Dated: April 3, 2000.

Charles Gollmar,

Acting Associate Director for Policy Planning and Evaluation, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[FR Doc. 00–9046 Filed 4–11–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163–18–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Title: Child Care and Development Fund Annual Aggregate Report, ACF–800.

OMB No.: 0970–0150.

Description: This legislatively mandated report collects program and participant data on children and families receiving direct Child Care and Development Fund services. Aggregate data is collected and used to determine the program scope, types of providers, methods of child care delivery, and to provide a report to Congress.

Respondents: States, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Marianna Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES

Instrument	Number of respondents	No. of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Total burden hours
ACF–800	56	1	50	2,800
Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours.				2,800

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: April 6, 2000.

Bob Sargis,

Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 00–9011 Filed 4–11–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Innovative Food Safety Projects; Availability of Grants; Request for Applications

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA), Division of Federal-State Relations (DFSR) is announcing the availability of grant funds for the support of an innovative food safety program. Approximately $250,000 will be available in fiscal year 2000. FDA anticipates making at least five awards, not to exceed $50,000 (direct and indirect costs combined) per award per year. Support of these grants will be for 1 year. The number of grants funded will depend on the quality of the applications received and the availability of Federal funds to support the grant. These grants are not intended to fund or conduct food inspections.

DATES: Submit applications by June 12, 2000. Each application must be submitted under separate cover. Do NOT submit more than one application (with copies) per envelope.

ADDRESSES: Application forms are available from, and completed applications should be submitted to Cynthia M. Polit, Grants Management Specialist (HFA–520), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, rm. 2129, Rockville, MD 20857, 301–827–7180, e-mail: cpolit@oc.fda.gov (Applications hand-carried or commercially delivered should be addressed to 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 2129, Rockville, MD 20857.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Regarding the administrative and financial management aspects of this notice: Cynthia M. Polit (address and telephone number given above).

Regarding the programmatic aspects of this notice: Richard H. Barnes, Director, or Anne Hope Scott, Project Officer, DFSR, Office of Regulatory Affairs, Food and Drug Administration (HFC–150), 5600 Fishers Lane, rm. 12–07, Rockville, MD 20857, 301–827–6906, Internet site: vm.fda.gov/ora/fed__state.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

FDA will support projects covered by this notice under section 1701 [300u] of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241). FDA's project program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 93.245, and applicants are limited to food safety regulatory agencies of State and local governments. The FDA strongly encourages all award recipients to provide a smoke-free workplace and to discourage the use of all tobacco products. This is consistent with the FDA mission to protect and advance the physical and mental health of the American people.

FDA urges applicants to submit work plans that address specific objectives of ''Healthy People 2000.'' Potential applicants may obtain a copy of ''Healthy People 2000'' (Full Report, stock No. 017–0010–0474–0) through Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402–9325, 202–512–1800.

II. Background

ORA is the inspection component of FDA and has some 1,100 investigators and inspectors who cover the country's approximately 95,000 FDA-regulated businesses. These investigators and inspectors inspect more that 15,000 facilities a year. In addition to the standard inspection program, they conduct special investigations, food inspection recall audits, perform

consumer complaint inspections and sample collections. FDA has relied on the States in assisting with the above duties through formal contracts, partnership agreements, and other informal arrangements. Under the President's Food Safety Initiative (FSI), the demands on both the agency and the States will increase. Procedures need to be reviewed and innovative changes made that will increase effectiveness and efficiency and conserve resources. ORA will support FSI by providing: (1) Effective and efficient compliance of regulatory products; and (2) high quality, science-based work that results in maximizing consumer protection.

Under FSI, FDA is mandated to develop innovative food safety programs that would be utilized nationally by State and local food safety regulatory agencies. Even though the American food supply is among the safest in the world, millions of Americans are stricken by illness each year caused by the food they consume, and some 7,000 Americans a year, primarily the very young and elderly, die as a result. The goal of FSI is to further reduce the incidence of foodborne disease to the greatest extent possible. Innovative food safety programs that are developed at the State and local levels and have national implication could enhance programs that are developed at the Federal level.

A. Project Goals, Definitions, and Examples

The specific objective of this program will be to complement, develop, or improve State and local food safety programs that would have applicability to food safety programs nationwide. Applications that fulfill the following specific project objectives will be considered for funding. Each application must address only one project. Applicants may apply for more than one project area, but must submit a separate application for each project. These grants are not to fund or conduct food inspections for food safety regulatory agencies. Applications relating to the Retail Food Program area should be applicable to program improvement processes for FDA's draft entitled ''Recommended National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards'' (http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/ret-toc.html) (see review criteria).

There are two key project areas identified for this effort:

1. Inspection

Development of innovative regulatory inspection methods or techniques for the inspection process of various food establishments in order to improve effectiveness and efficiency. Innovative Regulatory Program Methodology projects must demonstrate an effect on factors which contribute to foodborne illness in all, or a segment of, food industry programs. For example, projects could address key elements from the draft entitled ''Recommended National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards,'' such as the five Food Code Interventions (management knowledge, employee health, hands as a vehicle of contamination, time/temperature relationships, and consumer advisory), or the five Centers for Disease Control and Prevention risk factors (improper holding temperature, inadequate cooking, contaminated equipment, unsafe source, and poor personal hygiene). Another example of projects in this area could include innovative regulation and compliance strategies for State and local food safety regulatory agencies. The goal of these projects should be to achieve efficient and effective compliance with regulations that impact contributing factors to foodborne illness.

2. Education and Health Information Dissemination

Development of innovative education projects and materials for State and local food safety regulatory officials that foster consistency and uniform application of State and local food regulations. These education projects and/or materials must be reproducible by other State and local food safety regulatory agencies. These projects may incorporate concurrent education of both State and local food safety regulatory agencies and the food industry.

B. Applicability

All grant application projects that are developed at State and local levels *must* have national implication or application that can enhance Federal, State, and local food regulatory programs and reduce factors that cause foodborne illness. At the discretion of FDA, successful project formats will be made available to interested Federal, State, and local food safety regulatory agencies. No grant will be awarded for projects that do not support the FDA Food Code.

III. Reporting Requirements

Semiannual progress reports as well as a Final Program Progress Report and a Final Financial Status Report (FSR) (SF–269) are required. An original FSR and two copies shall be submitted to FDA's Chief Grants Management Officer within 90 days of the expiration date of the grant. The Final Program Progress Report must provide full written documentation of the project, copies of any results, as described in the grant application, and an analysis and evaluation of the results of the project. The documentation must be in a form and contain sufficient detail that other State and local food safety regulatory agencies could reproduce the final project.

Program monitoring of recipients will be conducted on an ongoing basis and written reports will be reviewed and evaluated at least semiannually by the Project Officer. Project monitoring may also be in the form of telephone conversations between the Project Officer/Grants Management Specialist and the Principal Investigator and/or a site visit with appropriate officials of the recipient organization. The results of these monitoring activities will be duly recorded in the official file and may be available to the recipient upon request.

IV. Mechanism of Support

A. Award Instrument

Support for this program will be in the form of a grant. These grants will be subject to all policies and requirements that govern the project grant programs of FDA, including the provisions of 42 CFR part 52 and 45 CFR parts 74 and 92. The regulations issued under Executive Order 12372 also apply to this program and are implemented through Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) regulations at 45 CFR part 100. Executive Order 12372 sets up a system for State and local government review of applications for Federal financial assistance. Applicants (other than federally recognized Indian tribal governments) should contact the State's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) as early as possible to alert them to the prospective application(s) and to receive any necessary instructions on the State's review process. A current listing of SPOC's is included in the application kit. The SPOC should send any State review process recommendations to FDA's administrative contact (address listed above). The due date for the State process recommendations is no later than 60 days after the deadline date for the receipt of applications. FDA does not guarantee to accommodate or explain SPOC comments that are received after the 60 day cut-off.

B. Eligibility

These grants are available only to State and local government food regulatory agencies (see SPOC requirements stated previously).

C. Length of Support

The length of support will be for 1 year from date of award.

V. Review Procedure and Criteria

All applications submitted in response to this request for application (RFA) will first be reviewed by grants management and program staff for responsiveness. If applications are found to be nonresponsive, they will be returned to the applicant without further consideration. An application will be considered nonresponsive if any of the following criteria are not met: (1) If it is received after the specified receipt date; (2) if the total dollar amount exceeds $50,000; (3) if all required signatures are not on the face page or assurance pages of the application; or (4) if there is no original signature copy.

Responsive applications will be reviewed and evaluated for scientific and technical merit by an ad hoc panel of experts in the subject field of the specific application. Responsive applications will also be subject to a second level of review by a National Advisory Council for concurrence with the recommendations made by the first level reviewers. Final funding decisions will be made by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs or her designee.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact FDA to resolve any questions regarding criteria prior to the submission of their application. All questions of a technical or programmatic nature must be directed to ORA's program staff (address above) and all questions of an administrative or financial nature must be directed to the grants management staff (address above). Applications will be given an overall score and judged based on all of the following criteria:

1. Applications relating to the Retail Food Program (http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/¢dms/ret-toc.html) only: The outcomes of the project should be applicable to program improvement process for FDA's draft entitled ''Recommended National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards.'' (http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/ret-toc.html). These standards will serve as a guide to regulatory retail food program managers for the design and management of a regulatory retail food program. The standards apply to the operation, management, and promotion of a regulatory retail food program focused on the reduction of risk factors known and suspected to cause foodborne illness. FDA's draft entitled ''Recommended National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards'' are found on the Internet site at http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/ret-toc.html or contact your local FDA Regional Retail Food Specialist from the list provided in the application packet.

2. Application budgets must remain within the $50,000 cap for combined direct and indirect costs. Applications exceeding this dollar amount will be returned as nonresponsive.

3. Applications must provide in detail, a sound rationale and appropriate grant design to address the objectives of the RFA and the project must be reproducible within the national regulatory framework.

4. Applications must include a detailed explanation of the desired goals and outcomes of the project.

5. Applications must include a full description of the project design, a detailed implementation plan, methods of execution, and timeline for completion. The application must include a detailed description of measures of effectiveness and a description of the source documents or data collection methods for establishing the baseline for measurement.

6. Applications must address the adequacy of facilities, expertise of project staff, equipment, data bases, and support services needed for the project .

VI. Submission Requirements

The original and two copies of the completed Grant Application Form PHS–5161–1 (revised 6/99) for State and local governments, with copies of the appendices for each of the copies, should be delivered to Cynthia M. Polit (address above). The application receipt date is June 12, 2000. No supplemental or addendum material will be accepted after the receipt date.

The outside of the mailing package and item 2 of the application face page should be labeled ''Response to RFA–FDA–ORA–00–Project I'' or ''RFA–FDA–ORA–Project II.'' Submit only one project application (an original and two copies) per package.

VII. Method of Application

A. Submission Instructions

Applications will be accepted during working hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, on or before the established receipt date. Applications will be considered received on time if sent or mailed on or before the receipt date as evidenced by a legible U.S. Postal Service dated postmark or a legible date receipt from a commercial carrier, unless they arrive too late for orderly processing. Private metered postmarks shall not be acceptable as proof of timely mailing. Applications not received on time will not be considered for review and they will be returned to the applicant. Applicants should note that the U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide dated postmarks. Before relying on this method, applicants should check with their local post office.

Do not send applications to the Center for Scientific Research, National Institutes of Health (NIH). Any application that is sent to NIH, that is then forwarded to FDA and not received in time for orderly processing, will be deemed nonresponsive and returned to the applicant. Instructions for completing the application are included in Form PHS–5161–1. FDA is unable to receive applications through the Internet.

B. Format for Application

Submission of the application must be on Grant Application Form PHS–5161–1 (rev 6/99). All instructions for the enclosed Standard Form 424 (SF–424) should be followed using the nonconstruction application pages.

The face page of the application should indicate ''RFA–FDA–ORA–00–Project I,'' or ''RFA–FDA–ORA–Project II.''

Data included in the application, if restricted with the legend specified below, may be entitled to confidential treatment as trade secret or confidential commercial information within the meaning of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4)) and FDA's implementing regulations (21 CFR 20.61).

Information collection requirements requested on Form PHS–5161–1 were approved and issued under Office of Management and Budget Circular A–102.

C. Legend

Unless disclosure is required by FOIA as amended (5 U.S.C. 552), as determined by the freedom of information officials of DHHS or by a court, data contained in the portions of this application which have been specifically identified by page number, paragraph, etc., by the applicant as containing restricted and/or proprietary information shall not be used or disclosed except for evaluation purposes.

Dated: April 5, 2000.

William K. Hubbard,

Senior Associate Commissioner for Policy, Planning, and Legislation.

[FR Doc. 00–9063 Filed 4–11–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–01–F