

Privacy Act Statement and Additional Permitted Disclosures of Personally Identifiable Information and Records

In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. § 552a), you are hereby notified that the World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program is administered by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), which receives and maintains personal information on applicants under the statutory authority found at 42 U.S.C. §§ 300mm - 300mm-61. The information received is required to determine eligibility and qualification for the WTC Health Program and for any subsequent initial health evaluations, monitoring and treatment, or other benefit under the WTC Health Program. Failure to provide this information may prevent or delay the process of an application or determination of eligibility.

In addition to those WTC Health Program uses outlined above, and as allowed by the Privacy Act, information and records on responders and survivors submitted to or developed by the WTC Health Program may be disclosed to specific individuals/entities for certain routine uses, including the following:

1. Department of Justice (DOJ), in the event of litigation where HHS, any component of HHS, any employee of HHS, or the United States is involved. Such disclosure may be made to DOJ to enable that Department to present an effective defense, provided that such disclosure is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected;
2. DOJ and its contractors, to provide terrorist screening support in accordance with the WTC Health Program's statutory obligation to determine whether an individual is on the "terrorist watch list" as required by 42 U.S.C. §§ 300mm-21 and 300mm-31 and is qualified to be enrolled in the WTC Health Program;
3. DOJ, in order to aid DOJ in the implementation of Title II of the Zadroga Act regarding the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund, to provide information pertaining to an individual's enrollment in the WTC Health Program, the WTC Program Administrator's decision regarding whether an individual's medical condition is certified as a WTC-related health condition or a health condition medically associated with a WTC-related health condition, and the WTC Program Administrator's decisions regarding the authorization of treatment and payment for health evaluations, monitoring, and treatment;
4. Contractors performing or working on a contract for HHS who require access to information to perform duties or activities for HHS (in accordance with the law and the contract);
5. Federal agencies or an entity under governmental jurisdiction that administer or has the authority to investigate potential fraud, waste, or abuse in a health benefits program administered using Federal funds. Such disclosure of information must be found reasonably necessary by the WTC Health Program to prevent, deter, discover, detect, investigate, examine, prosecute, sue with respect to, defend against, correct, remedy, or combat fraud, waste, or abuse in the WTC Health Program;
6. State and local health departments may receive information about certain diseases or exposures, where the State has a legally constituted reporting program for communicable diseases and which provides for the confidentiality of the information. This may include official State registries;
7. Members of Congress or Congressional staff members who have submitted a verified request involving an individual who is entitled to the information and has requested assistance from the Member of Congress or Congressional staff member;
8. To a member's personal representative where the member has authorized such individual to represent him or her in regard to the WTC Health Program. The member may appoint one individual to represent his or her interests under the WTC Program and the appointment must be in writing. If a member is a minor, a parent or guardian may act on his or her behalf;
9. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) collaborating researchers (e.g., NIOSH contractors, grantees, cooperative agreement holders, Federal or State scientists) to accomplish the research purpose for which the records are collected;
10. Social Security Administration, in connection with public health activities, for sources of locating information to accomplish the research or program purposes for which the records were collected; and
11. Applicable entities for the purpose of reducing or recouping WTC Health Program payments for treatments based on other payments made to individuals under a workers' compensation law or plan of the United States, a State, or locality, or other work-related injury or illness benefit plan of the employer of such worker or public or private health plan as required under 42 U.S.C. § 300mm-41.

The current System of Records Notice (SORN) was published in the Federal Register on June 14, 2011, 76 Fed. Reg. 34706, and includes the above-referenced disclosures as required by the Privacy Act. You can access the current SORN and any future updates to the SORN at the following website address: <https://www.cdc.gov/SORNnotice/09-20-0147.htm>. Any amendments to the current SORN may include additional disclosures of personal information.