



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Community Living

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Public Comment Request; Assessment and Evaluation of ACL's American Indian, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian Programs Older Americans Act Title VI (OMB Control Number 0985-0059)

AGENCY: Administration for Community Living, HHS.

ACTION: Notice

SUMMARY: The Administration for Community Living is announcing that the proposed collection of information listed above has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance as required under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This 30-day notice collects comments on the information collection requirements related to related to the Assessment and Evaluation of ACL's American Indian, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian Programs Older Americans Act Title VI (OMB Control Number 0985-0059).

DATES: Submit written comments on the collection of information by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find the information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review - Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function. By mail to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, New Executive Office Bldg., 725 17th St. N.W., rm. 10235, Washington, DC 20503, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for ACL.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amanda Cash at Amanda.Cash@acl.hhs.gov or (202) 795-7369.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In compliance with 44 U.S.C. 3507, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) has submitted the following proposed collection of information to OMB for review and clearance.

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) is requesting approval for data collection associated with the Assessment and Evaluation of ACL's American Indian, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian Programs Older Americans Act Title VI (OMB Control Number 0985-0059). OAA Title VI establishes grants to Native Americans for nutrition services, supportive services, and family caregiver support services.

The purpose of Title VI is “to promote the delivery of supportive services, including nutrition services, to American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and Native Hawaiians that are comparable to services provided under Title III” (42 U.S.C. 3057), which provides nutrition, caregiver and supportive services to the broader U.S. population. Title VI is comprised of three parts; Part A provides nutrition and supportive services to American Indians and Alaska Natives, Part B provides nutrition and supportive services to Native Hawaiians, and Part C provides caregiver services to any programs that have Part A/B.

The previous data collection for this project entailed a series of interviews and focus groups with Title VI program staff, elders, and caregivers. American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian (AI/AN/NH) populations experience significant health and socioeconomic disparities compared to the rest of the U.S. population. The AI/AN population has the highest rate of disabilities and the lowest life expectancy compared to the averages for the overall population (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2008; Goins, Moss, Buchwald, & Guralnik, 2007). While 18% of the non-Hispanic white population is 65 years or older, just 8% of Native Hawaiians and 10% of the AI/AN population is 65 years or older (AoA, 2015). However, as overall life expectancy increases, the proportion of older AI/AN adults is expected to increase. By 2050, the percentage of non-Hispanic white adults is expected to decrease by 20%, while the population of older minority population adults, including AI/AN/NH, is expected to increase by

110% (AoA, 2015; CDC, 2013). For AI/AN populations, this translates to a 93% increase in the number of older adults. In addition, the population aged 75 and older needing long-term care is expected to double by the year 2030 (AoA, 2015; CDC 2013; Goins et al., 2007).

In fiscal year 2023, ACL awarded 290 Title VI three-year grants to tribes/tribal organizations elders for the provision of nutrition and supportive services, and a portion of awardees also received funds for the Native American Caregiver Support Program. The Assessment and Evaluation of the Title VI Programs will examine the effects of the program on:

1. Older Indians, their families and caregivers
2. Tribal communities
3. Intergenerational connections in tribal communities
4. Management of the Title VI program

Additionally, the assessment will examine how using COVID supplemental funds impacted Title VI services provided to older adults. This work will help ACL better understand and document the impact of these funds, how service provision changed over time, and what gaps existed despite the additional funding.

The Need for Assessment and Evaluation

The Assessment and Evaluation of the Title VI Programs is authorized under Section 206(a, c) of Title II of the OAA, which directs ACL to “...measure and evaluate the impact of all programs authorized by this Act, their effectiveness in achieving stated goals in general, and in relation to their cost, their impact on related programs, their effectiveness in targeting for services under this Act unserved older individuals with greatest economic need (including low-income minority individuals and older individuals residing in rural areas) and unserved older individuals with greatest social need (including low-income minority individuals and older individuals residing in rural areas), and their structure and mechanisms for delivery of services, including, where appropriate, comparisons with appropriate control groups composed of persons who have not participated in such programs.”

Consistent with requirements of the Government Performance Results Modernization Act (GPRMA), ACL’s Administration on Aging (AoA) integrates its strategic priorities and plans with performance measurement criteria. The AoA has three major performance measures: improve program efficiency, improve client outcomes, and improve effective targeting of vulnerable elders. Through program assessments, ACL seeks a better understanding of key programs, such as the programs under Title VI of the OAA for AI/AN/NH. Having completed most of the data collection, the Assessment and Evaluation of the Title VI Programs has an interest in adding a data collection activity to do a follow-up interview with grantees after they have completed the current evaluation cycle to understand which components of the technical assistance, they have received have been the most useful for them.

Table 1 provides an overview of the Assessment and Evaluation of the Title VI Program data collection activity.

Data Collection Activities

Table 1

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Purpose, Respondents, Method, and Relevant Study</u>
Title VI Program Staff Follow-up Interviews	The Program Staff Follow-up Interviews will assess how the Title VI Programs have been utilizing and implementing the Technical Assistance they have received from the contractor around the practice of evaluation. Data will include how evaluation practice is being implemented and on what occurring basis, as well as perceptions of met and unmet needs around evaluation; and barriers to using evaluation. Up to 2 local staff (e.g., program director and evaluation staff person) will participate in each interview. The interviews will be conducted via telephone in Year 4 with up to 12 evaluation grantees, for a maximum of 24 participants, and will take 60 minutes to complete. <i>See Attachment A (Title VI Program Staff Consent Form and Interview Guide).</i>

Use of Information Collected

ACL’s strategic priorities are to empower older people and their families to (1) make informed decisions about, and easily access, health and long-term care options and (2) enable seniors to remain in their own homes through the provision of home and community-based services.

Central to these priorities is the pursuit of consistent and effective approaches to support older adults in their own homes and communities, and to coordinate the provision of supportive services to seniors and their caregivers in an integrated system of long-term care. Information gathered through the Assessment and Evaluation of the Title VI Programs will inform ACL and its partners, other Federal agencies and administrators, current grantees, policymakers, and the field about ways to improve service delivery for elders and their caregivers and helping them to remain in their homes for as long as possible. For example, information gathered through the evaluation will be used to identify gaps and challenges in service delivery, as well as areas of further need.

Without this assessment and evaluation, Federal and local officials will not be able to determine whether the Title VI Programs are having the intended impact on AI/AN/NH elders and whether the grantees are meeting the individual goals of the programs. The new proposed data collection will further allow ACL to understand how successful the training and technical assistance provided to Title VI evaluation grantees was for their practice of data collection and use.

Comments in Response to the 60-day Federal Register Notice

A notice published in the *Federal Register* 88 FR 56633 on August 18, 2023. There were no public comments received during the 60-day FRN.

Estimated Program Burden:

Respondent Type	Form Name	No. of Annual Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Average Burden (in hours) per Response	Annual Burden Hours
Program director	Program staff follow-up interview guide	12	1	1	12

Dated: October 30, 2023.

Alison Barkoff,

Principal Deputy Administrator for the Administration for Community Living, performing the duties of the Administrator and the Assistant Secretary for Aging.

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