



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration for Children and Families**

**Submission for Office of Management and Budget Review; Head**

**Start REACH: Strengthening Outreach, Recruitment, and**

**Engagement Approaches with Families - Mixed Methods Study**

**(New Collection)**

**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) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human  
Services (HHS) is proposing to collect data on different  
approaches that Head Start programs use to recruit, select,  
and enroll families, and the ways in which such practices  
reflect programs' community contexts. We are not  
attempting to recruit a nationally representative sample.  
Instead, the study will aim to obtain a variety of  
eligibility, recruitment, selection, enrollment, and  
attendance (ERSEA) practices and experiences to explore how  
these practices and experiences intersect with different  
adversities, demographic characteristics, and community  
contexts.

**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](http://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](mailto:OPREinfocollection@acf.hhs.gov). Identify all requests by the title of the information collection.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Description:* Building on information collected previously through case studies (OMB #0970-0580), the Head Start REACH: Strengthening Outreach, Recruitment, and Engagement Approaches with Families Project is proposing to conduct a mixed-methods study to expand understanding of (1) how Head Start programs implement recruitment, selection, and enrollment practices; and (2) the ways in which practices reflect programs' community contexts. The mixed-methods study would achieve several goals including (1) providing in-depth contextual information about recruitment, selection, and enrollment practices and experiences; (2)

identifying promising recruitment, selection, and enrollment practices and experiences; and (3) informing training and technical assistance regarding recruitment, selection, and enrollment challenges and needs. We will aim to collect information from 60 Head Start and Early Head Start programs in 15 geographic areas in states, from Head Start regions I-X, located in census tracts where the rate of deep poverty is high.

We will collect information about the characteristics of families in Head Start programs and their communities; programs' enrollment numbers and goals; programs' use and perceived effectiveness of and challenges with recruitment, selection, and enrollment practices; promising recruitment, selection, and enrollment practices for potential future replication; families' reasons for choosing Head Start and experiences with and perceptions of recruitment, selection, and enrollment practices; and how community partner staff support recruitment, selection, and enrollment of families into Head Start. The findings are intended to help Head Start programs understand how to support the needs of families facing adversities. We will disseminate findings in a report, research brief, and presentations or briefings.

*Respondents:* Head Start program directors (one per program), ERSEA lead staff (one per program), Head Start parents/caregivers (up to 10 per program), and staff from

community organizations with which Head Start programs partner for ERSEA activities (up to 3 per program).

*Annual Burden Estimates*

Instrument	No. of Respondents (total over request period)	No. of Responses per Respondent (total over request period)	Avg. Burden per Response (in hours)	Total/Annual Burden (in hours)
Program director survey (Instrument 1)	60	1	0.17	10.2
ERSEA lead staff survey (Instrument 2)	60	1	0.75	45
Onsite coordination <sup>a</sup>	60	1	1.5	90
Head Start parent/caregiver survey (Instrument 3)	600	1	0.5	300
Community partner survey (Instrument 4)	180	1	0.25	45
ERSEA lead staff focus group guide (Instrument 5)	24	1	1.5	36
Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:				526.2

<sup>a</sup>There is no instrument associated with this activity. We will ask each program director to nominate a staff person who will help coordinate data collection activities. This line accounts for the time of the onsite coordinator.

**Authority:** Head Start Act Section 640 [42 U.S.C. 9835].

**Mary C. Jones,**  
*ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2024-10578 Filed: 5/14/2024 8:45 am; Publication Date: 5/15/2024]