

POSIX

not defined by this standard is implementation-defined.

**3.1.1.3 Returns.** Upon successful completion, *fork()* shall return to the child process a value of zero and shall return to the parent process the process ID of the child process, and both processes shall continue to execute from the *fork()* function. Otherwise, a value of -1 shall be returned to the parent process, no child process shall be created, and *errno* shall be set to indicate the error.

**3.1.1.4 Errors.** If any of the following conditions occur, the *fork()* function shall return -1 and set *errno* to the corresponding value:

[EAGAIN] The system lacked the necessary resources to create another process, or the system-imposed limit on the total number of processes under execution by a single user would be exceeded.

For each of the following conditions, if the condition is detected, the *fork()* function shall return -1 and set *errno* to the corresponding value:

[ENOMEM] The process requires more space than the system is able to supply.

**3.1.1.5 References.** *alarm()* §3.4.1, *exec* §3.1.2, *fcntl()* §6.5.2, *kill()* §3.2, *times()* §4.5.2, *wait* §3.2.1.

### 3.1.2 Execute a File.

Functions: *execl()*, *execv()*, *execle()*, *execve()*, *execlp()*, *execvp()*

#### 3.1.2.1 Synopsis.

```
int execl (path, arg0, arg1, ..., argn, (char *) 0)
char *path, *arg0, *arg1, ..., *argn;

int execv (path, argv)
char *path, *argv[];

int execl (path, arg0, arg1, ..., argn, (char *) 0, envp)
char *path, *arg0, *arg1, ..., *argn, *envp[];

int execve (path, argv, envp);
char *path, *argv[], *envp[];

int execlp (file, arg0, arg1, ..., argn, (char *) 0)
char *file, *arg0, *arg1, ..., *argn;

int execvp (file, argv)
char *file, *argv[];

extern char **environ;
```

**3.1.2.2 Description.** The *exec* family of functions shall replace the current process image with a new process image. The new image is constructed as a regular, executable file called the *new process image file*. There shall be no return from a successful *exec*, because the calling process image is overlaid by the new process image.

When a C program is executed as a result of this call, it shall be entered as a language function call as follows:

path - exact path  
in this directory

file - uses PATH  
environ. variable

who  
the

is i  
stri  
The  
7  
pas  
7  
im:  
7

ces  
pre  
env  
env  
imp  
7

ter  
ces  
she  
one  
7

str  
cor  
arg  
sta  
7

str  
Th  
1  
exe  
va

en  
ter  
nu

ce:  
fcn  
ati