sup>1</sup> establishing the WTC Health Program within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The WTC Health Program provides medical monitoring and treatment benefits for health conditions on the List of WTC-Related Health Conditions (List)<sup>2</sup> to eligible firefighters and related personnel, law enforcement officers, and rescue, recovery, and cleanup workers who responded to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City, at the Pentagon, and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania (responders). The Program also provides benefits to eligible persons who were present in the dust or dust cloud on September 11, 2001, or who worked, resided, or attended school, childcare, or adult daycare in the New York City disaster area (survivors).

The Zadroga Act also requires that the Program establish a research program on health conditions resulting from the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, addressing the following topics:<sup>3</sup>

- Physical and mental health conditions that may be related to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

<sup>1</sup> Title XXXIII of the PHS Act is codified at 42 U.S.C. 300mm to 300mm-61. Those portions of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010 found in Titles II and III of Public Law 111-347 do not pertain to the WTC Health Program and are codified elsewhere.

<sup>2</sup> The List of WTC-Related Health Conditions is established in 42 U.S.C. 300mm-22(a)(3)-(4) and 300mm-32(b); additional conditions may be added through rulemaking and the complete list is provided in WTC Health Program regulations at 42 CFR 88.15.

<sup>3</sup> 42 U.S.C. 300mm-51(a).

<sup>22</sup> This situation could change based on an increased influx of UC, changes in COVID-19 infection dynamics among UC, or unforeseen reductions in housing capacity.

<sup>23</sup> See 86 FR 9942.

<sup>24</sup> 42 U.S.C. 268; 42 CFR 71.40(d).