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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[60Day–23–0881; Docket No. CDC–2023–
0052]

Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

AGENCY: Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention (CDC), Department of Health
and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice with comment period.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of
its continuing effort to reduce public
burden and maximize the utility of
government information, invites the
general public and other federal
agencies the opportunity to comment on
a continuing information collection, as
required by the Paperwork Reduction
Act of 1995. This notice invites
comment on a proposed information
collection project titled Data Calls for
the Laboratory Response Network
(LRN). These Data Calls are needed to
address issues concerning the response
capabilities of member facilities for
priority threat agents or to assess the
network's ability to respond to new
emerging threats.

DATES: CDC must receive written
comments on or before August 28, 2023.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments,
identified by Docket No. CDC–2023–
0052 by either of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:**
www.regulations.gov. Follow the
instructions for submitting comments.
- **Mail:** Jeffrey M. Zirger, Information
Collection Review Office, Centers for
Disease Control and Prevention, 1600
Clifton Road NE, MS H21–8, Atlanta,
Georgia 30329.

Instructions: All submissions received
must include the agency name and
Docket Number. CDC will post, without
change, all relevant comments to
www.regulations.gov.

Please note: Submit all comments
through the Federal eRulemaking portal
(www.regulations.gov) or by U.S. mail to
the address listed above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To
request more information on the
proposed project or to obtain a copy of
the information collection plan and
instruments, contact Jeffrey M. Zirger,
Information Collection Review Office,
Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS
H21–8, Atlanta, Georgia 30329;
Telephone: 404–639–7570; Email: [omb@
cdc.gov](mailto:omb@cdc.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the
Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA)
(44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), federal agencies
must obtain approval from the Office of
Management and Budget (OMB) for each
collection of information they conduct
or sponsor. In addition, the PRA also
requires federal agencies to provide a
60-day notice in the **Federal Register**
concerning each proposed collection of
information, including each new
proposed collection, each proposed
extension of existing collection of
information, and each reinstatement of
previously approved information
collection before submitting the
collection to the OMB for approval. To
comply with this requirement, we are
publishing this notice of a proposed
data collection as described below.

The OMB is particularly interested in
comments that will help:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed
collection of information is necessary
for the proper performance of the
functions of the agency, including
whether the information will have
practical utility;
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the
agency's estimate of the burden of the
proposed collection of information,
including the validity of the
methodology and assumptions used;
3. Enhance the quality, utility, and
clarity of the information to be
collected;
4. Minimize the burden of the
collection of information on those who
are to respond, including through the
use of appropriate automated,
electronic, mechanical, or other
technological collection techniques or
other forms of information technology,
e.g., permitting electronic submissions
of responses; and
5. Assess information collection costs.

Proposed Project

Data Calls for the Laboratory
Response Network (LRN) (OMB Control
No. 0920–0881)—Reinstatement
Without Change—National Center for
Emerging and Infectious Diseases
(NCEZID), Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC).

Background and Brief Description

The Laboratory Response Network
(LRN) was established by the
Department of Health and Human
Services (HHS), Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention (CDC) in
accordance with Presidential Decision
Directive 39 which outlined national
anti-terrorism policies and assigned
specific missions to federal departments
and agencies. The Administration has
stated that it is the policy of the United
States to use all appropriate means, to
deter, defeat, and respond to all terrorist
attacks on our territory and resources,
both with people and facilities. The
LRN's mission is to maintain an
integrated national and international
network of laboratories that can respond
quickly to suspected acts of biological,
chemical, or radiological terrorism,
emerging infectious diseases, and other
public health threats and emergencies.

Federal, state and local public health
laboratories join the LRN voluntarily.
When laboratories join, they assume
specific responsibilities and are
required to provide facility information
to the LRN Program Office at CDC as
well as test results for real samples or
proficiency tests. LRN laboratories
participate in Proficiency Testing
Challenges, Exercises and Validation
Studies each year. LRN information
collection is covered by OMB Control
No. 0920–0850. On occasion, CDC may
conduct a Special Data Call to obtain
additional information from LRN
laboratories regarding biological or
chemical terrorism, or emerging
infectious disease preparedness.
Although the LRN Program Office at
CDC has an extensive database of
information regarding all network
members, LRN Special Data Calls are
sometimes needed to address issues
concerning the response capabilities of
member facilities for priority threat
agents or to assess the network's ability
to respond to new emerging threats.
Special Data Calls may be conducted via
broadcast email that asks respondents to
send information via email to the LRN
Help Desk or through online survey
tools (*i.e.*, Survey Monkey) which
require respondents to go to a web link
and answer a series of questions.

This request is for a Reinstatement of
a Generic collection instrument that is
necessary for any impromptu data calls
that are needed. CDC requests OMB
approval for an estimated 94 annual
burden hours. There is no cost to
respondents other than their time to
participate.

ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Type of respondent	Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
Public Health Laboratories	Special Data Call	187	1	0.5	94
Total	94

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[30Day-23-0879]

Agency Forms Undergoing Paperwork Reduction Act Review

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has submitted the information collection request titled “Information Collections to Advance State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial (STLT) Governmental Agency and System Performance, Capacity, and Program Delivery” to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. CDC previously published a “Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations” notice on January 23, 2023 to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. CDC received one non-substantive comment related to the previous notice. This notice serves to allow an additional 30 days for public and affected agency comments.

CDC will accept all comments for this proposed information collection project. The Office of Management and Budget is particularly interested in comments that:

(a) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(d) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including, through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses; and

(e) Assess information collection costs.

To request additional information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the information collection plan and instruments, call (404) 639-7570. Comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Direct written comments and/or suggestions regarding the items contained in this notice to the Attention: CDC Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503 or by fax to (202) 395-5806. Provide written comments within 30 days of notice publication.

Proposed Project

Information Collections to Advance State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial (STLT) Governmental Agency and System Performance, Capacity, and Program Delivery (OMB Control Number 0920-0879, Expiration Date 1/31/2024)—Extension—National Center for STLT Public Health Infrastructure and Workforce (NCSTLTPHIW), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Background and Brief Description

The mission of the Department of Health and Human Services is to enhance the health and well-being of all Americans. As part of HHS, CDC conducts critical science and provides health information to people and communities to save lives and protect people from health threats. To this end,

CDC and HHS seek to accomplish their mission by collaborating with partners throughout the nation and the world to monitor health, detect and investigate health problems, conduct research to enhance prevention, develop and advocate sound public health policies, implement prevention strategies, promote healthy behaviors, foster safe and healthful environments, and provide leadership and training.

CDC is requesting a three-year approval for an Extension of a Generic Clearance to collect information related to domestic public health issues and services that affect and/or involve State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial (STLT) government entities. The respondent universe is comprised of STLT governmental staff or delegates acting on behalf of an STLT agency involved in the provision of essential public health services in the United States. Delegate is defined as a governmental or non-governmental agent (agency, function, office or individual) acting for a principal or submitted by another to represent or act on their behalf. The STLT agency is represented by an STLT entity or delegate with a task to protect and/or improve the public’s health.

Information will be used to: (1) assess situational awareness of current public health emergencies; (2) make decisions that affect planning, response and recovery activities of subsequent emergencies; and (3) fill CDC and HHS gaps in knowledge of programs and/or STLT governments that will strengthen surveillance, epidemiology, and laboratory science; and/or improve CDC’s support and technical assistance to states and communities. CDC and HHS will conduct brief data collections across a range of public health topics related to essential public health services.

CDC estimates up to 30 data collections with STLT governmental staff or delegates, and 10 data collections with local/county/city governmental staff or delegates, will be conducted on an annual basis. Approximately 95% of these data collections will be web-based and 5% by telephone, in-person, and focus groups. CDC will submit a description of each data collection project to OMB