

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

45 CFR Chapter XIII, Subchapter B

RIN 0970-AC63

Head Start Performance Standards; Extension of Comment Period

AGENCY: Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Administration for Children and Families extends the comment period for the notice of proposed rulemaking entitled, “Head Start Performance Standards.” We take this action to respond to requests from the public for more time to submit comments. The notice of proposed rulemaking and our request for comments appeared in the **Federal Register** on June 19, 2015. We initially set August 18, 2015 as the deadline for the comment period. To allow the public more time, we extend the comment period for an additional 30 days.

DATES: ACF extends the comment period for notice of proposed rulemaking entitled, “Head Start Performance Standards” published on June 19, 2015 (80 FR 35430), to September 17, 2015. Submit either electronic or written comments by September 17, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Follow online instructions at www.regulations.gov to submit comments. This approach is our preferred method for receiving comments. Additionally, you may send comments via the United States Postal Service to: Office of Head Start, Attention: Director of Policy and Planning, 1250 Maryland Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20024.

To ensure we can effectively respond to your comment(s), clearly identify the issue(s) on which you are commenting. Provide the page number, identify the column, and cite the paragraph from the **Federal Register** document, (i.e. On page 10999, second column, § 1305.6(a)(1)(i) . . .). All comments received are a part of the public record and will be posted for public viewing on www.regulations.gov, without change. That means all personal identifying information (such as name or address) will be publicly accessible. Please do not submit confidential information, or

otherwise sensitive or protected information. We accept anonymous comments. If you wish to remain anonymous, enter “N/A” in the required fields.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Colleen Rathgeb, Office of Head Start Policy and Planning Division Director, (202) 358-3263, OHS_NPRM@acf.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: HHS published the Head Start Performance Standards notice of proposed rulemaking in the **Federal Register** on June 19, 2015 (80 FR 35430), with a deadline for public comments on August 18, 2015. In response to requests for more time from the public, we extend the comment period from August 18, 2015, to September 17, 2015.

Mark H. Greenberg,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Children and Families.

Approved: August 5, 2015.

Sylvia Matthews Burwell,

Secretary.

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NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

48 CFR Parts 1823 and 1852

RIN 2700-AE16

NASA FAR Supplement: Safety and Health Measures and Mishap Reporting

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: NASA proposes to amend the NASA FAR Supplement (NFS) to revise a current clause related to safety and health measures and mishaps reporting by narrowing the application of the clause, resulting in a decrease in the reporting burden on contractors while reinforcing the measures contractors at NASA facilities must take to protect the safety of their workers, NASA employees, the public, and high value assets. The revision to this proposed rule is part of NASA’s retrospective plan under Executive Order (EO) 13563 completed in August 2011.

DATES: Interested parties should submit written comments to the address shown below on or before October 13, 2015 to be considered in the formation of the final rule.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may submit comments, identified by RIN number 2700-AE16 via the Federal

eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments may also be submitted to Marilyn E. Chambers via email at marilyn.chambers@nasa.gov. NASA’s full plan can be accessed on the Agency’s open government Web site at <http://www.nasa.gov/open/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marilyn E. Chambers, NASA, Office of Procurement, via email at marilyn.chambers@nasa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The NFS clause at 1852.223-70, Safety and Health, is currently used when the—

- Contractor’s work will be conducted completely or partly on premises owned or controlled by the Government;
- Work includes construction, alteration, or repair of facilities in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold;
- Work, regardless of place of performance, involves hazards that could endanger the public, astronauts and pilots, the NASA workforce (including contractor employees working on NASA contracts), or high value equipment or property, and the hazards are not adequately addressed by Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) or Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations (if applicable); or
- Assessed risk and consequences of a failure to properly manage and control the hazard(s) warrants use of the clause.

The clause may be excluded, regardless of place of performance, when the contracting officer, with the approval of the installation official(s) responsible for matters of safety and occupational health, determines that the application of OSHA and DOT regulations constitutes adequate safety and occupational health protection. Similar requirements apply to the flow down of the clause to subcontracts.

In addition to requiring the contractor to report certain mishaps or close calls, the clause currently requires the contractor to investigate these incidents and provide a report to the contracting officer both reporting on the incident and corrective action taken in response to the incident. The clause also contains reporting requirements related to the contract safety and health plan which is required under certain NASA contracts as set forth in 1823.7001(c).

While the clause requires the contractor to take all reasonable safety and occupational health measures in