

implementation rules available at 41 CFR part 105–64.4.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:**

If an individual wishes to be notified at his or her request if the system contains a record pertaining to him or her after it has been submitted, that individual should consult the GSA’s Privacy Act implementation rules available at 41 CFR part 105–64.4.

**EXEMPTIONS PROMULGATED FOR THE SYSTEM:**

None.

**HISTORY:**

This system was previously published in the **Federal Register** at 73 FR 22388, April 24, 2008.

**Richard Speidel,**

*Chief Privacy Officer, Office of the Deputy Chief Information Officer, General Services Administration.*

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**BILLING CODE 6820–AB–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration for Children and Families**

**Proposed Information Collection Activity: Risk Determination Hearings for Unaccompanied Children (New Collection)**

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

**ACTION:** Request for public comments.

**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 the proposed collection. The request consists of several forms that will allow the Unaccompanied Children (UC) Program to implement a new set of hearings (“Risk Determination Hearings”), which will serve as due process protections for children in ORR care.

**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 in this notice.

**ADDRESSES:** You can obtain copies of the proposed collection of information and submit comments by emailing [infocollection@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:infocollection@acf.hhs.gov). Identify all requests by the title of the information collection.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Description:* ORR plans to create a new information collection containing five instruments in order to implement risk determination hearings for unaccompanied children. This new information collection will replace the Flores bond hearing process. The new instruments will not take effect until the underlying regulations at 45 CFR part 410 on which they are based take effect. The UC Program issued a notice of proposed rulemaking in October 2023, which aims to adopt and replace regulations relating to key aspects of the placement, care, and services provided to unaccompanied children referred to ORR. The UC Program is currently adjudicating public comments received and preparing to publish the Final Rule in the second quarter of calendar year 2024; the Final Rule will take effect 30 days after publishing.

**Risk Determination Hearing Forms**

These forms are provided to unaccompanied children placed in ORR custody by their case manager or by individuals associated with the HHS Departmental Appeals Board (DAB), which is responsible for the actual day-to-day logistical operations of these hearings. These instruments are provided to all unaccompanied children placed in a restrictive setting (*i.e.*, secure facilities [including residential treatment facilities] and heightened supervision facilities), and to unaccompanied children placed in other types of facilities upon request. They will be translated into Spanish and other languages, as necessary.

- *Request for Risk Determination Hearing (Form RDH–1):* The unaccompanied child, the child’s parent/legal guardian, or the child’s representative may use this instrument to request a Risk Determination hearing. Children in heightened security

placements who initially waive a hearing may use this form to later request a hearing; the form may also be used by children in non-restrictive settings to request a hearing.

- *Risk Determination Hearing Opt-Out (Form RDH–2):* The unaccompanied child or the child’s representative may use this instrument to opt out of a Risk Determination hearing.

- *Appointment of Representation for Risk Determination hearing (Form RDH–3):* The unaccompanied child or the child’s parent/legal guardian may use this instrument to appoint a representative to act on the child’s behalf throughout the Risk Determination hearing process and consent to the release of any records that are related to the child’s case to that representative.

- *Risk Determination Hearing Transcript Request (Form RDH–4):* The unaccompanied child, the child’s parent/legal guardian, or the child’s representative may use this instrument to request a written transcript of the Risk Determination hearing.

- *Request for Appeal of Risk Determination Hearing (Form RDH–5):* The unaccompanied child, the child’s parent/legal guardian, or the child’s representative may use this instrument to appeal the decision of the hearing officer.

Once the new risk determination hearing forms are in effect, the UC Program will prepare a non-substantive change request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to discontinue the use of three instruments currently approved under the Legal Services for Unaccompanied Children information collection (OMB# 0970–0565). The forms to be replaced by the Risk Determination Hearing forms described above include the following:

- Request for a Flores Bond Hearing (Form LRG–7)
- Motion Requesting a Bond Hearing—Secure or Staff Secure (Form LRG–8A)
- Motion Requesting a Bond Hearing—Non-Secure (Form LRG–8B)

*Respondents:* ORR grantee and contractor staff, unaccompanied children, parents/legal guardians of unaccompanied children, attorneys of record, and legal service providers.

**ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES**

Instrument	Annual total number of respondents	Annual total number of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Annual total burden hours
Request for Risk Determination Hearing (Form RDH–1) .....	435	1	0.17	72.5
Risk Determination Hearing Opt-Out (Form RDH–2) .....	435	1	0.17	72.5

ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES—Continued

Instrument	Annual total number of respondents	Annual total number of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Annual total burden hours
Appointment of Representative for Risk Determination Hearing (Form RDH-3) .....	1740	1	0.17	290
Risk Determination Hearing Transcript Request (Form RDH-4) .....	16	1	0.17	3
Request for Appeal of Risk Determination Hearing (Form RDH-5) .....	3	1	0.17	.5

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 438.5*

*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:* 6 U.S.C. 279; 8 U.S.C. 1232

**Mary C. Jones,**

*ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration for Community Living**

**Availability of Program Application Instructions for Adult Protective Services Funding**

*Title:* Elder Justice Act—Adult Protective Services.

*Announcement Type:* Initial.

*Statutory Authority:* 42 U.S.C 1397m-1.

*Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:* 93.698.

**DATES:** Letters of Assurance and the Initial Spend Plan must be submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. (EST) March 15, 2024.

**I. Funding Opportunity Description**

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) is establishing the “Elder Justice Act—Adult Protective Services” funding opportunity in accordance with section 2042(b) of subtitle B of title XX of the Social Security Act, otherwise known as the Elder Justice Act (EJA) as

authorized and funded through the Further Additional Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024, Public Law 118-35. In accordance with these statutes, the purpose of this opportunity is to enhance and improve adult protective services provided by States, the District of Columbia, and the Territories.

Funds awarded to States and Territories under this opportunity will provide Adult Protective Services (APS) programs in the States, District of Columbia, and Territories with resources to enhance, improve, and expand the ability of APS to investigate allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Examples of activities consistent with the purposes of the statute include:

- Costs and salaries for hiring permanent or temporary staff members, extended hours/over-time for current staff, and associated personnel costs;
- Costs associated with providing goods and services to APS clients;
- Costs associated with community outreach, including public awareness campaigns and other resources designed to increase the public’s awareness and understanding of APS’ role in the community;
- Training costs, including state-wide training conferences for APS staff;
- Acquiring personal protection equipment and supplies;
- Improving and enhancing technology systems, including supporting remote work, such as the purchase of communications and technology hardware, software, or infrastructure in order to provide adult protective services;
- Improving data collection and reporting at the case worker, local-, and State-levels in a manner that is consistent with the National Adult Maltreatment Reporting System (NAMRS);
- Improving or enhancing existing APS processes for receiving reports, conducting intakes and investigations, planning/providing for services, making case determinations, documenting and closing cases, and continuous quality improvement;

- Working with tribal adult protective services efforts, such as conducting demonstrations on State-Tribal APS partnerships to better serve tribal elders who experience abuse, neglect, and exploitation, partnering with Tribes within the State to include tribal elder abuse data in the State’s NAMRS reporting, and undertaking demonstrations to better understand elder abuse experienced by tribal individuals living in non-tribal communities and served by State APS programs;

- Establishing or enhancing the availability for elder shelters and other emergency, short-term housing and accompanying “wrap-around” services for APS clients;
- Establishing, expanding, or enhancing state-wide and local-level elder justice networks for the purpose of removing bureaucratic obstacles and improving coordination across the many State and local agencies interacting with APS clients who have experienced abuse, neglect, or exploitation;
- Costs associated with establishing new, or improving existing processes for responding to alleged scams and frauds;
- Costs associated with assisting APS clients secure the least restrictive option for emergency or alternative housing, and with obtaining, providing, or coordinating with care transitions as appropriate;
- Costs associated with transporting APS clients to necessary appointments, such as medical visits; and
- Costs associated with establishing grants or contracts to address gaps in the APS program identified in the environmental scan previously completed.

Awards authorized under the EJA section 2042(b) shall be provided to the agency or unit of State government having the legal responsibility for providing adult protective services within the State, District of Columbia, or Territory. Funding under this opportunity may be used to serve any APS client who meets their State’s statutory or regulatory criteria for client eligibility for APS services. This funding must supplement and not supplant existing funding for APS