

received. Specifically, EPA is announcing the availability of a guidance document that describes efficacy testing for antimicrobial products to support claims for use on soft surface textiles in clinical and institutional (non-residential) settings and how to prepare an application for registration, a quantitative method for evaluating the efficacy of antimicrobial products on soft surface textiles against viruses, and a quantitative method for evaluating the efficacy of antimicrobial products on soft surface textiles against bacteria. The guidance does not address residential use sites, clothing, frequently laundered items, untreated wood, concrete and other hard porous materials, carpet or rugs, or the backing material/stuffing under the soft surface textile (e.g., beyond what can be visibly observed).

DATES: This guidance is effective on August 29, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marc Carpenter, Microbiology Laboratory Branch (7503M), Biological and Economic Analysis Division, Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Science Center, 701 Mapes Road, Ft. Meade, MD 20755–5350; telephone number: (410) 305–2927; email address: carpenter.marc@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this action apply to me?

This action is directed to the public in general; although this action may be of particular interest to those persons who are or may be required to conduct testing of chemical substances under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How can I get copies of this document and other related information?

A copy of the documents are available in the docket under docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPP–2022–0337 at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

II. Background

EPA received requests to develop test methods, guidance, and an associated registration process for antimicrobial products intended to treat bacterial and viral public health pathogens for use on

soft surface textiles in non-residential settings. There is significant interest from stakeholders and the public in the availability of antimicrobial products with these public health claims, particularly in institutional, clinical, and health-care settings.

EPA announced the availability and sought public comments on an interim guidance document and test methods (87 FR 78105, December 21, 2022 (FRL–10497–01–OCSP)). EPA received approximately 160 public comments, including comments regarding claim nomenclature, clarifications to the methods and revisions to the guidance. After considering the public comments, EPA is releasing revised test methods and guidance document, as well as a response to comments document.

The final guidance document and test methods describe efficacy testing for antimicrobial products to support claims for use on soft surface textiles in clinical and institutional (non-residential) settings and how to prepare an application for registration, a quantitative method for evaluating the efficacy of antimicrobial products on soft surface textiles against viruses, and a quantitative method for evaluating the efficacy of antimicrobial products on soft surface textiles against bacteria. This guidance does not address residential use sites, clothing, frequently laundered items, untreated wood, concrete and other hard porous materials, carpet or rugs, or the backing material/stuffing under the soft surface textile (e.g., beyond what can be visibly observed).

III. Do guidance documents contain binding requirements?

As guidance, these documents are not binding on the Agency or any outside parties, and the Agency may depart from it where circumstances warrant and without prior notice. While EPA has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the discussion in the guidance, the obligations of EPA and the regulated community are determined by statutes, regulations, or other legally binding documents. In the event of a conflict between the discussion in the guidance documents and any statute, regulation, or other legally binding document, the guidance documents will not be controlling.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 136 *et seq.*

Dated: August 23, 2023.

Michal Freedhoff,
Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[FR ID: 167038]

Privacy Act of 1974; Matching Program

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice of a new matching program.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (“Privacy Act”), this document announces a new computer matching program the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC” or “Commission” or “Agency”) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) will conduct with the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The purpose of this matching program is to verify the eligibility of applicants to and subscribers of Lifeline, and the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), both of which are administered by USAC under the direction of the FCC. More information about these programs is provided in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below.

DATES: Written comments are due on or before September 28, 2023. This computer matching program will commence on September 28, 2023, and will conclude 18 months after the effective date.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Elliot S. Tarloff, FCC, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554, or to Privacy@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elliot S. Tarloff at 202–418–0886 or Privacy@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Lifeline program provides support for discounted broadband and voice services to low-income consumers. Lifeline is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) under FCC direction. Consumers qualify for Lifeline through proof of income or participation in a qualifying program, such as Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), Federal Public Housing Assistance, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit, or various Tribal-specific federal assistance programs.

In the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Public Law 116–260, 134 Stat. 1182, 2129–36 (2020), Congress created the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, and directed use of the National Verifier to determine eligibility based on various criteria, including the

qualifications for Lifeline (Medicaid, SNAP, etc.). EBBP provided \$3.2 billion in monthly consumer discounts for broadband service and one-time provider reimbursement for a connected device (laptop, desktop computer or tablet). In the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117–58, 135 Stat. 429, 1238–44 (2021) (codified at 47 U.S.C. 1751–52), Congress modified and extended EBBP, provided an additional \$14.2 billion, and renamed it the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). A household may qualify for the ACP benefit under various criteria, including an individual qualifying for the FCC's Lifeline program.

In a Report and Order adopted on March 31, 2016, (81 FR 33026, May 24, 2016) (*2016 Lifeline Modernization Order*), the Commission ordered USAC to create a National Lifeline Eligibility Verifier (“National Verifier”), including the National Lifeline Eligibility Database (LED), that would match data about Lifeline applicants and subscribers with other data sources to verify the eligibility of an applicant or subscriber. The Commission found that the National Verifier would reduce compliance costs for Lifeline service providers, improve service for Lifeline subscribers, and reduce waste, fraud, and abuse in the program.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 directs the FCC to leverage the National Verifier to verify applicants' eligibility for ACP. The purpose of this matching program is to verify the eligibility of Lifeline and ACP applicants and subscribers by determining whether they receive Medicaid benefits administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Participating Agencies

Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; Federal Communications Commission.

Authority for Conducting the Matching Program

The authority for the FCC's ACP is Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117–58, 135 Stat. 429, 1238–44 (2021) (codified at 47 U.S.C. 1751–52); 47 CFR part 54. The authority for the FCC's Lifeline program is 47 U.S.C. 254; 47 CFR 54.400 through 54.423; Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization, *et al.*, Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, 31 FCC Rcd 3962, 4006–21, paras. 126–66 (2016) (*2016 Lifeline Modernization Order*).

Purpose(s)

The purpose of this modified matching agreement is to verify the eligibility of applicants and subscribers to Lifeline, as well as to ACP and other Federal programs that use qualification for Lifeline as an eligibility criterion. This new agreement will permit eligibility verification for the Lifeline program and ACP by checking an applicant's/subscriber's participation in Medicaid. Under FCC rules, consumers receiving these benefits qualify for Lifeline discounts and also for ACP benefits.

Categories of Individuals

The categories of individuals whose information is involved in the matching program include, but are not limited to, those individuals who have applied for Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; are currently receiving Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; are individuals who enable another individual in their household to qualify for Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; are minors whose status qualifies a parent or guardian for Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; or are individuals who have received Lifeline and/or ACP benefits.

Categories of Records

The categories of records involved in the matching program include, but are not limited to, the last four digits of the applicant's Social Security Number, date of birth, first and last name, and state of residence. The National Verifier will transfer these data elements to the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, which will respond either “yes” or “no” that the individual is enrolled in a qualifying assistance program: Medicaid administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

System(s) of Records

The CMS System of Records Notice (SORN) that supports this matching program is “Transformed—Medicaid Statistical Information System (T–MSIS)”, System No. 09–07–0541, last published in full at 84 FR 2230 (February 16, 2019).

The FCC SORNs that support this matching program are: (1) “FCC/WCB–1,” Lifeline, which was published in the **Federal Register** at 86 FR 11526 (Feb. 25, 2021); and (2) “FCC/WCB–3,” Affordable Connectivity Program, which was published in the **Federal Register** at 86 FR 71494 (Dec. 16, 2021).

Federal Communications Commission.

Katura Jackson,

Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[OMB 3060–1167; FR ID 166669]

Information Collection Being Submitted for Review and Approval to Office of Management and Budget

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or the Commission) invites the general public and other Federal Agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection. Pursuant to the Small Business Paperwork Relief Act of 2002, the FCC seeks specific comment on how it might “further reduce the information collection burden for small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.”

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted on or before September 28, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Your comment must be submitted into www.reginfo.gov per the above instructions for it to be considered. In addition to submitting in www.reginfo.gov also send a copy of your comment on the proposed information collection to Cathy Williams, FCC, via email to PRA@fcc.gov and to Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov. Include in the comments the OMB control number as shown in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information or copies of the information collection, contact Cathy Williams at (202) 418–2918. To view a copy of this information collection request (ICR) submitted to OMB: (1) go to the web page <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>, (2) look for the section of the web page called