

policies, procedures, guidelines, and regulations.

These authorities may be redelegated, but not below the level of the Director, Division of Performance and Organizational Programs, Office of Human Capital, CMS or its successor. Exercise of this authority shall be in accordance with established policies, procedures, guidelines, and regulations as prescribed by the Secretary. The Secretary retains the authority to promulgate regulations.

This delegation is effective immediately. I hereby affirm and ratify any actions taken by you or your subordinates that involved the exercise of the authorities delegated herein prior to the effective date of the delegation.

**Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.,**  
Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration for Children and Families**

[Office of Management and Budget #: 0970-0545]

**Submission for Office of Management and Budget Review; Next Generation of Enhanced Employment Strategies Project**

**AGENCY:** Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**ACTION:** Request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Office of

Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE) is requesting a one-year extension to one of the data collection activities conducted for the Next Generation of Enhanced Employment Strategies (NextGen) Project, the second follow-up survey (OMB #0970-0545, expiration April 30, 026).

**DATES:** *Comments due May 29, 2026.*

**ADDRESSES:** The public may view and comment on this information collection request at: [https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref\\_nbr=202604-0970-008](https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=202604-0970-008). You can also obtain copies of the proposed collection of information by emailing [opreinfocollection@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:opreinfocollection@acf.hhs.gov). Identify all emailed requests by the title of the information collection.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Description:* OPRE is conducting the NextGen Project to test innovative employment programs designed to help people facing complex challenges (such as physical and mental health conditions, criminal justice system involvement, or limited formal work skills and experience) secure economic independence. The project is partnering with the Social Security Administration to incorporate a focus on employment-related early interventions for people with current or foreseeable disabilities who have limited work history and are potential applicants for Supplemental Security Income.

The project includes an impact study, descriptive study, and cost study. The descriptive and cost studies are now complete. The impact study has concluded enrolling participants and fielding the first follow-up survey. OPRE seeks approval for an extension, without change, to one of the currently approved data collection activities for the impact study, the second follow-up

survey. This survey collects data on key outcomes of interest, including service receipt, employment, earnings, economic independence, well-being, health status, substance use, and involvement in the criminal justice system. The second follow-up survey allows the study to assess NextGen programs' impact on these participant outcomes 18 to 21 months after student enrollment, depending on the program. Reporting on the intermediate-term impacts of the programs is critical for fully understanding the programs' effectiveness given that some outcomes are not likely to emerge until 18 to 21 months after program entry. OPRE seeks a one-year extension to capture additional responses to the second follow-up survey and ensure low differential attrition between the treatment and control groups at each NextGen program. Without this extension, participants who enrolled in NextGen most recently would be less likely to have their data captured, which could compromise data quality. The extension is requested to allow all participants to have follow-up periods of similar length (up to six months), which is likely to reduce nonresponse bias in impact estimates of the effectiveness of each NextGen program.

*Respondents:* Individuals enrolled in the NextGen Project.

*Annual Burden Estimates:*

This extension request does not change the average burden per response for the remaining data collection. The total/annual burden estimates under this request are for an additional one year of data collection through April 2027. All other previously approved data collection activities under this OMB number have been completed.

Instrument	Total number of respondents	Total number of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Total/annual burden (in hours)
Second follow-up survey—participants .....	160	1	0.83	133

*Authority:* Section 413 of the Social Security Act, as amended by the fiscal year 2017 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-31).

**Mary C. Jones,**  
ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.  
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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Food and Drug Administration**

[Docket No. FDA-2026-N-4390]

**AI-Enabled Optimization of Early-Phase Clinical Trials Pilot Program; Request for Information**

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for information.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or the Agency) is issuing this request for information to solicit input on a proposed pilot program to assess how artificial intelligence (AI)-enabled technologies can improve efficiency, speed, and quality of decision-making in early phase clinical trials. Early-phase clinical trials represent a critical bottleneck in drug development, often characterized by high uncertainty, limited patient populations, and inefficient decision-