

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Proposed Information Collection Activity; Comment Request

Proposed Project

Title: Grants to States for Access and Visitation—Program Data.

OMB No.: New.

Description: As required by Paragraphs 303.109(a), (b) and (c) of the PRWORA Act, States are directed to monitor and evaluate their access and visitation programs using a set of criteria aimed at providing detailed descriptions of each funded program. To that end, States will use collection techniques available to the Administration for Children and Families and the Office of Child Support Enforcement.

Specifically, paragraph (a) requires States to monitor all access and visitation program to ensure that services funded under these programs are: (1) authorized under section 469B(a) of the Act and (2) efficiently

and effectively provided while complying with reporting and evaluation requirements, as set forth in paragraphs 303.109(b) and 303.109(c).

Paragraph 303.109(b) allows State programs funded by section 469B of the act to be evaluated using data gathered to measure the effectiveness of program operations. States also are required to assist in the evaluation of programs deemed significant or promising by the Department, as directed by program memorandum.

Paragraph 303-109(c) requires that States provide a detailed description of each funded program by including such information as: service providers and administrators, service area, population served, program goals, application or referral process, referral agencies, nature of the program, activities provided, and length and features of a "completed" program. Other required information from the program also includes: number of applicants or referrals for each program, the number of program participants in the aggregate an by eligible activity, and the total number of graduates in the aggregate and by eligible activities (e.g., mediation, education etc.). This information is

proposed in order to assess: (1) The demand for the program and effectiveness of outreach and ability of the program to meet demand, (2) the service population served and scope and size of the program, and (3) whether such recipients are completing standard program requirements. States would be required to report this information annually, collected at a date and in a form as the Secretary may prescribe in program instructions from time to time.

The Office of Child Support Enforcement will use information gathered from the data collection instrument to report on the programs to the Congress in its annual report. States may use this information to assess demand for an utilization of their programs when considering funding options and make appropriate program changes from year to year. Funded agencies will use the information to assess effectiveness of project administration and design. Public interest groups will use the information to keep apprised services provided to constituencies.

Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Annual Burden Estimates:

Instrument	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Total burden hours
Access and Visitation	216	1	24	5,184

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 5,184.

In compliance with the requirements of Section 3506(c) (2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 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 Information Services, Division of Information Resource Management Services, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.; Washington, D.C. 20447, Attn: ACF Reports Clearance Officer. 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.

Dated: September 25, 1998.

Bob Sargis,

Acting Reports Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Title: National Directory of New Hires Reporting Results Survey.

OMB No.: New.

Description: Public Law 104-193, the "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," required the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) to develop a National Directory of New Hires (NDNH) to improve the ability of State child support agencies to locate noncustodial parents and collect child support across State lines. In order to encourage continued and even improved cooperation with the requirements of the program, OCSE would like to conduct a brief telephone survey to solicit any information already collected by the States as to improved collections attributable to the program. That information would then be condensed into a report to be published through newsletters or press releases.

Respondents: State and Tribal Governments.

Annual Burden Estimates: