



4184-07

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Administration for Children and Families

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

TITLE: *Understanding the Intersection Between TANF and Refugee Cash Assistance Services*

OMB NO.: New Collection

DESCRIPTION: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is proposing data collection activities as part of a project to understand the intersection between Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) programs. The goal of this project is to help ACF better understand how the variety of systems that assist refugees collaborate to promote common goals of self-sufficiency and employment, and how refugees' experiences might differ depending on the structure of the state (or local) program arrangements. To achieve this goal, this study aims to document what states are doing to help refugees gain self-sufficiency; if and how states are

integrating RCA, TANF, and associated services to better meet the needs of refugees; and what data is collected currently, or might be collected in the future, to better understand refugee resettlement services and suggest future areas for inquiry.

The proposed data collection activities described in this notice will collect data about state policies and practices; how TANF, RCA, and associated services are provided; the respective roles of the various agencies and organizations in serving participants; how the agencies and organizations integrate services internally and/or collaborate with other organizations; refugee populations served; approaches to addressing the particular barriers refugees face; promising practices and strategies for assisting refugees; gaps in services; local labor market conditions; and experiences of refugees accessing services through these programs.

This Federal Register Notice provides the opportunity to comment on proposed new information collection activities for this study: 1) The *survey of state refugee coordinators and Wilson-Fish program coordinators* will be administered to state refugee coordinators in each state and the District of Columbia. The survey will collect information about state policies and practices.

2) The four *site visit interview guides* will collect information about how TANF, RCA, and associated services are provided; the respective roles of the various agencies and organizations in serving participants; how the agencies and organizations integrate services internally and/or collaborate with other organizations; approaches to addressing the particular barriers refugees face; promising practices and strategies for assisting refugees; gaps in services; data maintained by programs serving refugees; and local labor market conditions.

3) The *focus group guide* will collect information from program participants about the services they received, how they were delivered, their experiences attempting to achieve self-sufficiency within a rapid timeframe, and the challenges they have faced.

RESPONDENTS: Individuals receiving RCA, TANF, and related services; State Refugee Coordinators/Wilson-Fish Program Coordinators; Managers and staff at local TANF offices; local resettlement agency staff; community-based organization staff providing services to refugees; staff operating alternative cash assistance programs for refugees such as Public/Private Partnerships(s) and Wilson-Fish programs (if different from the local resettlement agency); and staff from other programs providing employability and

social adjustment and cultural orientation services to refugees.

ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES

Instrument	Total Number of Respondents	Annual Number of Respondents	Number of Responses Per Respondent	Average Burden Hours Per Response	Annual Burden Hours
Survey of State Refugee Coordinators and Wilson-Fish Program Coordinators	51	26	1	.5	13
Site Visit Interview Guide for Public Agency Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Managers and Staff	40	20	1	1.5	30
Site Visit Interview Guide for Public Agency Refugee Cash Assistance Managers and Staff	40	20	1	1.5	30
Site Visit Interview Guide for Voluntary Agency Staff	40	20	1	1.5	30
Site Visit Interview Guide for Other Community-Based Organization Staff	40	20	1	1.5	30
Focus Group Guide for Service Recipients	72	36	1	1.5	54

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 187

Additional Information: Copies of the proposed collection may be obtained by writing to the Administration for

Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW., Washington, DC 20447, Attn: OPRE Reports Clearance Officer. All requests should be identified by the title of the information collection. E-mail address: OPREinfocollection@acf.hhs.gov.

OMB Comment: OMB is required to make a decision concerning 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.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent directly to the following:

Office of Management and Budget

Paperwork Reduction Project

Email: OIRA_SUBMISSION@OMB.EOP.GOV

Fax: 202-395-6974

Attn: Desk Officer for the Administration
for Children and Families

Robert Sargis
ACF Reports Clearance
Officer

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