

Authority: Section 413 of the Social Security Act, as amended by the FY 2017 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–31).

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ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.

[FR Doc. 2020–29234 Filed 1–5–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184–09–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Proposed Information Collection Activity; Variations in Implementation of Quality Interventions (VIQI) Project (OMB #0970–0508)

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

ACTION: Request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is requesting a 3-year extension with changes to continue collecting data for the study Variations in Implementation of Quality Interventions (VIQI). In addition to extending data collection, OPRE proposes to update burden estimates to accommodate a different sample size of centers, administrators, teachers, and coaches; to revise data collection instruments and activities for the impact evaluation and process study in line with lessons learned during the pilot study; to add a second timepoint of data collection for the teacher reports to questions about children; to provide one new instrument to collect parent report of children's skills and behaviors; and to provide one new instrument in anticipation of COVID–19 necessitating further information gathering to contextualize findings from the impact evaluation and process study.

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: Through the VIQI Project, OPRE aims to inform policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders about effective ways to support the quality and effectiveness of early care and education (ECE) centers for promoting young children's learning and development. The VIQI Project completed a pilot study in about 40 centers in three metropolitan areas in 2018–2019 that is informing a year-long impact evaluation and process study that involves testing the effectiveness of two curricular and professional development models aiming to strengthen the quality of classroom processes and children's outcomes. The impact evaluation and process study is expected to begin in the fall of 2021 and will include about 140 community-based and Head Start ECE centers spread across about 12 different metropolitan areas in the United States.

The VIQI Project will consist of a 3-group experimental design where the initial quality and other characteristics of ECE centers are measured. For details about the study design, see the Supporting Statements at https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewDocument?ref_nbr=202008-0970-009.

In anticipation of changes to center characteristics due to COVID–19, annual burden estimates and instruments have been updated to accommodate a different sample size of centers, administrators, teachers, and coaches for the impact evaluation and process study.

The previously approved data collection instruments for the impact evaluation and process study include the following:

(1) Instruments for Screening and Recruitment of ECE Centers. We do not propose any changes to these materials;

(2) Baseline Instruments. Modifications made to surveys remove items that showed little variation in the pilot study, edit item wording to increase clarity and ease of understanding, and add a few new items

to capture new constructs of interest based upon the insights gained from the pilot study. The child assessment and classroom observation instruments have been updated to reflect the selected assessments and observations. We added an additional time point of data collection (baseline) for teacher reports on questions about children in the classroom and have added in questions about children's academic skills. Parent/guardian reports to questions about children have been added to gather information about children's skills at the beginning of the impact evaluation and process study. Administrator/teacher COVID–19 supplemental survey questions have been added to gather information about how the pandemic has changed typical center and classroom programming and functioning, if there is a need to contextualize findings from the impact evaluation and process study due to circumstances surrounding the COVID–19 pandemic at the time of data collection;

(3) Follow-Up Instruments. Modifications made to surveys remove items that showed little variation in the pilot study, edit item wording to increase clarity and ease of understanding, and add a few new items to capture new constructs of interest based upon insights gained from the pilot study. The child assessment and classroom observation instruments have been updated to reflect the selected assessments and observations. We added in questions about children's academic skills to the teacher reports on questions about children in the classroom. Parent/guardian reports to questions about children have been added to gather information about children's skills at the end of the impact evaluation and process study; and

(4) Fidelity of Implementation Instruments. Modifications to the Coach Log have been made to remove or consolidate items that showed little variation or proved less useful in the pilot study and to edit item wording to increase clarity and ease of understanding.

Respondents: Staff members working in Head Start grantee and community-based child care oversight agencies, staff members working in about 140 ECE centers in about 12 metropolitan areas across the United States, and parents and children being served in these centers.

ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES

Instrument	Number of respondents (total over request period)	Number of responses per respondent (total over request period)	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden (in hours)	Annual burden (in hours)
Instruments for Screening and Recruitment of ECE Centers for the Impact Evaluation and Process Study					
Landscaping protocol with stakeholder agencies (staff burden in Head Start (HS) <i>grantee</i> and community-based child care <i>agencies</i>)	120	1	1.50	180	60
Screening protocol for phone calls (staff burden in HS <i>grantees</i> and community-based child care <i>agencies</i>)	132	1	2.0	264	88
Screening protocol for phone calls (HS and community-based child care <i>center</i> staff burden)	336	1	1.2	403	134
Protocol for follow-up calls/in-person visits for screening and recruitment activities (staff burden in HS <i>grantees</i> and community-based child care <i>agencies</i>)	610	1	1.5	915	305
Protocol for follow-up calls/in-person visits for screening and recruitment activities (HS and community-based child care <i>center</i> staff burden)	950	1	1.2	1,140	380
Baseline Instruments for the Impact Evaluation and Process Study					
Baseline administrator survey	175	1	0.6	105	35
Baseline coach survey	59	1	0.6	35	12
Baseline teacher/assistant teacher survey	1,050	1	0.6	630	210
Baseline parent/guardian information form	6,300	1	0.1	630	210
Baseline classroom observation protocol (teacher burden)	420	1	0.3	126	42
Baseline protocol for child assessments (child burden)	4,200	1	0.5	2,100	700
Parent/guardian reports to questions about children (administered as part of the baseline parent/guardian information form)	6,300	1	0.1	630	210
Teacher reports to questions about children in classroom (administered as part of the baseline teacher survey)	420	10	0.17	714	238
Administrator/teacher COVID-19 supplemental survey questions (administered as part of or in addition to administrator and/or teacher survey, to contextualize findings from impact evaluation and process study due to circumstances surrounding COVID-19 at the time of data collection)	980	1	0.25	245	82
Follow-Up Instruments for Impact Evaluation and Process Study					
Follow-up administrator survey	140	1	0.5	70	23
Follow-up coach survey	47	1	0.5	24	8
Follow-up teacher/assistant teacher survey	840	1	0.75	630	210
Parent/guardian reports to questions about children	6,300	1	0.1	630	210
Teacher reports to questions about children in classroom (administered as part of the follow-up teacher survey)	420	10	0.17	714	238
Follow-up classroom observation protocol (teacher burden)	420	3	0.3	378	126
Follow-up protocol for child assessments (child burden)	4,200	1	0.9	3,780	1,260
Fidelity of Implementation Instruments for the Process Study					
Coach log	47	108	0.25	1,269	423
Teacher/assistant teacher log	840	36	0.25	7,560	2,520
Implementation fidelity observation protocol (teacher burden)	80	1	0.3	24	8
Interview/Focus group protocol (administrator, teacher/assistant teacher and coach burden)	236	1	1.5	354	118

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 7,850.

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: 42 U.S.C. 9858(a)(5); 42 U.S.C. 9835; and 42 U.S.C. 9844)

Mary B. Jones,

ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.

[FR Doc. 2020-29230 Filed 1-5-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184-23-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Proposed Information Collection Activity; Administration and Oversight of the Unaccompanied Alien Children Program (OMB #0970-0547)

AGENCY: Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is inviting public comments on revisions to an approved information collection. The request consists of several forms that allow the Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) Program to monitor care provider facility compliance with federal laws and regulations, legal agreements, and ORR policies and procedures; and perform other administrative tasks.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Description: ORR plans to revise six of the eight instruments currently approved under OMB #0970-0547. Four of the revised instruments will be incorporated into ORR's new case management system, UAC Path. The other two revised instruments are and will remain PDF instruments. In addition, ORR plans to add two new

instruments to this collection, both of which will be incorporated into UAC Path. Finally, ORR plans to remove one currently approved instrument from this collection.

1. Care Provider Facility Tour Request (Form A-1A): This instrument is used by advocacy groups, faith-based organizations, researchers, government officials, and other stakeholders to request tours of ORR care provider facilities. After the request is received, ORR documents its decision and details regarding date and location of the tour, if applicable, and provides the completed form to the requester. No revisions are currently requested; ORR plans to continue use of this form as-is.

2. Notice to UAC for Flores Visits (Forms A-4 & A-4s): This instrument is used by care provider facilities to notify UAC of upcoming visits by Flores counsel (lawyers and volunteers from the organization that originally participated in the creation of the Flores Settlement Agreement) and allow UAC to add their name to a sign-up sheet if they are willing to speak with Flores counsel. ORR updated the Spanish translation of this PDF instrument.

3. Authorization for Release of Records (Form A-5): This instrument is used by attorneys, legal service providers, government agencies, and other stakeholders to request UAC case file records. In most cases, requesters are required to obtain the signature of the subject of the record request (UAC or their parent/legal guardian or sponsor) and a witness. ORR made the following revisions:

- Added a section in which ORR-funded legal service providers are required to certify their representation of the child.
- Added a separate area where sponsors may authorize the release of their records.
- Updated the required supporting documentation for a representative of a federal/state government agency or the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to further require that the requester specify the scope of their investigation and provide a case reference number.
- Clarified in the instructions that ORR will not release any records that are clearly outside of the scope of a government agency's investigation absent a court-issued subpoena or order.

4. Notification of Concern (Form A-7): This instrument is used by home study and post-release service caseworkers, care provider case managers, and the ORR National Call Center to notify ORR of certain concerns that arise after a UAC is released from ORR custody. This

is a new instrument that ORR plans to add to this collection.

5. Event (Form A-9): This instrument is used by ORR care provider programs to document high-level information about situations that must be reported to ORR. Creating an *Event* is the first step in creating any type of incident report (see forms A-10A to A-10C below), *PLE Report* (see form A-10D below) or *Notification of Concern* (see form A-7 above). After an *Event* is created, an incident report or *Notification of Concern* is created for each UAC involved in the incident and linked to the *Event*. For program-level events, one *PLE Report* is created and linked to the *Event*. *Event* information is visible in each individual report/notification report. This instrument was previously approved as part of ORR's various incident reports (Forms A-10A to A-10D). ORR is listing it separately, as a new instrument, to better align instruments in this collection with how data will be entered in UAC Path. Some fields that were previously entered in each incident report have been moved into this instrument so that they only need to be entered once. The form also contains several new fields that capture additional information about the location and timeframe of the event. Please note that internal form number A-9 was previously assigned to the Program-Level Event Report.

6. Emergency Significant Incident Report (SIR) and Addendum (Form A-10A): This instrument is used by ORR care provider programs to inform ORR of urgent situations in which there is an immediate threat to a child's safety and well-being that require instantaneous action. In some cases, an Emergency SIR Addendum may be required to provide additional information obtained after the initial report. ORR made the following revisions:

- Revised the available options for the category and subcategory fields.
- Added a question asking whether the incident is related to gang/cartel crimes, activities, or affiliation.
- Added fields to capture additional detail on individuals involved in the incident, actions taken, and video footage.
- Added fields to capture additional information related to reporting of incidents to child protective services, state licensing agencies, and local law enforcement.
- Added a disposition field to indicate whether the incident is closed or if the incident is open and further action is required.
- Updated functionality for the list of individuals who need to be notified of the incident so that it is auto-populated