

Information Collection for the Requirement for Airlines and Operators to Collect and Transmit Designated Information for Passengers and Crew Arriving Into the United States; Requirement for Passengers to Provide Designated Information

(42 CFR Part 71.4, 71.20, 71.31, and 71.32)

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Supporting Statement B

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No statistical methods are used in this data collection.

1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods

The respondent universe for this requirement is all persons flying into the United States from a last foreign point of departure and all airline and operators conducting such flights.

2. Procedures for the Collection of Information

Airlines and operators are required to collect five data elements from international air passengers: full name, address while in the US, primary phone number, secondary or emergency phone number, and email address. Airlines and operators are also required to maintain these five data elements for crew members and maintain the following data elements for all travelers (passenger and crew), to the extent they are maintained and readily available: date of birth, airline name, flight number, city of departure, departure date and time, city of arrival, arrival date and time, and seat number.

Airlines and operators must also collect from passengers an “acknowledgment” (Attachment 6) from air passengers that they understand the intent and purpose of the data collection, the obligation to provide complete information, and they must confirm the information they provided is complete and accurate. Airlines and operators may use whatever format they choose to collect the five data elements and the acknowledgement, including verbal acknowledgement.

Most airlines provide this information to CDC via the U.S. Department of Defense (DHS) established data systems- the Advanced Passenger Information System (APIS) and the Electronic Advanced Passenger Information System (eAPIS). DHS collects the information from airlines and transmits it to CDC. For airlines that do not use APIS or eAPIS, they may choose to transmit their data to CDC via the CDC Secure Access Management System (SAMS) or CDC Secure File Transport Protocol (SFTP). The details of how data should be formatted and transmitted using these systems is found in the *Technical Instructions for CDC’s Contact Information Collection Order* (Attachment 7).

3. Methods to maximize Response Rates and Deal with No Response

Passengers are required to provide this information to airlines and operators. Airlines and operators are required to collect it and transmit it to CDC upon request per CDC's Order *Requirement for Airlines and Operators to Collect and Transmit Designated Information for Passengers and Crew Arriving into the United States; Requirement for Passengers to Provide Designated Information* (Attachment 5).

4. Tests of Procedures or Methods to be undertaken

CDC did not conduct pilot tests for this data collection; however, CDC has required the collection of this information for air passengers in the past. Two previous Orders required this information be collected for specific countries in 2020 and early 2021. One Order required air passengers to provide, and airlines to collect, this information from passengers traveling from China in 2020 due to COVID-19, and the other Order required passengers to provide, and airlines to collect, this information from passengers traveling from Guinea and the Democratic Republic of Congo due to an Ebola outbreak. In 2020, CDC and U.S. Customs and Border Protect created an agreement to share information transmitted through APIS/eAPIS for countries that are currently covered by travel restrictions that suspend the entry of certain individuals into the United States - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/from-other-countries.html>. Therefore, both airlines and CDC have undertaken the methods involved in this new information collection in the past.

5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collecting and/or Analyzing Data

No statistical methods are used in this data collection. Therefore, no individuals were consulted for statistical aspects and analyzing data. CDC did consult with airline industries partners regarding the collection of the data. We held multiple meetings with industry throughout 2020 and 2021 in anticipation of this information collection to gather their input. They shared information on the time it would take to comply with the requirement and other aspects of implementation.