

<b>CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP)</b>							
<i>Per Meal Rates in Whole or Fractions of U.S. Dollars</i>							
<i>Effective from July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024</i>							
<b>CENTERS</b>		<b>BREAKFAST</b>		<b>LUNCH AND SUPPER<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>SUPPLEMENT</b>	
CONTIGUOUS STATES	PAID	0.38		0.40		0.10	
	REDUCED PRICE	1.98		3.85		0.58	
	FREE	2.28		4.25		1.17	
ALASKA	PAID	0.58		0.66		0.17	
	REDUCED PRICE	3.36		6.50		0.94	
	FREE	3.66		6.90		1.89	
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS	PAID	0.47		0.53		0.13	
	REDUCED PRICE	2.65		5.14		0.76	
	FREE	2.95		5.54		1.52	
<b>DAY CARE HOMES</b>		<b>BREAKFAST</b>		<b>LUNCH AND SUPPER</b>		<b>SUPPLEMENT</b>	
		<b>TIER I</b>	<b>TIER II</b>	<b>TIER I</b>	<b>TIER II</b>	<b>TIER I</b>	<b>TIER II</b>
CONTIGUOUS STATES		1.65	0.59	3.12	1.88	0.93	0.25
ALASKA		2.63	0.92	5.05	3.05	1.50	0.41
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS		2.12	0.75	4.05	2.44	1.20	0.33
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS OF DAY CARE HOMES</b>				<b>Initial 50</b>	<b>Next 150</b>	<b>Next 800</b>	<b>Each Additional</b>
<i>Per Home/Per Month Rates in U.S. Dollars</i>							
CONTIGUOUS STATES				142	108	85	75
ALASKA				230	176	137	121
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS				185	141	110	97

<sup>1</sup>These rates do not include the value of USDA Foods or cash-in-lieu of USDA Foods which institutions receive as additional assistance for each CACFP lunch or supper served to participants. A notice announcing the value of USDA Foods and cash-in-lieu of USDA Foods is published separately in the *Federal Register*.

This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of that Act. This notice has been determined to be exempt under Executive Order 12866.

CACFP is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.558 and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. (See 2 CFR 415.3–415.6).

This notice imposes no new reporting or recordkeeping provisions that are subject to OMB review in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3518).

*Authority:* Sections 4(b)(2), 11a, 17(c) and 17(f)(3)(B) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1753(b)(2), 1759a, 1766(f)(3)(B) and

section 4(b)(1)(B) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773(b)(1)(B)).

**Cynthia Long,**  
*Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.*  
 [FR Doc. 2023–14317 Filed 7–6–23; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 3410–30–C**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Food and Nutrition Service**

**National School Lunch, Special Milk, and School Breakfast Programs, National Average Payments/Maximum Reimbursement Rates**

**AGENCY:** Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This Notice announces the annual adjustments to the national average payments, the amount of money the Federal Government provides States for lunches, afterschool snacks, and breakfasts served to children

participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs; to the maximum reimbursement rates, the maximum per lunch rate from Federal funds that a State can provide a school food authority for lunches served to children participating in the National School Lunch Program; and to the rate of reimbursement for a half-pint of milk served to non-needy children in a school or institution that participates in the Special Milk Program for Children. The annual payments and rates adjustments for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs reflect changes in the Food Away From Home series of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers. The annual rate adjustment for the Special Milk Program reflects changes in the Producer Price Index for Fluid Milk Products. Further adjustments are made to these rates to reflect higher costs of providing meals in Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands. The payments and

rates are prescribed on an annual basis each July.

**DATES:** These rates are effective from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Penny Burke, Branch Chief, Program Monitoring and Operational Support Division, Child Nutrition Programs, FNS USDA, 1320 Braddock Place, Suite 401, Alexandria, VA 22314, 303-844-0357.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Special Note**

This Notice reflects the June 30, 2023 expiration of the temporary reimbursement rates provided under the Keep Kids Fed Act of 2022 (Pub. L. 117-158), which included an additional 40 cents per school lunch and 15 cents per school breakfast meal reimbursement. The reimbursement rates in this Notice reflect an adjustment to the base rate from School Year (SY) 2022-2023.<sup>1</sup>

While the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) does not have the authority to adjust reimbursement rates above inflation in the contiguous United States (CONUS), pursuant to section 12 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1760) USDA may make adjustments to reimbursement rates in the outlying areas to reflect differences between the cost of providing meals and supplements in those areas and the costs of providing meals and supplements in all other States. Therefore, FNS is temporarily increasing the reimbursement rates for the child nutrition programs in Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands to 30 percent above CONUS rates beginning July 1, 2023. This adjusted rate will be applied beginning on July 1, 2023, until further notice.

**Background**

*Special Milk Program for Children*—Pursuant to section 3 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1772), the Department announces the rate of reimbursement for a half pint of milk served to non-needy children in a school or institution that participates in the Special Milk Program for Children. This rate is adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Producer Price Index for Fluid Milk Products, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor.

*National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs*—Pursuant to sections 11 and 17A of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, (42 U.S.C. 1759a and 1766a), and section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42

U.S.C. 1773), the Department annually announces the adjustments to the National Average Payment Factors and to the maximum Federal reimbursement rates for lunches and afterschool snacks served to children participating in the National School Lunch Program and breakfasts served to children participating in the School Breakfast Program. Adjustments are prescribed each July 1, based on changes in the Food Away From Home series of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor.

*Lunch Payment Levels*—Section 4 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1753) provides general cash for food assistance payments to States to assist schools in purchasing food. The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act provides two different section 4 payment levels for lunches served under the National School Lunch Program. The lower payment level applies to lunches served by school food authorities in which less than 60 percent of the lunches served in the school lunch program during the second preceding school year were served free or at a reduced price. The higher payment level applies to lunches served by school food authorities in which 60 percent or more of the lunches served during the second preceding school year were served free or at a reduced price.

To supplement these section 4 payments, section 11 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1759 (a)) provides special cash assistance payments to aid schools in providing free and reduced-price lunches. The section 11 National Average Payment Factor for each reduced-price lunch served is set at 40 cents less than the factor for each free lunch.

As authorized under sections 8 and 11 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1757 and 1759a), maximum reimbursement rates for each type of lunch are prescribed by the Department in this Notice. These maximum rates are to ensure equitable disbursement of Federal funds to school food authorities.

*Performance-Based Reimbursement*—In addition to the funding mentioned above, school food authorities certified as meeting the meal pattern and nutrition standard requirements set forth in 7 CFR parts 210 and 220 are eligible to receive performance-based cash assistance for each reimbursable lunch served (an additional eight cents per lunch available beginning July 1, 2023, and adjusted annually thereafter).

*Afterschool Snack Payments in Afterschool Care Programs*—Section 17A of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766a) establishes National Average Payments for free, reduced price and paid afterschool snacks as part of the National School Lunch Program.

*Breakfast Payment Factors*—Section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773) establishes National Average Payment Factors for free, reduced price, and paid breakfasts served under the School Breakfast Program and additional payments for free and reduced-price breakfasts served in schools determined to be in “severe need” because they serve a high percentage of needy children.

**Adjusted Payments**

The following specific section 4, section 11, and section 17A National Average Payment Factors and maximum reimbursement rates for lunch, the afterschool snack rates, and the breakfast rates are in effect from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Due to a higher cost of living, the average payments and maximum reimbursements for Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands are higher than those for all other States. The District of Columbia uses figures specified for the contiguous States. These rates do not include the value of USDA Foods or cash-in-lieu of USDA Foods which schools receive as additional assistance for each meal served to participants under the Program. A notice announcing the value of USDA Foods and cash-in-lieu of USDA Foods is published separately in the **Federal Register**.

Adjustments to the national average payment rates for all lunches served under the National School Lunch Program, breakfasts served under the School Breakfast Program, and afterschool snacks served under the National School Lunch Program are rounded down to the nearest whole cent.

**Special Milk Program Payments**

For the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, the rate of reimbursement for a half pint of milk served to a non-needy child in a school or institution that participates in the Special Milk Program is 26.25 cents. This change is based on the 3.46 percent decrease in the Producer Price Index for Fluid Milk Products from May 2022 to May 2023.

As a reminder, schools or institutions with pricing programs that elect to serve milk free to eligible children continue to receive the average cost of a half pint of milk (the total cost of all milk purchased

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-07-26/pdf/2022-15892.pdf>—Reference Page—44335.

during the claim period divided by the total number of purchased half pints) for each half pint served to an eligible child.

### National School Lunch Program Payments

Overall, payments for the National School Lunch Program and the Afterschool Snack Program saw an 8.27 percent increase in the national average payment rates for schools and residential child care institutions for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for the Food Away From Home series during the 12-month period May 2022 to May 2023 (from a level of 325.952 in May 2022, as previously published in the **Federal Register** to 352.892 in May 2023).

*These changes are reflected below.*

**Section 4 National Average Payment Factors**—In school food authorities that served less than 60 percent free and reduced-price lunches in School Year (SY) 2021–2022,<sup>2</sup> the payments for meals served are: *Contiguous States*—paid rate—40 cents (3 cents increase from the 2022–2023 base rate<sup>3</sup>), free and reduced price rate—40 cents (3 cents increase), maximum rate—48 cents (3 cents increase); *Alaska*—paid rate—66 cents (5 cents increase), free and reduced price rate—66 cents (5 cents increase), maximum rate—76 cents (5 cents increase); *Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands*—paid rate—53 cents (9 cents increase), free and reduced price rate—53 cents (9 cents increase), maximum rate—61 cents (9 cents increase).

In school food authorities that served 60 percent or more free and reduced price lunches in School Year 2021–2022, payments are: *Contiguous States*—paid rate—42 cents (3 cents increase), free and reduced price rate—42 cents (3 cents increase), maximum

rate—48 cents (3 cents increase); *Alaska*—paid rate—68 cents (5 cents increase), free and reduced price rate—68 cents (5 cents increase), maximum rate—76 cents (5 cents increase); *Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands*—paid rate—55 cents (9 cents increase), free and reduced price rate—55 cents (9 cents increase), maximum rate—61 cents (9 cents increase).

School food authorities certified to receive the performance-based cash assistance will receive an additional 8 cents (adjusted annually) added to the above amounts as part of their section 4 payments.

**Section 11 National Average Payment Factors**—*Contiguous States*—free lunch—3 dollars and 85 cents (29 cents increase from the SY 2022–2023 base rate), reduced price lunch—3 dollars and 45 cents (29 cents increase); *Alaska*—free lunch—6 dollars and 24 cents (48 cents increase), reduced price lunch—5 dollars and 84 cents (48 cents increase); *Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands*—free lunch—5 dollars and 1 cent (85 cents increase), reduced price lunch—4 dollars and 61 cents (85 cents increase).

**Afterschool Snacks in Afterschool Care Programs**—The payments are: *Contiguous States*—free snack—1 dollar and 17 cents (9 cents increase from the SY 2022–2023 base rate), reduced price snack—58 cents (4 cents increase), paid snack—10 cents (1 cent increase); *Alaska*—free snack—1 dollar and 89 cents (14 cent increase), reduced price snack—94 cents (7 cents increase), paid snack—17 cents (1 cent increase); *Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands*—free snack—1 dollar and 52 cents (26 cents increase), reduced price snack—76 cents (13 cents increase), paid snack—13 cents (2 cents increase)

### School Breakfast Program Payments

Overall, payments for the National School Breakfast Program saw an 8.27 percent increase in the national average payment rates for schools and residential child care institutions for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers in the Food Away from Home series during the 12-month period May 2022 to May 2023 (from a level of 325.952 in May 2022, as

previously published in the **Federal Register** to 352.892 in May 2023).

*These changes are reflected below.*

For schools “not in severe need” the payments are: *Contiguous States*—free breakfast—2 dollars and 28 cents (17 cents increase from the SY 2022–2023 base rate), reduced price breakfast—1 dollar and 98 cents (17 cents increase), paid breakfast—38 cents (3 cents increase); *Alaska* free breakfast—3 dollars and 66 cents (28 cents increase), reduced price breakfast—3 dollars and 36 cents (28 cents increase), paid breakfast—58 cents (4 cents increase); *Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands*—free breakfast—2 dollars and 95 cents (49 cents increase), reduced price breakfast—2 dollars and 65 cents (49 cents increase), paid breakfast—47 cents (7 cents increase).

For schools in “severe need” the payments are: *Contiguous States* free breakfast—2 dollars and 73 cents (21 cents increase from the SY 2022–2023 base rate), reduced price breakfast—2 dollars and 43 cents (21 cents increase), paid breakfast—38 cents (3 cents increase); *Alaska*—free breakfast—4 dollars and 39 cents (33 cents increase), reduced price breakfast—4 dollars and 9 cents (33 cents increase), paid breakfast—58 cents (4 cents increase); *Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands*—free breakfast—3 dollars and 53 cents (59 cents increase), reduced price breakfast—3 dollars and 23 cents (59 cents increase), paid breakfast—47 cents (7 cents increase).

### Payment Chart

The following chart illustrates the lunch National Average Payment Factors with the sections 4 and 11 already combined to indicate the per lunch amount; the maximum lunch reimbursement rates; the reimbursement rates for afterschool snacks served in afterschool care programs; the breakfast National Average Payment Factors including severe need schools; and the milk reimbursement rate. All amounts are expressed in dollars or fractions thereof. The payment factors and reimbursement rates used for the District of Columbia are those specified for the contiguous States.

**BILLING CODE 3410–30–P**

<sup>2</sup> Clarification on determining 60 percent free and reduced can be found in policy memo SP 02–2023 Determining Eligibility for Severe Need Reimbursement for the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and the Two Cent Differential Reimbursement for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) in School Year (SY) 2023–24. <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/sp-02-2023>.

<sup>3</sup> Rates reflect adjustment to the SY 2022–2023 base rate and does not include the decrease from the expiration of the temporary rates included in Keep Kids Fed Act of 2022 (Pub. L. 117–158).

<b>SCHOOL PROGRAMS</b>							
<b>MEAL, SNACK AND MILK PAYMENTS TO STATES AND SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITIES</b>							
<i>Expressed in Dollars or Fractions Thereof</i>							
Effective from: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024							
<b>NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>LESS THAN 60%</b>	<b>LESS THAN 60% + 8 cents<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>60% OR MORE</b>	<b>60% or MORE + 8 cents<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>MAXIMUM RATE</b>	<b>MAXIMUM RATE + 8 cents<sup>2</sup></b>
CONTIGUOUS STATES	PAID	0.40	0.48	0.42	0.50	0.48	0.56
	REDUCED PRICE	3.85	3.93	3.87	3.95	4.02	4.10
	FREE	4.25	4.33	4.27	4.35	4.42	4.50
ALASKA	PAID	0.66	0.74	0.68	0.76	0.76	0.84
	REDUCED PRICE	6.50	6.58	6.52	6.60	6.74	6.82
	FREE	6.90	6.98	6.92	7.00	7.14	7.22
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS	PAID	0.53	0.61	0.55	0.63	0.61	0.69
	REDUCED PRICE	5.14	5.22	5.16	5.24	5.34	5.42
	FREE	5.54	5.62	5.56	5.64	5.74	5.82
<b>SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM</b>				<b>NON-SEVERE NEED</b>		<b>SEVERE NEED</b>	
CONTIGUOUS STATES	PAID			0.38		0.38	
	REDUCED PRICE			1.98		2.43	
	FREE			2.28		2.73	
ALASKA	PAID			0.58		0.58	
	REDUCED PRICE			3.36		4.09	
	FREE			3.66		4.39	
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS	PAID			0.47		0.47	
	REDUCED PRICE			2.65		3.23	
	FREE			2.95		3.53	
<b>SPECIAL MILK PROGRAM</b>				<b>ALL MILK</b>	<b>PAID MILK</b>	<b>FREE MILK</b>	
PRICING PROGRAMS WITHOUT FREE OPTION				0.2625	N/A	N/A	
PRICING PROGRAMS WITH FREE OPTION				N/A	0.2625	Average Cost Per 1/2 Pint of Milk	
NONPRICING PROGRAMS				0.2625	N/A	N/A	
<b>AFTERSCHOOL SNACKS SERVED IN AFTERSCHOOL CARE PROGRAMS</b>							
CONTIGUOUS STATES	PAID					0.10	
	REDUCED PRICE					0.58	
	FREE					1.17	
ALASKA	PAID					0.17	
	REDUCED PRICE					0.94	
	FREE					1.89	
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS	PAID					0.13	
	REDUCED PRICE					0.76	
	FREE					1.52	

<sup>1</sup> Payment listed for Free and Reduced Price Lunches include both section 4 and section 11 funds

<sup>2</sup> Performance-based cash reimbursement (adjusted annually for inflation)

This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of that Act. This notice has been determined to be exempt under Executive Order 12866.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), no new recordkeeping or reporting requirements have been included that are subject to approval from the Office of Management and Budget.

National School Lunch, School Breakfast, and Special Milk Programs are listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.555, No. 10.553, and No. 10.556, respectively, and are subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials (See 2 CFR 415.3–415.6).

*Authority:* Sections 4, 8, 11, and 17A of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 1753, 1757, 1759a, 1766a) and sections 3 and 4(b) of the Child Nutrition Act, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 1772 and 42 U.S.C. 1773(b)).

**Cynthia Long,**

*Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.*

[FR Doc. 2023–14313 Filed 7–6–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–30–C**

## CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: Reactive Hazard Study Survey of Industry Practices

**AGENCY:** United States Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB).

**ACTION:** 60-Day notice of submission of information collection request (ICR) approval and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed information collection request (ICR) described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The Chemical Safety Board (CSB) is soliciting public comments on this proposed collection approval.

**DATES:** Comments should be sent no later than September 5, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests for information, including copies of the information collection proposed and supporting documentation should be directed to: Tamara Qureshi, Assistant General Counsel, U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, 1750 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 910, Washington, DC 20006 or at [reactives@csb.gov](mailto:reactives@csb.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* CSB Reactive Hazard Study Survey of Industry Practices.

*Type of Request:* Approval.

*Abstract:* The enabling statute of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) provides that the CSB is “authorized to conduct research and studies with respect to the potential for accidental releases, whether or not an accidental release has occurred, where there is evidence which indicates the presence of a potential hazard or hazards.” 42 U.S.C. 7412(r)(6)(F).

In August 2000, the CSB initiated a review of reactive hazards nationwide. The purpose of the investigation was to develop recommendations to reduce the number and severity of such incidents. The CSB published Hazard Investigation: Improving Reactive Hazard Management on September 17, 2002. The CSB issued a total of 24 recommendations to 15 organizations. Only two recommendations remain.

This information collection request will assist the CSB in updating its 2002 study, “Hazard Investigation: Improving Reactive Hazard Management.” On behalf of the CSB, the Federal Research Division (FRD) within the Library of Congress is conducting the study to reflect the current research, data, and company safety policies concerning reactive chemical incidents.

For this study, FRD on behalf of CSB will collect survey data from 15 randomly selected small, medium, and large companies that use reactive chemicals. FRD will also conduct interviews with nine stakeholders, who may include industry representatives, regulatory agencies, professional safety organizations, trade associations, trade unions, and/or public advocacy groups.

*Type of Respondents:* All the respondents will be private sector businesses that use reactive chemicals that voluntarily submit to interviews or the survey.

*Estimate Annual Number of Respondents:* 24.

*Frequency of Use:* Once. This survey is part of a study.

*Small Businesses or Organizations Affected:* No. Although the CSB is contacting small businesses, this survey is voluntary. Additionally, the CSB anticipates a total of 15 companies will respond.

*Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 24.

*Estimated Average Burden Hours per Response:* 3 hours. The survey should take a representative from each of the companies randomly selected two to four hours to complete. The estimated financial burden for one process safety manager to take this survey is \$144.45. For 15 surveys, the total cost of process safety managers’ time is estimated to be

\$2,166.75.<sup>1</sup> The interviews will take no longer than 90 minutes each. The estimated financial burden for one chemist to engage in an interview is \$64.28. For nine interviews, the total cost of chemists’ time is estimated to be \$578.48.<sup>2</sup> The combined total cost of this data collection on the American public is estimated to be \$2,745.23.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 45 hours.

*Need for and Use of Information:* This research is vital because safely conducting chemical reactions is essential for the chemical manufacturing industry. Chemical reactive hazards can rapidly release large quantities of heat, energy, and gaseous byproducts. Uncontrolled reactions have led to serious explosions, fires, and toxic emissions. The impacts may be severe in terms of death and injury to people, damage to physical property, and effects on the environment and surrounding communities. Since the publication of the 2002 report, incidents caused by uncontrolled chemical reactions have persisted. This fact suggests the need to continue to evaluate existing standards and improve the management of reactive hazards in response to changes within the chemical manufacturing industry over the past two decades.

Researchers will use quantitative and qualitative mixed methods to analyze the collected industry information. The analysis will identify trends and present insights which will enhance the CSB’s capacity to respond to future reactive chemical incidents and to inform industry stakeholders of the best practices in process safety protocols.

*Comment is Invited:* Comment is invited on: (1) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (2) the accuracy of the Agency’s estimate of the

<sup>1</sup> A 3-hour time burden for a process safety manager (which is a reasonable if not expected interviewee for a surveyed company) multiplied by the number of surveys; an average Process Safety Manager makes \$100,154 as of September 15, 2022, which in terms of hourly compensation is \$48.15. \$48.15 hourly pay \* 3 hours to complete \* 15 surveys = \$2,166.75. See “Process Safety Manager Salaries,” Glassdoor, Updated September 15, 2022, [https://www.glassdoor.com/Salaries/process-safety-manager-salary-SRCH\\_K00,22.htm](https://www.glassdoor.com/Salaries/process-safety-manager-salary-SRCH_K00,22.htm).

<sup>2</sup> A 90-minute time burden for a chemist (which is a reasonable representative for these stakeholders) multiplied by the number of planned interviews; a chemist’s average salary is \$89,130 as of May 2021, which is \$42.85 per hour. \$42.85 hourly pay \* 1.5 hours to complete \* 9 interviews = \$578.48. See “Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, May 2021, 19–2031 Chemists,” Bureau of Labor Statistics, March 31, 2022, <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes192031.htm>.