

The EPA has determined that this direct final rule does not include a Federal mandate that may result in estimated costs of \$100 million or more to either State, local, or tribal governments in the aggregate, or to the private sector. Therefore, the requirements of the Unfunded Mandates Act do not apply to this action.

#### *E. Submission to Congress and the Comptroller General*

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*, as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. EPA will submit a report containing this rule and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of the rule in the **Federal Register**. This rule is not a major rule as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

#### **List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 63**

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Hazardous substances, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: March 23, 1998.

**Carol M. Browner,**  
*Administrator.*

For the reasons set out in the preamble, part 63 of chapter I of title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

#### **PART 63—NATIONAL EMISSION STANDARDS FOR HAZARDOUS AIR POLLUTANTS FOR SOURCE CATEGORIES**

1. The authority citation for part 63 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

#### **Subpart JJJ—National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutant Emissions: Group IV Polymers and Resins**

2. Section 63.1311 is amended by revising paragraph (c) introductory text to read as follows:

#### **§ 63.1311 Compliance schedule and relationship to existing applicable rules.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) Existing affected sources shall be in compliance with this subpart (except for § 63.1331 for which compliance is covered by paragraph (d) of this section) no later than September 12, 1999, as

provided in § 63.6(c), unless an extension has been granted as specified in paragraph (e) of this section, except that the compliance date for the provisions contained in 40 CFR 63.1329 is temporarily extended from September 12, 1999, to February 27, 2001, for existing affected sources whose primary product, as determined using the procedures specified in § 63.1310(f), is PET using a continuous terephthalic acid high viscosity multiple end finisher process.

\* \* \* \* \*

[FR Doc. 98-8212 Filed 3-30-98; 8:45 am]

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

#### **Health Care Financing Administration**

#### **42 CFR Part 413**

[HCFA-1808-CN]

RIN 0938-AG70

#### **Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Salary Equivalency Guidelines for Physical Therapy, Respiratory Therapy, Speech Language Pathology, and Occupational Therapy Services; Revised Effective Date and Technical Correction**

**AGENCY:** Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), HHS.

**ACTION:** Final rule; delay of effective date and correction.

**SUMMARY:** This document delays the effective date of the final rule on salary equivalency guidelines, published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 5106) on January 30, 1998, from April 1, 1998 to April 10, 1998. In addition, we are making a technical correction in the preamble to the January 30, 1998 final rule.

**EFFECTIVE DATES:** The effective date of the final rule published at 63 FR 5106 is April 10, 1998. The technical correction is effective April 10, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jackie Gordon, (410) 786-4517.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On January 30, 1998, we issued a final rule in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 5106) that set forth revisions to the salary equivalency guidelines for Medicare payment for the reasonable costs of physical therapy and respiratory therapy services furnished under arrangements by an outside contractor. This final rule also set forth new salary equivalency guidelines for Medicare payment for the reasonable costs of speech language pathology and

occupational therapy services furnished under arrangements by an outside contractor. The guidelines do not apply to inpatient hospital services and hospice services. The guidelines will be used by Medicare fiscal intermediaries to determine the maximum allowable cost of those services. We announced that the effective date for this final rule would be April 1, 1998.

#### **Revised Effective Date**

This rule is a major rule as defined in Title 5, United States Code, section 804(2). Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(3), this rule may not take effect until 60 days after the report required by that section is submitted to Congress. The report for this rule was submitted to Congress on February 10, 1998. Therefore, the earliest date this rule can become effective is April 10, 1998.

#### **Technical Correction**

In the January 30, 1998 final rule (63 FR 5106) on page 5108, first column, beginning in the sixth line, the phrase "Medicare beneficiaries whose nursing home stays are not paid by Medicare" is corrected to read "Medicare SNF residents who are not in a covered Part A stay".

**Authority:** Secs. 1102, 1861(v)(1)(A), and 1871 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1302, 1395x(v)(1)(A), and 1395hh).

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.773 Medicare—Hospital Insurance Program and Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: March 3, 1998.

**Nancy-Ann Min DeParle,**  
*Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration.*

Dated: March 26, 1998.

**Donna E. Shalala,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 98-8502 Filed 3-30-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120-01-P

#### **FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

#### **47 CFR Part 64**

[CC Docket 92-77; FCC 98-9]

#### **Billed Party Preference for InterLATA 0+ Calls; Correction**

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Final rule; correction.

**SUMMARY:** This document corrects a final rule published in the **Federal**

**Register** of March 10, 1998, regarding the filing of revised informational tariffs by operator services providers.

**DATES:** Effective March 31, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Adrien Auger, Enforcement Division, Common Carrier Bureau, (202) 418-0960.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FCC published a document in the **Federal Register** on March 10, 1998, FCC 98-9 (63 FR 11612) FR Doc. No. 98-6088. This document corrects § 64.709(e)(2) on page 11617, in the third column, to read as follows:

**§ 64.709 [Corrected]**

\* \* \* \* \*

(e) \* \* \*

(2) Revised tariffs shall be filled pursuant to the procedures specified in this section.

Dated: March 24, 1998.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Magalie Roman Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 98-8184 Filed 3-30-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### 48 CFR Parts 204, 212, and 252

[DFARS Case 97-D005]

#### Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Central Contractor Registration

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Director of Defense Procurement has issued a final rule amending the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to require contractor registration in the DoD Central Contractor Registration database prior to award of any contract, basic agreement, basic ordering agreement, or blanket purchase agreement, unless the award results from a solicitation issued on or before May 31, 1998. This rule more efficiently implements the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** March 31, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms Sandra G. Haberman, PDUSD (A&T) DP (DAR), IMD 3D139, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3062. Telephone (703) 602-0131; telefax (703) 602-0350. Please cite DFARS Case 97-D005.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### A. Background

The President's Management Council's Electronic Processes Initiatives Committee recently issued a strategic plan for electronic Federal purchasing and payment. The plan identifies three options currently available to agencies for collecting and managing contractor information: (1) Through a central registry, in which contractors could centrally provide information for multiple contracts; (2) through financial intermediaries (networks), that could collect and maintain information on network members; and (3) on a contract-by-contract basis. At this time, DoD has elected to use a Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database to collect and manage contractor information—including taxpayer identification numbers (TINs) and electronic funds transfer (EFT) information required by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-134). Recognizing that technology and the marketplace are dynamic, DoD will continue to assess its registration policy in light of changes in market conditions and advances in technology.

This final rule requires contractor registration in a DoD CCR database prior to award of a contract, basic agreement, basic ordering agreement, or blanket purchase agreement, unless the award results from a solicitation issued on or before May 31, 1998. The rule requires that contractors register on a one-time basis, and confirm on an annual basis that their CCR registration is accurate and complete. The objectives of this rule are (1) to more efficiently comply with Public Law 104-134 by using a central DoD repository to collect statutorily required TINs and EFT information; (2) to simplify and streamline procurement by presenting "one DoD face to industry," and, thereby, eliminate duplicate requirements and processes; and (3) to increase visibility of vendor sources for specific supplies and services.

A proposed rule was published in the **Federal Register** on September 15, 1997 (62 FR 48200). All comments received in response to the proposed rule were considered in the development of the final rule. The final rule differs from the proposed rule in that it (1) revises the date after which prospective contractors must be registered in the CCR database, from March 31, 1998, to May 31, 1998; (2) adds paragraph 204.7303(d) to require the contracting officer to transmit either the Commercial and Government Entity code or the Data Universal Numbering System number to

the payment office; and (3) makes editorial changes for clarification.

#### B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

A Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (FRFA) has been performed. The analysis is summarized as follows:

This final rule requires contractors to register in the CCR database by providing certain business information, including TINs and EFT information required by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-134). Subsequent to the initial registration, contractors will only be required to confirm on an annual basis that their CCR registration is accurate and complete. All small entities will be subject to the rule unless their contract or agreement falls within one of the five exceptions cited in DFARS 204.7302.

An issue raised by one respondent was that the rule will delay the award of contracts to small business vendors that are unaware of the CCR requirements. It is unlikely that a prospective awardee will be unaware of the registration requirement at the time of contract award since the clause requiring CCR registration will be included in solicitations issued after May 31, 1998. In addition, since the goal of DoD is to process each vendor's registration application within 48 hours after receipt, it is unlikely that the registration requirement of the rule will delay a significant number of contract awards.

The one significant alternative that was considered was to exclude small entities from the requirements of this rule. The requirements of Public Law 104-134 would still be accomplished by existing regulations. The conclusion was that this alternative, while fulfilling the objective of Public Law 104-134, does not minimize the economic impact on small entities since existing regulations require a contractor to submit, for every contract, the same information to various contracting or payment offices.

Since this final rule eliminates certain redundant requirements, and their resulting administrative burdens, this alternative of excluding small entities from the requirements of this rule was rejected.

A copy of the FRFA may be obtained from the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, PDUSD (A&T) DP (DAR), 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3062. Please cite DFARS Case 97-D005 in all correspondence.

#### C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) applies, because the