

Technology Directorate, ATTN: Chief Information Office—Mary Cantey, 245 Murray Drive, Mail Stop 0202, Washington, DC 20528.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number DHS–2018–0063. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

*FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:* DHS/S&T/FRG System Owner: Marc Caplan, [Marc.Caplan@HQ.DHS.GOV](mailto:Marc.Caplan@HQ.DHS.GOV), (202) 254–6134 (Not a toll free number).

*SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:* DHS, in accordance with the PRA (6 U.S.C. 193), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collection of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provides the requested data in the desired format. DHS is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Homeland Security is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

*Title of Collection:* First Responders Community of Practice User Registration Page (DHS Form 10059 (9/09)).

*Prior OMB Control Number:* 1640–0016.

*Prior Federal Register Document:* 2018–0035, August 2, 2018.

*Type of Review:* An extension of an information collection.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* Federal, State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

*Frequency of Collection:* Once per respondent.

*Average Burden per Response:* 30 minutes.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 2,000.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 1,000.

**Gregg Piermarini,**

*Deputy Chief Information Officer, Science and Technology Directorate.*

[FR Doc. 2018–24907 Filed 11–14–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110–9F–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

[Docket No. DHS–2018–0038]

### Science and Technology Collection of Qualitative Feedback

**AGENCY:** Science and Technology Directorate (S&T), Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

**ACTION:** 60-Day notice of information collection; new request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** S&T will submit the following Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collection activity will garner qualitative customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner, in accordance with the Administration's commitment to improving service delivery.

**DATES:** Comments are encouraged and accepted until January 14, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number DHS–2018–0038, at:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Please follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail and hand delivery or commercial delivery:* Science and Technology Directorate, ATTN: Chief Information Office—Mary Cantey, 245 Murray Drive, Mail Stop 0202, Washington, DC 20528.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number DHS–2018–0038. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** DHS/S&T/OCIO Program Manager: Mary Cantey, [Mary.K.Cantey@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:Mary.K.Cantey@hq.dhs.gov) or 202–254–5367 (Not a toll free number).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The information collection activity will garner qualitative customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner, in accordance with the S&T's commitment to improving service delivery. By qualitative feedback we mean information that provides useful insights on perceptions and opinions, but are not statistical surveys that yield quantitative results that can be generalized to the population of study. This feedback will provide insights into customer or stakeholder perceptions, experiences and expectations, provide an early warning of issues with service, or focus attention on areas where communication, training or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. These collections will allow for ongoing, collaborative and actionable communications between S&T and its customers and stakeholders. It will also allow feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of S&T's program management. Feedback collected under this generic clearance will provide useful information, but it will not yield data that can be generalized to the overall population. This type of generic clearance for qualitative information will not be used for quantitative information collections that are designed to yield reliably actionable results, such as monitoring trends over time or documenting program performance. Such data uses require more rigorous designs that address: The target population to which generalizations will be made, the sampling frame, the sample design (including stratification and clustering), the precision requirements or power calculations that justify the proposed sample size, the expected response rate, methods for assessing potential nonresponse bias, the protocols for data collection, and any testing procedures that were or will be undertaken prior fielding the study. Depending on the degree of influence the results are likely to have, such collections may still be eligible for submission for other generic mechanisms that are designed to yield quantitative results. DHS, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. DHS is soliciting comments on the proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) that is described below. DHS is

especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology? Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

*Title of Collection:* Science and Technology Collection of Qualitative Feedback.

*Type of Review:* New.

*Affected Public:* Individuals and Households, Businesses and Organizations, State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Frequency of Collection:* One per Request.

*Estimated Time per Respondent:* 30 minutes or under.

*Number of Respondents:* 215,100.

*Total Burden Hours:* 34,732.

Dated: October 16, 2018.

**Rick Stevens,**

*Chief Technology Officer, Science and Technology Directorate.*

[FR Doc. 2018-24906 Filed 11-14-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110-9F-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-6046-N-02]

### Family Self-Sufficiency Performance Measurement System (“Composite Score”)

**AGENCY:** Office of Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice of new performance measurement system (“Composite Score”) for the Family Self-Sufficiency Program.

**SUMMARY:** This notice describes and responds to comments on a performance measurement system that HUD plans to implement for Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) that receive HUD Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program coordinator grants. The desired effect of this notice is to notify the public regarding the criteria for evaluating FSS programs.

**DATES:** *Applicability Date:* December 17, 2018.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Questions on this notice may be addressed to [FSS@hud.gov](mailto:FSS@hud.gov) or by

contacting Anice Chenault at 502-618-8163 (email strongly preferred).

*Electronic Data Availability.* This **Federal Register** notice and a spreadsheet containing scores using the methodology for FSS programs funded in any of the last three years will be available electronically from the HUD FSS web page: [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/hcv/fss](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/fss). **Federal Register** notices also are available electronically at <https://www.federalregister.gov/>, the U.S. Government Printing Office website.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

On December 12, 2017, HUD published a notice in the **Federal Register** (FR-6046-N-01, 82 FR 58434) (2017 Notice) describing and requesting comment on a performance measurement system that HUD plans to implement for public housing agencies (PHAs) that receive HUD Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program coordinator grants. Through this notice, HUD is implementing the FSS performance measurement system, as proposed in the 2017 Notice. Additionally, in response to public comments, HUD is revising the methodology it uses to compute FSS Performance Scores under the new system; these revisions are described below, in section III of this notice. Henceforth, HUD will use the new system to evaluate the performance of PHAs receiving HUD program coordinator funding in a strictly advisory manner. Beginning with Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 appropriations, HUD intends to use the performance measurement system in the determination of FSS funding awards. The complete, updated methodology can be found on HUD’s website at: [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/hcv/fss](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/fss).

Under section 23(i) of the Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437u(i)), HUD is required to establish criteria to evaluate eligible entities’ implementation of local FSS programs. HUD has developed this new FSS performance measurement system to provide HUD, Congress, public housing agencies (PHAs), and other eligible entities with information on the performance of individual FSS programs. The information will help grantees determine how their programs compare to others across the country in efforts to help participants to successfully graduate from the program and make progress toward economic security. The information will also help HUD understand the extent to which

FSS program performance—individually and collectively—improves or declines over time.

Initially, HUD plans to use the performance measures to identify high performing and low performing FSS programs, which could inform its understanding of best practices and its delivery of technical assistance. Toward these goals, at least once per year, HUD will analyze data collected through the Public Housing Information Center (PIC) to calculate FSS performance scores for each FSS program that received an FSS coordinator grant in one or more of the past three fiscal year NOFA competitions. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2019, HUD plans to consider the FSS performance score of an FSS program in determining FSS funding awards.

HUD developed the approach described in this Notice based in part on feedback received on an earlier performance measurement approach proposed in the FY 2014 FSS Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). In the FY 2014 NOFA, HUD proposed, and asked for feedback on, evaluating FSS programs based on the share of FSS participants that experience an increase in earned income (also known as “earnings growth”) over a specified time period. Some commenters raised concerns that this approach did not adequately account for differences in local economic conditions and differences in the approaches of local FSS programs. While some FSS programs encourage participants to increase their earnings immediately, others encourage FSS participants to build skills and credentials first and then seek higher paying jobs. The FSS performance measurement system proposed in the December 2017 Notice was developed to address these issues, as well as many others, and to allow for a more nuanced evaluation of the performance of local FSS programs.

A PHA’s FSS performance score will be calculated based on three measures, weighted as follows:

- A. Earnings Performance Measure (50 percent);
- B. FSS Graduation Rate (30 percent);
- C. Participation Rate (20 percent).

HUD has selected these measures because they are important indicators of program performance and are verifiable using the data HUD collects through the PIC data system. No outside or additional reporting will be required, which ensures that the system will not increase the reporting burden of PHAs. No new Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) Information Collection will be required for the scoring, as proposed.

The Earnings Performance Measure represents the difference between the