

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, April 10, 2019.

**Ann E. Misback,**

*Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 2019-07411 Filed 4-12-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

### NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0045; Docket No. 2019-0003; Sequence No. 17]

#### Information Collection; Bid Guarantees, Performance and Payment Bonds, and Alternative Payment Protections

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations, the FAR Council invites the public to comment upon a renewal concerning bid guarantees, performance and payment bonds, and alternative payment protections.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before June 14, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** The FAR Council invites interested persons to submit comments on this collection by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* This website provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field or attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the instructions on the site.

- *Mail:* General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat Division (MVCB), 1800 F Street NW, Washington, DC 20405. ATTN: Ms. Mandell/IC 9000-0045, Bid Guarantees, Performance and Payment Bonds, and Alternative Payment Protections.

*Instructions:* All items submitted must cite Information Collection 9000-0045, Bid Guarantees, Performance and Payment Bonds, and Alternative Payment Protections. Comments received generally will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal and/or business confidential information provided. To confirm

receipt of your comment(s), please check [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), approximately two-to-three days after submission to verify posting (except allow 30 days for posting of comments submitted by mail). This information collection is pending at the FAR Council. The Council will submit it to OMB within 60 days from the date of this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Mahruha Uddowla, Procurement Analyst, at telephone 703-605-2868, or [mahruha.uddowla@gsa.gov](mailto:mahruha.uddowla@gsa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### A. Overview of Information Collection

###### *Description of the Information Collection*

###### 1. *Type of Information Collection:*

Revision/Renewal of a currently approved collection.

###### 2. *Title of the Collection:* Bid Guarantees, Performance and Payment Bonds, and Alternative Payment Protections.

###### 3. *Agency Form Number, if any:* Standard Forms (SF) 24, 25, 25A, 25B, 34, 35, 273, 274, 275, 1416, and 1418.

###### *Solicitation of Public Comment*

Written comments and suggestions from the public should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information 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 of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

##### B. Purpose

FAR Subparts 28.1 and 28.2; FAR clauses at 52.228-1, 52.228-2, 52.228-13, 52.228-14, 52.228-15, 52.228-16; and associated FAR standard forms implement the statutory requirements of the Miller Act (40 U.S.C. 3131 to 3134), which requires performance and payment bonds for any construction contract exceeding \$150,000 unless it is impracticable to require bonds for work

performed in a foreign country, or it is otherwise authorized by law. In addition, the regulations implement the notice to 40 U.S.C. 3132, entitled "Alternatives to Payment Bonds Provided by the Federal Acquisition Regulation," which requires alternative payment protection for construction contracts that exceed \$35,000 but do not exceed \$150,000. Although not required by statute, under certain circumstances the FAR permits the Government to require bonds on other than construction contracts.

FAR clause 52.228-1, Bid Guarantee, as prescribed in FAR 28.101-2, requires the bidder to furnish a bid guarantee in the proper form and amount (SF 24, Bid Bond; SF 34, Annual Bid Bond).

FAR clause 52.228-2, Additional Bond Security, as prescribed in FAR 28.106-4(a), requires the Contractor to furnish additional bond security under certain circumstances. This clause is used both for construction and other than construction contracts. (SF 1415, Consent of Surety and Increase of Penalty).

FAR clause 52.228-13, Alternative Payment Protections, as prescribed in FAR 28.102-3(b), requires the Contractor to submit one of the payment protections listed in the clause by the Contracting Officer, in construction contracts greater than \$35,000 but not exceeding \$150,000.

FAR clause 52.228-14, Irrevocable Letter of Credit, as prescribed in FAR 28.204-4, requires offerors to provide certain information when they intend to use an irrevocable letter of credit (ILC) in lieu of a required bid bond, or to secure other types of required bonds such as performance and payment bonds. This clause is required in solicitations and contracts when a bid guarantee, or performance bonds, or performance and payment bonds are required.

FAR clause 52.228-15, Performance and Payment Bonds-Construction, as prescribed in FAR 28.102-3(a), requires the contractor to provide performance and payment bonds in construction contracts exceeding \$150,000 (SF 25, Performance Bond; SF 25A, Payment Bond; SF 25B, Continuation Sheet (for SF's 24, 25, and 25A); SF 273, Reinsurance Agreement for a Miller Act Performance Bond; SF 274, Reinsurance Agreements for a Miller Act Payment Bond).

FAR clause 52.228-16, Performance and Payment Bonds-Other than Construction, as prescribed by 28.103-4, requires performance and payment bonds for other than construction contracts. This clause is only used in limited circumstances. (SF 35, Annual

Performance Bond; SF 1416, Payment Bond for Other Than Construction Contracts; SF 275, Reinsurance Agreement in Favor of the United States; SF 1418, Performance Bond for Other than Construction Contracts).

### C. Annual Reporting Burden

*Respondents:* 803.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Total Annual Responses:* 803.

*Hours per Response:* 1.

*Total Burden Hours:* 803.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Obtaining Copies:* Requesters may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from the General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat Division (MVCB), 1800 F Street NW, Washington, DC 20405, telephone 202-501-4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0045, Bid Guarantees, Performance and Payment Bonds, and Alternative Payment Protections, in all correspondence.

Dated: April 10, 2019.

**Janet Fry,**

*Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Governmentwide Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2019-07388 Filed 4-12-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6820-EP-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Docket No. CDC-2019-0012]

#### The National Healthcare Safety Network's Proposed Requirement for Submission of Billing Codes as Part of Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Event Reporting; Request for Information

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

**ACTION:** Request for information (RFI).

**SUMMARY:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in the Department of Health and Human Services, announces the opening of a docket to obtain information regarding the proposed requirement for reporting of International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Procedural Classification System (ICD-10-PCS) or Current Procedures Terminology (CPT) Codes (collectively, Billing Codes) when reporting data to the National Healthcare Safety Network's (NHSN)

Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Module of the Patient Safety Component. CDC is opening this docket to provide the opportunity to identify challenges for facilities to include ICD-10-PCS or CPT Codes when reporting SSI data to the NHSN, which is proposed to begin in 2021.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before May 31, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. CDC-2019-0012, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail:* Katherine Allen-Bridson, National Center for Emerging and Infectious Zoonotic Disease, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, Mail Stop H16-3, Atlanta 30329.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and Docket Number. All relevant comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Katherine Allen-Bridson, RN, BSN, MScPH, CIC, National Center for Emerging and Infectious Zoonotic Disease, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, Mail Stop H16-3, Atlanta, GA 30329. Phone: 404-639-4000; Email: [nhsn@cdc.gov](mailto:nhsn@cdc.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Purpose of the Notice:* The purpose of the notice is to request input and information from individuals and organizations on a proposed requirement that all procedure and event data submitted as part of the National Healthcare Safety Network's (NHSN) Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Surveillance Module include ICD-10-PCS or CPT codes. CDC will carefully consider all comments with an intent to determine the feasibility and appropriateness of the proposal.

*Scope of Issue:* The mission of the CDC's Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion (DHQP) is to protect patients and healthcare personnel and promote safety, quality, and value in national and international healthcare delivery systems. In accordance with this mission, DHQP seeks to identify effective prevention methods, foster their implementation, and measure their impact on the incidence of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs). Over 21,000 healthcare facilities report data on HAIs to CDC's NHSN, including data that CDC in turn reports to the Centers

for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on behalf of healthcare facilities. CMS uses the data in its public reporting and payment programs.

*Approach:* CDC seeks information from NHSN users and stakeholders regarding SSI data reporting. Currently, reporting of ICD-10-PCS or CPT codes in the SSI surgical procedure data is optional. Facilities are not currently required to report the Billing Codes to NHSN. If they do not, facilities must instead determine the appropriate NHSN Operative Procedure Category, based on ICD-10-PCS or CPT code the facility has assigned for the procedure, and report that category to NHSN. Reporting ICD-10-PCS and CPT codes rather than only the NHSN Operative Procedure Category provides more detail about the procedure performed. Having Billing Codes that describe specific surgical procedures, rather than simply surgical procedure categories that include a number of Billing Codes, would allow CDC and other NHSN-data users to identify procedures with higher risks of SSI and group like-risk procedures for data comparison across facilities and facility locations.

*Potential Areas of Focus:* The CDC seeks information from NHSN users and stakeholders regarding specific considerations related to this proposal including but not limited to:

1. What, if any, challenges/barriers would the proposed Billing Code reporting requirements for NHSN SSI reporting pose for your facility? How could these challenges/barriers be minimized?

2. Would your facility be able to report the necessary Billing Code data within 4.5 months of the end of the quarter in which the procedure occurred, as is required for participation in the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Service's Inpatient Quality Reporting Program? If no, why not, and what is the shortest amount of time following the end of the quarter that the complete data would be available?

3. If your facility is currently reporting Billing Codes to NHSN as part of SSI reporting, what lessons were learned in setting up the processes to enable such reporting?

Dated: April 9, 2019.

**Sandra Cashman,**

*Executive Secretary, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*

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**BILLING CODE 4163-18-P**