

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration for Children and Families**

**Submission for OMB Review; Early Care and Education Leadership Study (ExCELS) Descriptive Study (New Collection)**

**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) within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) seeks approval to collect information for the Early Care and Education Leadership Study (ExCELS) Descriptive Study.

**DATES:** Comments due within 30 days of publication. OMB must make a decision

about 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.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Description:* The ExCELS Descriptive Study is a new information collection to learn about what leadership looks like in center-based early care and education settings serving children whose ages range from birth to age 5, but not yet in kindergarten, and better understand

how leadership might improve center quality and outcomes for staff, children, and families. The goals of ExCELS are to (1) develop a short-form measure of early care and education leadership that has strong psychometric properties, and (2) examine empirical support for the associations among key constructs and outcomes in the study’s theory of change of early care and education leadership for quality improvement. The study will recruit 120 centers that receive funding from Head Start or the Child Care and Development Fund, ask the primary site leader at the centers to participate in two interviews, and distribute surveys to select center managers and all teaching staff to test hypothesized associations between leadership constructs and outcomes in the study’s theory of change.

*Respondents:* Management and teaching staff from center-based early care and education settings that receive funding from Head Start or the Child Care and Development Fund.

**ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES**

Instrument	Number of respondents (total over request period)	Number of responses per respondent (total over request period)	Avg. burden per response (in hours)	Total burden (in hours)	Annual burden (in hours)
Center recruitment call script .....	180	1	.33	59	30
Umbrella organization recruitment approval call script .....	113	1	.33	37	19
Engagement interview guide .....	150	1	.33	50	25
Staffing structure and leadership positions interview guide .....	120	1	.50	60	30
Teaching staff roster .....	120	1	.25	30	15
Center manager survey .....	240	1	.42	101	51
Teaching staff survey .....	1,680	1	1	1,680	840

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 1,010.

*Authority:* Authorized by the Head Start Act section 640 [42 U.S.C. 9835] and section 649 [42 U.S.C. 9844]; appropriated by the Continuing Appropriations Act of 2019; the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 section 658O [42 U.S.C. 9858], which also provides authority to use this discretionary funding for research; appropriated by the Continuing Appropriations Act of 2019; and the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 1990 as amended by the CCDBG Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113–186).

**Mary B. Jones,**

*ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration for Children and Families**

**Proposed Information Collection Activity; Head Start Evaluation of a Trauma-Informed Care Program (New Collection)**

**AGENCY:** Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families, Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Request for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families (ACF), is proposing to collect data for a new evaluation of a trauma-informed care program that will include a small randomized controlled trial across 10 sites within Head Start Region V. The goals of the project are to identify the implementation supports

and methods needed to enable teachers to effectively implement Trauma-Informed Care in early care and education programs, and to evaluate its outcomes. Information collected will be used to inform ongoing training and technical assistance (TTA) work provided by the Head Start Centers, particularly decisions regarding allocation of TTA resources. More generally, results may inform OHS guidance around social-emotional programming.

**DATES:** Comments due within 60 days of publication. In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ACF is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described above.