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.


Mary B. Jones, ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.

[FR Doc. 2021–03897 Filed 2–24–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184–45–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Community Living

[OMB No. 0985–New]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; State Performance Report

AGENCY: Administration for Community Living, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Administration for Community Living (ACL) is announcing an opportunity for the public to comment on the proposed collection of information listed above. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (the PRA), Federal agencies are required to publish a notice in the Federal Register concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on the new information collection requirements relating to the State Performance Report.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information must be submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. (EST) or postmarked by April 26, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Submit electronic comments on the collection of information to: Susan.Jenkins@acl.hhs.gov. Submit written comments on the collection of information to: Administration for Community Living, Washington, DC 20201, Attention: Susan Jenkins.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Jenkins, Administration for Community Living, Washington, DC 20201, by email at Susan.Jenkins@acl.hhs.gov or by telephone at 202–795–7369.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. “Collection of information” is defined under the PRA and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. PRA section (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)) requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the Federal Register concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, ACL is publishing a notice of the proposed collection of information set forth in this document. The currently approved SPR under 0985–0008 will expire in FY 2022, which is the final reporting year for the currently approved OMB control number (0985–0008). In order to comply with requirements under the PRA it is necessary to place this “new SPR” IC under a new OMB control number while keeping the currently approved SPR under 0985–0008 active for remaining reporting in FY 2022.

With respect to the following collection of information, ACL invites comments on our burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including:

(1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of ACL’s functions, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) the accuracy of ACL’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used to determine burden estimates;

(3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques when appropriate, and other forms of information technology.

The purpose of this data collection is to fulfill requirements of the Older Americans Act and the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act (GPRA Modernization Act) of 2010 and related program performance activities. Section 202(a)(16) of the OAA requires the collection of statistical data regarding the programs and activities carried out with funds provided under the OAA and Section 207(a) directs the Assistant Secretary on Aging to prepare and submit a report to the President and Congress based on those data. Section 202(f) directs the Assistant Secretary to develop a set of performance outcome measures for planning, managing, and evaluating activities performed and services provided under the OAA. Requirements pertaining to the measurement and evaluation of the impact of all programs authorized by the OAA are described in section 206(a). The State Performance Report is one source of data used to develop and report performance outcome measures and measure program effectiveness in achieving the stated goals of the OAA.

The Administration on Aging (now within the Administration for
Community Living) first developed a State Program Report (SPR) in 1996 as part of its National Aging Information System (NAPIS). The SPR collects information about the national Aging Network, how State Agencies on Aging expend their OAA funds as well as funding from other sources for OAA authorized supportive services. The SPR also collects information on the demographic and functional status of the recipients, and is a key source for ACL performance measurement. This previously approved “New SPR” was a revision of the currently active version (effective 2019–2022) and was approved on 2018, also assigned with the same OMB Control Number #0985–0001. This previously approved collection reduces the number of data elements reported by 70% compared to the 2019–2022 SPR.

ACL intends to seek a new OMB Control Number for the for the new SPR effective FY 2022–2025. This request applies only to making an administrative change to the 2018 approved version of the State Performance Report for State Units on Aging (Older Americans Act Titles III and VII (Chapters 3 and 4) (“new SPR”). ACL intends to use this proposed data collection of information with the FY 2022 reporting year.

To view and comment on this information collection please visit Administration for Community Living public input page: https://acl.gov/about-acl/public-input.

Estimated Program Burden: ACL estimates an annual burden of 1,876 hours:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondent/data collection activity</th>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>Responses per respondent</th>
<th>Hours per response</th>
<th>Annual burden hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPR ..................................................</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>1,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total ...............................................</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>1,876</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Alison Barkoff,
Acting Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging.

[FR Doc. 2021–03862 Filed 2–24–21; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4154–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Community Living

[OMB No. 0985–0067]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Public Comment Request; The Study on the Impact of COVID–19 on Adult Protective Service (APS) Programs

AGENCY: Administration for Community Living, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Administration for Community Living is announcing that the proposed collection of information listed above has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance as required under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This 30-Day notice collects comments on the information collection requirements related to requirements related to the extension with change to the Study on the impact of COVID–19 on Adult Protective Service (APS) Programs.

DATES: Submit written comments on the collection of information by March 29, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find the information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. By mail to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th St. NW, Rm. 10235, Washington, DC 20503, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for ACL.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Stephanie Whittier Eliason, Administration for Community Living, Washington, DC 20201 Phone: (202) 795–7467 Email: Stephanie.WhittierEliason@acl.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
In compliance with 44 U.S.C. 3507, ACL has submitted the following proposed collection of information to OMB for review and clearance. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) requests an extension with change to the approved data collection for a study on the impact of COVID–19 on Adult Protective Service (APS) Programs (OMB 0985—0067). Some elder advocates and law enforcement officers believe that the opioid epidemic is contributing to the increase in elder abuse. Even during the COVID–19 epidemic, regular press, briefs and editorials continue to report that the opioid abuse is still rising. Aging services and APS networks are likely to deal with more complex clients with opioid-related issues, placing enormous pressure on health care systems, emergency response services, law enforcement and other community services.

In the context of COVID–19, we need to make extra efforts to look at these challenges and look for ways to effectively meet the needs of these clients. The purpose of this 7-month study is to understand the nature, extent, and impact of opioids on older adults and their families by interviewing APS staff. The study will look magnitude and characteristics of these cases. It will look at what investigative methods and challenges are specific to opioid cases. Because of the COVID–19 pandemic, attention will also be made to the effects of pandemic on client circumstances, service gaps and needs, and outcomes. These are the objectives of the study:

• Identify the scope and characteristics of APS caseloads involving opioid abuse before and during COVID–19
• Identify investigative methods used and challenges to using these methods
• Identify interventions used and challenges to implementing these interventions
• Identify additional services needed
• Identify challenges that are particular to the COVID–19 pandemic
• Assist ACL and other federal partners in targeting needed resources to have the highest impact

Findings from this important study will shed light on what and how to improve APS responses to opioid—

1 Benson, W.F; Aldrich, N. Raising Awareness and Seeking Solutions to the Opioid Epidemic’s Impact on Rural Older Adults.