PDG B-5 2025 APPR: Comparing Previous Instrument Against New Instrument

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## Big Picture Overview

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| Big Picture |
| Goals for New Instrument | **Revised Instrument** | **Previous Instrument** |
| More streamlined reporting to reduce the burden on grantees, making it easier and faster to complete. | 3 narrative response questions;  reducing completion time. | 13 narrative response questions |
| Limiting the number of required questions, focusing only on the most critical data elements needed for analysis. | 10 questions; reduced number of questions to focus on meaningful data. | 16 questions |
| Collecting questions that provide data that can be easily aggregated, allowing us to identify trends across all grantees. | Questions include multiple response questions and checkboxes to allow easily aggregated responses. | Heavy narrative questions; requiring tedious read and analyzing of narrative to identify data points. |
| Formatting changes to ensure consistency in responses, enabling more meaningful comparisons across programs. | Formatting changes to ensure consistent data responses to compare across states. | Differing narrative responses, produce inconsistent responses to questions. |
| Updates to improve quality and usability of collected information that can inform other priorities. | Simplified questions allow increased useability of data to develop trends used to inform leadership. | Questions resulted in segmented responses that were difficult to compare state by state. |

## Content-Related Changes

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| Content |
| Key Topic/Theme1 | **Revised Instrument** | **Previous Instrument** |
| Strengthening ECE Workforce | **Q1-2 (Data/ list questions)** Collected data * Workforce credentials and pathways
* compensation strategies
* benefits to support a quality workforce
 | **Q1- 5** **(Narrative questions)** makes brief reference to initiatives to support the ECCE workforce in the context of improving program quality. |
| Expanding Access to ECE  | Removed this section:* Access data for all children and families is collected in Improving ECE Program Quality & Family Choice and Engaging Families
 | **Q6- 9 (Narrative questions)** Collect information on the extent to which recipients used grant funds for specific subgroups, such as infants and toddlers, underserved/children, children with/at risk for disabilities, etc.  |
| Improving ECE Program Quality  | **Q3 (Data/list question)** Collected data * program quality strategies and alignment with state ECE partners

**Q4-5: (Data list question)** Collected data* kindergarten readiness strategies and best practices in high-quality instruction.
 | **Q 10** **(Narrative question)** Collects information on what specific approaches recipients have used to improve program quality.**Q16 (Narrative question)** Collects information oncoordination and referral of specific populations. |
| Family Choice and Engaging Families  | **Q6- 7 (Data/ list questions)** Collected data* families' knowledge of high-quality ECE options & ECE foundations
* family awareness of access and quality of early childhood programs
 | **Q11- 12** (**Narrative question)** Collects information on how grant funds were used to engage families as leaders and maximize parent and family choice, and how many family representatives have been engaged as leaders. |
| Strengthening ECCE Systems  | **Q8** **(Narrative question)** Collected data* Meaningful improvement in state’s ECE system
* New innovations and piloted initiatives
 | **Q13 (Narrative question)** Addresses how grant funds are used to support the state ECCE system – closely aligned with previous instrument  |
| Coordination and Referral/ Coordinated Application Enrollment & Eligibility (CAEE)  | **Q9 (Narrative question)** Collected data * CAEE goals, and phase implementation
* and how it impacts parent choice, enhanced flexibility, transparency, and meaningful data quality.

 | **Q14** **(Narrative question)** Addresses how grant funds improve the coordination and delivery of ECCE services, including coordinated applications and eligibility. |
| State integrated data systems (ECIDS) | **Q10 (Narrative question)** Collected data * goals and phase of ECIDS
* Connect program and K-12 data and longitudinal data systems
* unduplicated counts of children and families.
 | **Q15** **(Narrative question)** Addresses how grant funds strengthen/expand the state’s integrated data system. |

## Summary of changes

1. **Mo** **re streamlined reporting to reduce the burden on grantees, making it easier and faster to complete.**
* 3 narrative response questions to reduce completion time; reducing from 13 narrative questions.
1. **Limiting the number of required questions, focusing only on the most critical data elements needed for analysis.**
* 10 questions; reducing from 16 questions to focus on meaningful data.
1. **Collecting questions that provide data that can be easily aggregated, allowing us to identify trends across all grantees.**
* Questions include multiple response questions and checkboxes to allow easily aggregated responses.
* Reducing heavy narrative questions; requiring tedious read and analyzing of narrative to identify data points.
1. **Formatting changes to ensure consistency in responses, enabling more meaningful comparisons across programs.**
* Formatting changes to ensure consistent data responses to compare across states.
* Eliminating differing narrative responses, producing inconsistent responses to questions.
1. **Updates to improve quality and usability of collected information that can inform other priorities.**
* Simplifying questions allow increased useability of data to develop trends used to inform leadership.
* Previous questions resulted in segmented responses that were difficult to compare state by state.