

the U.S. have been selected to provide industry-specific assistance to small businesses, and to develop industry relationships and supply chains within their regions. Clusters—geographically concentrated groups of interconnected businesses, suppliers, service providers, and associated institutions in a particular industry or field—act as a networking hub to convene a number of resources to help navigate the funding, procurement, and supply-chain opportunities in a specific industry.

SBA is conducting an evaluation of the Regional Innovation Clusters initiative to determine how the clusters have developed, the type and volume of services they provided to small businesses, client perceptions of the program, and the various outcomes related to their existence, including collaboration among firms, innovation, and small business growth. Small business growth will be compared to the overall growth of firms in those same regions and industries. This evaluation will also include lessons learned and success stories. SBA proposes the use of three instruments for data collection and analysis of three distinct populations. These instruments are: (1) Small Business Survey, (2.) Large Organization Survey and (3.) Cluster Administrator Survey. In addition, SBA plans to interview each of the 11 cluster administrators several times a year regarding program impact and successes or challenges, and to obtain clarifications on information provided in quarterly reports. Each of the proposed surveys will be administered electronically and will contain both open- and close-ended questions. The information collected and analyzed from these instruments will contribute to monitoring performance metrics and program goals, as well as recommendations on improving program practices.

Solicitation of Public Comments

Comments may be submitted on (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the agency to properly perform its functions; (b) whether the burden estimates are accurate; (c) whether there are ways to minimize the burden, including through the use of automated techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) whether there are ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information.

OMB Control Number: 3245–0392.

Title: Regional Innovation Clusters (RIC) Initiative Evaluation Study.

Description of Respondents: Interconnected businesses, Suppliers, Service providers, and associated institutions.

Form Number: N/A.
Estimated Annual Responses: 1,240.
Estimated Annual Hour Burden: 388.

Curtis Rich,

Agency Clearance Officer.

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

[Docket No. SSA–2022–0019]

Privacy Act of 1974; Matching Program

AGENCY: Social Security Administration (SSA).

ACTION: Notice of a new matching program.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the provisions of the Privacy Act, as amended, this notice announces a new matching program with the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). This matching agreement establishes the terms, conditions, and safeguards under which CMS will disclose to SSA Medicare non-utilization information for Social Security Title II beneficiaries aged 90 and above. CMS will identify Medicare enrollees whose records have been inactive for three or more years. SSA will use this data as an indicator to select and prioritize cases for review to determine continued eligibility for benefits under Title II of the Social Security Act (Act). SSA will contact these individuals to verify ongoing eligibility. SSA will use this data for the purposes of fraud discovery and the analysis of fraud program operations; this agreement allows for SSA's Office of Anti-Fraud Programs (OAFP) to evaluate the data for the purposes of fraud detection. SSA will refer individual cases of suspected fraud, waste, or abuse to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for investigation.

DATES: The deadline to submit comments on the proposed matching program is August 1, 2022. The matching program will be applicable on July 1, 2022, or once a minimum of 30 days after publication of this notice has elapsed, whichever is later. The matching program will be in effect for a period of 18 months.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any one of three methods—internet, fax, or mail. Do not submit the same comments multiple times or by more than one method. Regardless of which method you choose, please state that your comments refer to Docket No. SSA–2022–0019 so that we may associate your comments with the correct regulation.

Caution: You should be careful to include in your comments only information that you wish to make publicly available. We strongly urge you not to include in your comments any personal information, such as Social Security numbers or medical information.

1. **Internet:** We strongly recommend that you submit your comments via the internet. Please visit the Federal eRulemaking portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Use the *Search* function to find docket number SSA–2022–0019 and then submit your comments. The system will issue you a tracking number to confirm your submission. You will not be able to view your comment immediately because we must post each submission manually. It may take up to a week for your comments to be viewable.

2. **Fax:** Fax comments to (410) 966–0869.

3. **Mail:** Matthew Ramsey, Executive Director, Office of Privacy and Disclosure, Office of the General Counsel, Social Security Administration, G–401 WHR, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235–6401, or emailing Matthew.Ramsey@ssa.gov. Comments are also available for public viewing on the Federal eRulemaking portal at <https://www.regulations.gov> or in person, during regular business hours, by arranging with the contact person identified below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Interested parties may submit general questions about the matching program to Melissa Feldhan, Division Director, Office of Privacy and Disclosure, Office of the General Counsel, Social Security Administration, G–401 WHR, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235–6401, at telephone: (410) 965–1416, or send an email to Melissa.Feldhan@ssa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Matthew Ramsey,

Executive Director, Office of Privacy and Disclosure, Office of the General Counsel.

Participating Agencies

SSA and CMS.

Authority for Conducting the Matching Program

The legal authority for this agreement is executed in compliance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended by the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act (CMPPA) of 1988 (Pub. L. 100–503), including 5 U.S.C. 552a(b)(3); section 1106 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1306); and Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

guidelines pertaining to computer matching at 54 FR 25818 (June 19, 1989).

Section 202 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 402) outlines the requirements for eligibility to receive Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Benefits under Title II of the Act. Section 205(c) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 405) directs the Commissioner of Social Security to verify the eligibility of a beneficiary.

This matching program employs CMS systems containing Protected Health Information (PHI) as defined by Health and Human Services (HHS) regulation “Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information” (45 CFR 160 and 164 (78 FR 5566, Parts A and E, published January 25, 2013)). PHI authorized by the routine uses may only be disclosed by CMS if, and as permitted or required by the “Standard for Privacy in Individually Identifiable Health Information,” (45 CFR 164.512d).

Purpose(s)

This matching program establishes the terms, conditions, and safeguards under which CMS will disclose to SSA Medicare non-utilization information for Social Security Title II beneficiaries aged 90 and above.

CMS will identify Medicare enrollees whose records have been inactive for three or more years. SSA will use this data as an indicator to select and prioritize cases for review to determine continued eligibility for benefits under Title II of the Act. SSA will contact these individuals to verify ongoing eligibility. In addition, SSA will use this data for the purposes of fraud discovery and the analysis of fraud program operations; this agreement allows for SSA’s OAFP to evaluate the data for purposes of fraud detection. SSA will refer individual cases of suspected fraud, waste, or abuse to OIG for investigation.

Categories of Individuals

The individuals whose information is involved in this matching program are Social Security Title II beneficiaries aged 90 and above.

Categories of Records

SSA will provide CMS with a finder file containing the following information for each individual: (a) Title II Claim Account Number (CAN); (b) Title II Beneficiary Identification Code (BIC); (c) First Name, (d) Last Name, and (e) Date of birth.

CMS will provide SSA with a response file containing the following information for each individual: (a) CMS File Number (identified as a Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN)

or Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI)); (b) Whether CMS matched Beneficiary or individual is a Medicare beneficiary; (c) Whether individual is a Medicaid recipient, (d) Whether Medicare was used in the last 3 years; (e) Whether the beneficiary is a part of an HMO; (f) Whether the beneficiary lives in a nursing home; (g) Whether the beneficiary has private health insurance; (h) Whether the beneficiary has veteran’s health insurance; or (i) Whether the beneficiary has Tricare insurance.

System(s) of Records

SSA will disclose to CMS information from the Master Beneficiary Record (MBR) (60–0090), last fully published January 11, 2006 (71 FR 1826), amended on December 10, 2007 (72 FR 69723), July 5, 2013 (78 FR 40542), July 3, 2018 (83 FR 31250–31251), and November 1, 2018 (83 FR 54969).

SSA will retain any information from the CMS response file in the Anti-Fraud Enterprise Solution (AFES) System of Records for OAFP fraud-related analytics, or data that leads to OAFP to initiate a fraud investigation (60–0388) published May 3, 2018 (83 FR 19588).

CMS will disclose to SSA information from the following Systems of Record (SORs): (a) National Claims History (NCH) (09–70–0558), published November 20, 2006 (71 FR 67137); (b) Enrollment Data Base (EDB) (09–70–0502), published February 26, 2008 at 73 FR 10249; and (c) The Long Term Care—Minimum Data Set (MDS) (90–70–0528), published March 19, 2007 at 72 FR 12801.

SSA’s and CMS’s SORs have routine uses permitting the disclosures needed to conduct this match.

[FR Doc. 2022–14096 Filed 6–30–22; 8:45 am]

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

[Docket No. SSA–2020–0054]

Finding Regarding Foreign Social Insurance or Pension System of Mongolia

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.
ACTION: Notice of finding regarding foreign social insurance or pension system of Mongolia.

SUMMARY: We find that, under the Alien Nonpayment Provision of the Social Security Act (Act), as amended, citizens of Mongolia may not continue to receive Social Security benefits under title II after 6 consecutive calendar months of absence from the United States, unless they meet an exception not related to

citizenship of Mongolia. This finding is based on law, information, and data we received about the social insurance system of Mongolia. The Commissioner of Social Security delegated the authority to make this finding to the Deputy Commissioner for Retirement and Disability Policy.

DATES: We will implement this finding on July 1, 2022.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Icie K. Allen, Office of Income Security Programs, 2500 Robert Ball Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235–6401, (410) 965–8945.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We are prohibited by law from paying benefits under title II of the Act to non-U.S. citizens who remain outside the United States for more than six consecutive calendar months, unless they meet an exception provided in the law. We refer to this portion of the law as the Alien Nonpayment Provision (ANP).¹

We recently reviewed the Mongolian social insurance system to determine if it meets the criteria for an ANP exception. This is our first finding about the social insurance system of Mongolia under the ANP. As a result of this finding, citizens of Mongolia will still be required to meet an exception unrelated to citizenship in order to continue receiving benefits under title II of the Act after six consecutive calendar months outside the United States.

Background: The ANP, section 202(t) of the Act, prohibits payment of title II benefits to individuals who are not U.S. citizens or nationals for any month after they have been outside the United States for more than six consecutive calendar months. Beneficiaries who meet one of the exceptions described in the ANP may continue to receive benefits under title II without regard to absence from the United States. Some of these exceptions require that dependents and survivors meet a 5-year U.S. residency requirement for benefits to continue after six consecutive calendar months of absence from the United States.²

To determine whether the social insurance or pension system meets the criteria for an exception under section 202(t) of the Act, we review the foreign country’s laws. In addition, we review information and data that we receive from the administrators of the social insurance or pension system of that country. The Commissioner of the Social Security Administration publishes these findings in the **Federal Register**.

¹ Section 202(t) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 402(t).

² Section 202(t)(2), (4), (11) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 402(t)(2), (4), (11).