the CAA. Accordingly, this action merely approves state law as meeting Federal requirements and does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. For that reason, this action:

- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Orders 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993) and 13563 (76 FR 3821, January 21, 2011);
- Does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.);
- Is certified as not having a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);
- Does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–4); and
- Does not have federalism implications as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999);
- Is not an economically significant regulatory action based on health or safety risks subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997);
- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to Executive Order 13211 (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001);
- Is not subject to requirements of Section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the CAA; and
- Does not provide EPA with the discretionary authority to address, as appropriate, disproportionate human health or environmental effects, using practicable and legally permissible methods, under Executive Order 12898 (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994).

In addition, the SIP is not approved to apply on any Indian reservation land or in any other area where EPA or an Indian tribe has jurisdiction. In those areas of Indian country, the rule does not have tribal implications and will not impose substantial direct costs on tribal governments or preempt tribal law as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000).

List of Subjects

40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Carbon monoxide, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Lead, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Particulate matter, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sulfur oxides, Volatile organic compounds.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing PM emission standards and test procedures applicable to certain classes of engines used by civil subsonic jet airplanes (those engines with rated output of greater than 26.7 kilonewtons (kN)). These proposed standards and test procedures are equivalent to the aircraft engine standards adopted by the United Nations’ International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in 2017 and 2020. The proposed rulemaking was signed on December 17, 2021, and it will be published separately in the Federal Register. The pre-publication version is available at https://www.epa.gov/regulations-emissions-vehicles-and-engines/proposed-rule-control-air-pollution-aircraft-engines.

Participation in virtual public hearing. Please note that EPA is deviating from its typical approach because the President has declared a national emergency. Because of current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as state and local orders for social distancing to limit the spread of COVID–19, EPA cannot hold in-person public meetings at this time.

EPA is also asking all hearing attendees to register for the hearing, even those who do not intend to provide testimony, by February 14, 2022. Information on how to register for the hearing can be found at https://www.epa.gov/regulations-emissions-vehicles-and-engines/proposed-rule-control-air-pollution-aircraft-engines. For those without internet access, contact the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section to register.

The last day to pre-register to speak at the hearing will be February 14, 2022. The virtual public hearing will provide interested parties the opportunity to present data, views, or arguments concerning the proposal (the official version of which was signed on December 17, 2021 and a copy of which is available at https://www.epa.gov/regulations-emissions-vehicles-and-engines/proposed-rule-control-air-pollution-aircraft-engines). EPA may ask clarifying questions during the oral presentations but will not respond to the presentations at that time. Written statements and supporting information submitted during the comment period will be considered with the same weight as any oral comments and supporting information presented at the public hearing. EPA recommends submitting the text of your oral comments as written comments to the rulemaking Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2019–
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
42 CFR Part 493
[CMS–3355–RCN]
RIN 0938–AT55
Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA) Proficiency Testing Regulations Related to Analytes and Acceptable Performance; Extension of Timeline for Publication of Final Rule

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), HHS.

ACTION: Extension of timeline for publication of final rule.

SUMMARY: The Social Security Act (the Act) specifies that a Medicare final rule must be published no later than 3 years after the publication date of the proposed rule or interim final rule, as applicable, except under exceptional circumstances. In accordance with the Act, this document announces an extension of the timeline for publication of the final rule and includes a brief explanation of the justification for the variation.

DATES: As of January 18, 2022, the timeline for publication of the final rule to finalize the provisions of the proposed rule published on February 4, 2019 (84 FR 1536), is extended until February 4, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sarah Bennett, CMS, (410) 786–3531 or Nancy Anderson, CDC, (404) 498–2741.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the Federal Register (84 FR 1536), we published a proposed rule entitled “Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA) Proficiency Testing Regulations Related to Analytes and Acceptable Performance”, which would update proficiency testing (PT) regulations under the CLIA to address current analytes (that is, substances or constituents for which the laboratory conducts testing) and newer technologies. This proposed rule would also make additional technical changes to PT referral regulations to more closely align with the CLIA statute.

Section 1871(a)(3)(B) of the Social Security Act (the Act) requires the Secretary to publish a Medicare final rule no later than 3 years after the publication date of the proposed rule or interim final rule, as applicable, except under exceptional circumstances. In such circumstances, the Secretary may vary the final rule publication timeline if the Secretary publishes a Federal Register notice of the different timeline, including a brief explanation of the justification for the variation, by no later than the previously established timeline. To meet the 3-year timeline, the final rule would have to be published by February 4, 2022. For the reasons discussed below, we are unable to publish the final rule by February 4, 2022. In accordance with section 1871(a)(3)(B) of the Act, this document announces an extension of the timeline for publication of the final rule by 1 year until February 4, 2023.

Since the COVID–19 public health emergency was effective January 27, 2020, we prioritized our efforts to issue appropriate regulatory flexibility provisions to increase access to reliable and accurate testing relevant to COVID–19, while minimizing unnecessary regulatory burdens. This redirection continues to require considerable focus and resources, especially to prioritize the publication of notices relevant to COVID–19 and to provide guidance to laboratories involved in COVID–19 testing. Therefore, we cannot meet the February 4, 2022 deadline. However, we intend to publish the final rule by February 4, 2023. Extension of the timeline to allow for issuing the final rule is critical as the release of the final rule is anticipated, and we expect stakeholders, including the laboratory community and others, will react positively to the changes to the CLIA regulations. The practice of laboratory medicine has changed significantly since the PT regulations were published in 1992. There are several clinically important analytes in common use today for which PT was not required in the 1992 rule. The laboratory community is aware of this and other gaps that will be addressed by this final rule. Stakeholders are actively requesting updates to the PT analytes, acceptance limits, and microbiology model and have frequently inquired about the status of the final rule since 2019. For these reasons and based on comments we received in response to the proposed rule, it is important to extend the timeline to issue this final rule to revise and update the CLIA PT regulations.

Karuna Seshasai,
Executive Secretary to the Department, Department of Health and Human Services.

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