

Dated: July 23, 2002.

Edward Schultz,

*Acting Director, Procurement and Grants
Office, Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention.*

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Title: DHHS/ACF Employment
Retention and Advancement (ERA)
Evaluation 12-Month Survey.

OMB No.: New collection.

Description: The Employment
Retention and Advancement (ERA)
Evaluation is the most ambitious,
comprehensive effort to learn what
works in this area to date and is
explicitly designed to build on past
research by rigorously testing a wide
variety of approaches to promoting
employment retention and advancement
for a range of populations. The project,
conceived and sponsored by the
Administration for Children and
Families (ACF) of the U.S. Department
of Health and Human Services (HHS),
seeks to "conduct a multi-site
evaluation that studies the net impact
and cost-benefits of programs designed
to help Temporary Assistance for Needy

Families (TANF) recipients, former
TANF recipients, or families at-risk of
needing TANF benefits retain and
advance in employment." The ERA
Evaluation involves up to 15 random
assignment experiments in eight states,
testing a diverse set of strategies
designed to promote stable employment
and/or career advancement for current
and former welfare recipients and/or
career advancement for current and
former welfare recipients and other low-
income parents. Over the next several
years, the ERA project will generate a
wealth of rigorous data on the
implementation, effects, and costs of
these alternative approaches. The data
collected will be used for the following
purposes:

- To study ERA's impacts on
employment, earnings, participation,
educational attainment and income;
- To collect data on a wider range of
outcome measures than is available
through welfare or UI records in order
to understand how individuals were
affected by ERA; job retention and job
quality; educational attainment;
interactions with an knowledge of the
ERA program; household composition;
income; and childcare, transportation,
and health coverage;
- To supplement research on the
implementation of ERA across sites;
- To conduct non-experimental
analyses to explain participation
decisions and provide a descriptive
picture of the circumstances of low-
wage workers;

- To obtain participation information
important to the evaluation's benefit-
cost component; and

- To obtain contact information for
possible future follow-up, information
that will be important to achieving high
response rates for the 36-month survey.

Respondents: The respondents of the
12-month survey are Temporary
Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
applicants, current and former TANF
recipients, or individuals in families at-
risk of needing TANF benefits (working
poor and hard-to-employ) from eight
states participating in the ERA
Evaluation: California, Oregon, New
York, Ohio, Minnesota, Illinois, South
Carolina, and Texas. Survey
respondents can be grouped according
to three program clusters: advancement
projects; placement and retention (hard-
to-employ) projects; and mixed goal
projects. All three program clusters will
receive the 12-month core survey. The
placement and retention (hard-to-
employ) participants will also receive
the hard-to-employ survey module.
Survey participants will be
administered a telephone survey (for
those individuals who cannot be
reached by phone, staff at the survey
firm will attempt to contact them in
person) approximately 12 months after
random assignment. Approximately
6,250 participants will complete the
core survey only and 1,800 participants
will complete the core plus hard-to-
employ module survey.

ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES

Instrument	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Total burden hours
12-Month Survey (Core Only)	3,125	1	37 minutes or .6166 hours	1,927.08
12-Month Survey (Core plus Hard-to-Employ Module).	900	1	45 minutes or .75 hours	675.00
Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours	2,602.08

Additional Information

Copies of the proposed collection may
be obtained by writing to the
Administration for Children and
Families, Office of Information Services,
370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW.,
Washington, DC 20447, Attn: ACF
Reports Clearance Officer.

OMB Comment

OMB is required to make a decision
concerning 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. Written comments and
recommendations for the proposed
information collection should be sent
directly to the following: Office of
Management and Budget, Paperwork
Reduction Project, 725 17th Street, NW.,
Washington, DC 20503, Attn: Desk
Officer for ACF.

Dated: July 24, 2002.

Robert Sargis,

Reports Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Request for Public Comment on the Reporting Period for the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System

AGENCY: Administration on Children,
Youth and Families (ACYF), ACF,
DHHS.

ACTION: Notice of request for public
comment.