

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Submission for Office of Management and Budget Review; Formative Data Collections for ACF Research and Evaluation (OMB #0970–0356)

AGENCY: Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) proposes to extend data collection under the existing overarching generic clearance for Formative Data Collections for ACF Research and Evaluation (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) #0970–0356). There are no changes proposed to the terms of the overarching generic.

DATES: *Comments due within 30 days of publication.* OMB must make a decision about the collection of information between 30 and 60 days after publication of this document in the **Federal Register**. Therefore, a comment is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice 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. You can also obtain copies of the proposed collection of information by emailing OPREinfocollection@acf.hhs.gov. Identify all requests by the title of the information collection.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Description: ACF programs promote the economic and social well-being of families, children, individuals, and communities. The Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE) studies ACF programs, and the populations they serve, through rigorous research and evaluation projects. These include evaluations of existing programs, evaluations of innovative approaches to helping low-income children and families, research syntheses, and descriptive and exploratory studies. OPRE’s research offers further understanding of current programs and service populations, explores options for program improvement, and assesses alternative policy and program designs. OPRE anticipates undertaking a variety of new research projects related to welfare, employment and self-sufficiency, Head Start, child care, healthy marriage and responsible fatherhood, family and youth services, home visiting, child welfare, trafficking, community services, and other areas of interest to ACF. Some ACF program offices conduct their own research and evaluation projects and may utilize this generic.

Under this generic clearance, ACF engages in a variety of formative data collections with researchers, practitioners, technical assistance providers, service providers, and potential participants throughout the field to fulfill the following goals: (1) inform the development of ACF research, (2) maintain a research agenda that is rigorous and relevant, (3) ensure that research products are as current as possible, and (4) inform the provision of technical assistance and supports around research and evaluation. ACF envisions using a variety of techniques including semi-structured discussions, focus groups, surveys, and telephone or in-person interviews, in order to reach these goals.

Information collected under this overarching generic is meant to inform

ACF research activities and may be incorporated into documents or presentations that are made public. The following are some examples of ways in which we may share information resulting from these data collections: research design documents or reports; research or technical assistance plans; background materials for technical workgroups; concept maps, process maps, or conceptual frameworks; contextualization of research findings from a follow-up data collection that has full PRA approval; informational reports to TA providers; or project specific reports, or other documents relevant to the field, such as federal leadership and staff, grantees, local implementing agencies.

Following standard OMB requirements, ACF has and will continue to submit to OMB information about individual information collection activities proposed under the generic clearance. ACF will provide OMB with a copy of the individual instruments or questionnaires, as well as other materials describing the project. ACF requests OMB’s review within 10 days of submission of individual requests under this generic.

Respondents: Respondents could include key groups involved in ACF projects and programs, state or local government officials, service providers, participants in ACF programs or similar comparison groups, experts in fields pertaining to ACF research and programs, or others involved in conducting ACF research or evaluation projects.

Burden Estimates

Find currently approved information collections here: <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAOMBHistory?ombControlNumber=0970-0356>. The request to OMB will include an extension request for approved information collections that are planned to continue beyond November 2023.

BURDEN ESTIMATES—ONGOING REQUESTS

Study	Responses	Burden hours
Fatherhood Family-Focused, Interconnected, Resilient, and Essential (Fatherhood FIRE) Grantee Local Evaluation Plan Template * Burden updated from current approval	861	980
Child Welfare Study to Enhance Equity with Data (CW–SEED)	100	100
Culture of Continuous Learning Project: Landscape Survey	546	182
Preliminary Activities to Support Future Data Collection for the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW)	110	110
Soliciting Input for the Consumer Education and Parental Choice in Early Care and Education Project	428	107
Title IV–E Prevention Services Clearinghouse	71	88
Family Self-Sufficiency Demonstration Development Grants Evaluation Support: Data Collection for Final Report	200	114
Totals	2,316	1,681

BURDEN ESTIMATES—NEW REQUESTS

Instrument	Number of respondents (total over request period)	Number of responses per respondent (total over request period)	Avg. burden per response (in hours)	Total burden (in hours)
Semi-Structured Discussions and Focus Groups	3000	1	2	6000
Interviews	1500	1	1	1500
Questionnaires/Surveys	1125	1	.5	563
Total				8,063

Mary B. Jones,

ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Community Living

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Public Comment Request; Prevention and Public Health Fund Evidence-Based Falls Prevention Program Information Collection; OMB Control Number 0985–0039

AGENCY: Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Administration for Community Living (ACL) is announcing an opportunity for the public to comment on the proposed collection of information listed above. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Federal agencies are required to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice of proposed extension solicits comments on the information collection requirements related to the ACL's Prevention and Public Health Fund Evidence-Based Falls Prevention Program Information Collection.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information must be submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. (EST) or postmarked by February 12, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit electronic comments on the collection of information to: Donna Bethge (Donna.Bethge@acl.hhs.gov). Submit written comments on the collection of information to Administration for

Community Living, 330 C Street SW, Washington, DC, 20201, Attention: Donna Bethge.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Donna Bethge, Administration for Community Living, Donna.Bethge@acl.hhs.gov, (202) 795–7659.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. “Collection of information” is defined as and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. The PRA requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, ACL is publishing a notice of the proposed collection of information set forth in this document.

With respect to the following collection of information, ACL invites comments on our burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including:

(1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of ACL's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) the accuracy of ACL's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used to determine burden estimates;

(3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents; and

The Evidence-Based Falls Prevention Grant Program is financed through the Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF). The statutory authority for cooperative agreements under the most

recent program announcement (FY2023) is contained in the Older Americans Act, title IV; and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, 42 U.S.C. 300u–11 (Prevention and Public Health Fund). The Falls Prevention Grant Program awards competitive grants to implement and promote the sustainability of evidence-based Falls Prevention programs that have been proven to provide older adults and adults with disabilities with education and tools to help them reduce falls and/or their risk of falls and fall-related injuries and supports a National Falls Prevention Resource Center that provides technical assistance, education, and resources for the national Falls Prevention network of partners.

OMB approval of the existing set of Falls Prevention data collection tools (OMB Control Number, 0985–0039) expires on 04/30/2024. This data collection continues to be necessary for the monitoring of program operations and outcomes.

ACL currently uses and proposes to continue to use the following tools to collect information for each program:

(1) a Program Information Cover Sheet and an Attendance Log, completed by the program leaders, to record the location of agencies that sponsor programs and will allow mapping of the delivery infrastructure; and

(2) a Participant Information Form and a Participant Post Program Survey to be completed by participants.

ACL intends to continue using an online data entry system for the program and participant survey data.

During the 60-day public comment period, ACL intends to analyze public comments received, conduct focus groups that include a sub-set of current Falls Prevention grantees, as well as consult with subject-matter experts to gather feedback and determine if changes to the data collection tools are warranted.

ACL will adhere to best practices for collection of all demographic information when this information is