



**4184-41**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration for Children and Families**

**Proposed Information Collection Activity; Comment Request**

**Proposed Projects**

Title: Federal Tax Refund Offset, Administrative Offset, and  
Passport Denial

OMB No.: 0970-0161

Description: The Federal Tax Refund Offset and Administrative Offset (Federal Offset) programs collect past-due child and spousal support by intercepting certain federal payments, including federal tax refunds, of parents who have been ordered to pay support and are delinquent. The Federal Offset Program is a cooperative effort among the Department of the Treasury's Bureau of the Fiscal Service, the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), and state child support enforcement agencies.

The Passport Denial Program reports noncustodial parents who owe child and spousal support above a threshold to the Department of

State, which will then deny passports to these individuals.

On an ongoing basis, child support enforcement agencies submit to OCSE the names, Social Security numbers, and the amount(s) of past-due child and spousal support of noncustodial parents who are delinquent in making payments.

The information collection activities pertaining to the Federal Tax Refund Offset, Administrative Offset, and Passport Denial programs are authorized by: (1) 42 U.S.C. § 652(b), 42 U.S.C. § 664, 26 U.S.C. § 6402(c), 31 CFR §285.3, 45 CFR § 302.60, and 45 CFR § 303.72, which require state child support agencies to submit information pertaining to past-due support cases meeting specific criteria for the offset of the federal tax refund of the noncustodial parent; (2) 31 U.S.C. §3701 *et seq.*, 31 U.S.C. § 3716(h), and 31 CFR § 285.1, which require state child support agencies to submit information pertaining to past-due support cases meeting specific criteria for the administrative offset of federal payments other than federal tax refunds of the noncustodial parent; (3) 42 U.S.C. § 652(k), 42 U.S.C. § 654(31), and 22 CFR § 51.60, which require state child support agencies to submit information to OCSE pertaining to past-due support cases meeting specific criteria for the denial, revocation, restriction, or limitation of the passport of the noncustodial parent; and (4) 42 U.S.C. § 654(31), 42 U.S.C. §

664, 31 CFR § 285.1, and 31 CFR § 285.3, which require state child support agencies to submit the Annual Certification Letter to OCSE asserting that each case submitted for the Federal Tax Refund Offset, Administrative Offset, and Passport Denial programs meets federal requirements.

Respondents: Child Support Enforcement Agencies

ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES

| Information Collection Instrument | Number of Respondents | Number of Responses per Respondent | Average Burden Hours per Response | Total Burden Hours |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Input Record                      | 54                    | 52                                 | .3                                | 842.4              |
| Output Record                     | 54                    | 52                                 | .46                               | 1291.7             |
| Payment File                      | 54                    | 52                                 | .135                              | 379.1              |
| Certification Letter              | 54                    | 1                                  | .4                                | 21.6               |
| Portal Processing Screens         | 173                   | 280.65                             | .01                               | 485.52             |

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 3,020

In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chap 35), the Administration for Children and Families is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described above. Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained and comments may be forwarded by writing to the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, 330 C Street SW, Washington D.C. 20201. Attn: ACF Reports Clearance Officer. E-

mail address: infocollection@acf.hhs.gov. All requests should be identified by the title of the information collection.

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.

**Mary B. Jones,**

*ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.*

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