



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Proposed Information Collection Activity; Comment Request;

Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Performance Measures and Additional Data Collection (New Collection)

AGENCY: Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, HHS.

ACTION: Request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Family Assistance (OFA), has had administrative responsibility for federal funding of programs that strengthen families through healthy marriage and relationship education and responsible fatherhood programming since 2006 through the Healthy Marriage (HM) and Responsible Fatherhood (RF) Grant Programs. ACF required the 2015 cohort of HMRF grantees—which received 5-year grants in September 2015—to collect and report performance measures about program operations, services, and clients served (OMB #0970-0460). A performance measures data collection system called nFORM (Information, Family Outcomes, Reporting, and Management) was implemented with the 2015 cohort to improve the efficiency of data collection and reporting and the quality of data. This system allows for streamlined and standardized submission of grantee performance data through regular progress

reports and supports grantee-led and federal research projects. ACF will continue performance measure and other data collection activities for the HMRF grant program with a new cohort of grantees who received 5-year awards in September 2020. ACF is requesting comment on a new data collection to support these activities with the 2020 HMRF grantee cohort. ACF has made changes to the previous cohort's data collection instruments and performance reports for use in the new cohort. This new grantee cohort is expected to begin collecting performance measure data and reporting to ACF in April 2021.

DATES: *Comments due within 60 days of publication.* In compliance with the requirements of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ACF is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described above.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained and comments may be forwarded by emailing OPREinfocollection@acf.hhs.gov. Alternatively, copies can also be obtained by writing to the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, 330 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20201, Attn: OPRE Reports Clearance Officer. All requests, emailed or written, should be identified by the title of the information collection.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Description: ACF proposes to collect a set of performance measures from all HMRF grantees. These measures collect standardized information in the following areas:

- Applicant characteristics;
- Program operations;
- Service delivery; and
- Participant outcomes:
 - o Entrance survey, with five versions: (1) HM Program Entrance Survey for Adult-Focused Programs, (2) HM Program Entrance Survey for Youth-Focused Programs, (3) RF Program Entrance Survey for Community-Based Fathers, (4) RF Program Entrance Survey for Community-Based Mothers, and (5) RF Program Entrance Survey for Reentering Fathers.
 - o Exit survey, with five versions: (1) HM Program Exit Survey for Adult-Focused Programs, (2) HM Program Exit Survey for Youth-Focused Programs, (3) RF Program Exit Survey for Community-Based Fathers, (4) RF Program Exit Survey for Community-Based Mothers, and (5) RF Program Exit Survey for Reentering Fathers.

The measures used by the 2015 grantee cohort were developed in 2014 after extensive review of the research literature and grantees' past measures. The performance measures, data collection instruments, and data collection system

were revised in 2020 based on a targeted analysis of existing measures, feedback from key stakeholders, and discussions with ACF staff and the 2015 cohort of grantees. ACF required the 2015 cohort of grantees to submit data on these standardized measures on a quarterly basis and proposes the same requirement for the 2020 cohort. In addition to the performance measures mentioned above, ACF proposes to repeat collection for these data submissions:

- Semi-annual Performance Progress Report (PPR), with two versions: (1) Performance Progress Report for HM Programs, and (2) Performance Progress Report for RF Programs; and
- Quarterly Performance Report (QPR), with two versions: (1) Quarterly Performance Progress Report for HM Programs, and (2) Quarterly Performance Progress Report for RF Programs.

Grantees in the new cohort will also be required to engage in continuous quality improvement (CQI) planning and implementation using a proposed CQI plan template developed by ACF. The estimated burden for completing and updating this template is included in the table below.

Respondents: Respondents include HM and RF grantee staff and program applicants and participants (participants are called ``clients``).

Annual Burden Estimates

Instrument	Respondent	No. of Respondents (total over request period)	Annual No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent (total over request period)	Avg. Burden per Response (in hours)	Total burden (in hours)	Annual Burden (in hours)
1: Applicant Characteristics	Program applicants	273,839	91,280	1	0.25	68,460	22,820
	Program staff	408	408	224	0.10	27,384	9,128
2: Program Operations	Program staff	136	136	12	0.32	526.32	175.44
3: Service Delivery Data	Program staff	2,040	2,040	126	0.50	128,706	42,902
4: Entrance and Exit Surveys	Program clients (entrance)	257,409	85,803	1	0.42	108,111.78	36,037.26
	Program clients (exit)	169,965	56,655	1	0.42	71,385	23,795
	Program staff (entrance and exit on paper)	32	32	1,169	0.10	11,220	3,740
5: Semi-annual Performance Progress Report (PPR)	Program staff	136	136	6	3	2,448	816
6: Quarterly Performance Report (QPR)	Program staff	136	136	6	1	816	272
7: CQI Plan	Program staff	136	136	3	4	1,632	544

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 140,230

Comments: The Department specifically requests comments on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the

burden of the collection of information on respondents,
including through the use of automated collection
techniques or other forms of information technology.
Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions
submitted within 60 days of this publication.

Authority: Sec. 403. [42 U.S.C. 603].

Mary B. Jones,

ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.

[FR Doc. 2020-26266 Filed: 11/27/2020 8:45 am; Publication Date: 11/30/2020]