

Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) National Evaluation Impact and Implementation Study

OMB Information Collection Request New Request

Supporting Statement Part A

MARCH 2026

Type of Request: New

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

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**Alternative Supporting Statement for Information Collections Designed for
Research, Public Health Surveillance, and Program Evaluation Purposes**

Part A

Executive Summary

- **Type of Request:** This Information Collection Request is for a new data collection effort to support an impact and implementation study of a Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) program. The study is being conducted as part of the SRAE National Evaluation. The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is requesting three years of approval.
- **Description of Request:** To add to the limited body of evidence on SRAE programming and support ACF's administration of the SRAE grant program, the SRAE National Evaluation proposes to collect data to test innovative programs used by SRAE grant recipients. This project will include an implementation and impact evaluation of an SRAE grant-funded program. The data collected under this clearance is intended to provide information on the effectiveness of the SRAE program, and the implementation of the innovative strategy through youth surveys, staff interviews, and youth focus groups. Data collected are not intended to be generalized to a broader population. We do not intend for this information to be used as the principal basis for public policy decisions.
- **Time Sensitivity:** Data must be collected in June and July 2026, due to the timing of when programming will be administered, which is the only timing for program implementation. during their grant funding. Clearance is needed by April 2026 to begin scheduling activities for the evaluation before programming begins.

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A1. Necessity for Collection

The Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE) requests Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for a new information collection for an impact and implementation evaluation of Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) programming, on behalf of the SRAE National Evaluation. As part of the federal government's ongoing efforts to support youth in making healthy decisions about their relationships and behaviors, in February 2018, Congress updated Title V, Section 510 of the Social Security Act to authorize the SRAE grant program. Administered by the Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) within ACF of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), SRAE funds programs that teach adolescents to refrain from nonmarital sexual activity. The programs also provide education on personal responsibility, self-regulation, goal setting, healthy relationships, a focus on the future, and preventing drug and alcohol use. The SRAE legislation requires the conduct of one or more rigorous evaluations of the education provided by SRAE programs.¹

The current data collection request is necessary to conduct impact and implementation evaluations that will build evidence around the effectiveness of SRAE programming.

A2. Purpose

Purpose and Use

The purpose of the proposed data collection is to gather the necessary information to assess the impact of a SRAE program on key outcomes for youth related to knowledge, attitudes, skills, intentions, and sexual behaviors, compared to a comparison group that does not receive SRAE specific programming. In addition, the proposed data collection will gather information to assess the implementation of the SRAE program and a comparison program. The information collected through the instruments included in this request will add to the evidence base of SRAE programming to inform SRAE grant recipients' implementation and program improvement efforts.

Specifically, the proposed data collection will assess a SRAE program delivered as part of a two-week community-based summer youth employment program. The SRAE program and comparison program will each be delivered over three days within the two-week timeframe. This mechanism provides a means to deliver the SRAE program during the summer months when youth are at a greater risk of engaging in unhealthy behaviors.

Data collection instruments for the **impact evaluation** will provide outcome data about study participants, which the study team will use to estimate the impact of the program. The study team will use data collection instruments for the **implementation evaluation** to describe the implementation of the program, in terms of youth attendance, program fidelity, youth engagement and rapport with facilitators, and fit of the program to the implementation setting. These descriptions will also help inform the interpretation of impact study findings.

The results will provide federal leadership and staff, grant recipients, local implementing agencies, and/or training/technical assistance providers, as well as researchers and program evaluators, with high-quality information on whether a SRAE program delivered in a community-based context during the summer shows evidence of effectiveness. The study team plans to develop a report that describes the

¹ [Social Security Act §510](#)

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study's methods, limitations, and findings. Other dissemination efforts—such as briefs, infographics, videos, and podcasts—may supplement the report to ensure findings are shared broadly. The information collected is meant to contribute to the body of knowledge on SRAE programs. It is not intended to be used as the principal basis for a decision by a federal decision-maker and is not expected to meet the threshold of influential or highly influential scientific information.

Research Questions

The proposed study includes an impact and implementation evaluation, each with distinct research questions.

Impact Evaluation

The goal of the impact evaluation is to assess the impact of receiving the SRAE program on key outcomes related to sexual risk avoidance. The impact evaluation will address one question:

- (1) Does the SRAE program impact the knowledge, attitudes, skills, intentions, and behaviors of participants when compared to youth in the comparison program?

Implementation Evaluation

For the implementation evaluation, the research questions focus on four topics that will provide information to interpret the impacts of the SRAE program and understand its implementation: fidelity to the curriculum as written; youth attendance; youth engagement and rapport with facilitators; and fit of the program to setting.

- Fidelity to the curriculum as written
 - o For both the SRAE and comparison program, were the lessons delivered as planned?
 - o For both the SRAE and comparison program, were adaptations made?
- Youth attendance
 - o For both the SRAE and comparison program, did youth attend the lessons as planned?
- Youth engagement and rapport with facilitators
 - o To what extent were youth engaged in the SRAE and comparison programs?
 - o What did youth engagement look like in the SRAE and comparison programs?
 - o What did rapport between youth and facilitators look like in the SRAE and comparison programs?
- Fit of the SRAE and comparison program to setting
 - o What types of programming and activities do youth in both the SRAE and comparison program participate in during the program?
 - o How well do the SRAE and comparison program meet the needs of youth served at the community sites and the program?

Study Design

Table 1 summarizes the study design for the impact and implementation evaluation. For both evaluations, we do not intend for the data gathered to be generalized to a broader population. The limitations of the design will be noted in all dissemination efforts from this study.

Impact Evaluation

The impact evaluation will use an individual randomized controlled trial design and survey data as the primary data source to measure outcomes of interest. Youth 13-24 years old enrolled in the summer program offered by the SRAE grant recipient with parental consent to participate in the evaluation will

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be randomly assigned to receive either the SRAE or a comparison program. The comparison program will cover beneficial content for youth, such as risks of vaping and tobacco use, but not healthy relationships or sexual health topics. The summer program takes place in community sites served by the SRAE grant recipient and focuses on youth employment. The SRAE program or comparison program will be delivered in the summer of 2026 during this broader employment program. Consent forms for participating in evaluation activities (Attachment A) will be distributed with program enrollment information and returned by youth at enrollment in the program.

Up to nine community sites that operate the summer youth employment program will participate in the study. Instrument 1 Youth Survey will be used to collect data from youth in participating sites three times, 1) before randomization (pre-program survey), 2) immediately after completion of the SRAE or comparison program (immediate post-survey), and 3) six months after study enrollment (follow-up survey). By comparing youth assigned to receive the SRAE to youth assigned to receive the comparison program, the study will be able to assess the effectiveness of the SRAE program on outcomes collected in the survey. See B.3. for the full list of outcomes.

See Section B.1 of this ICR for further information about the appropriateness of the design and its limitations.

Implementation Evaluation

The implementation evaluation will address the research questions through several data sources: (1) interviews with staff; (2) focus groups with youth; and (3) the youth immediate post-program survey. The study team will use semi-structured protocols to conduct interviews with staff (Instrument 2) and focus groups with youth (Instrument 3). The study team will adjust the questions as needed during the conversation to probe and clarify respondents' answers. The immediate post-program survey for youth will include several questions related to program engagement and relationships between youth and facilitators (Instrument 1).

Table 1. Study Design Summary

Instruments	Respondent, content, and purpose of collection	Mode and duration
Instrument 1: Youth Survey (pre-program survey, immediate post-program, and 6-month follow-up)	Respondents: Youth age 13-24 Content: Demographics, knowledge of sexual health and prevention methods, self-esteem and confidence in making healthy decisions, peer relationships and support networks, Native identity, sexual risk avoidance outcomes and risk-taking behaviors, and program experience (i.e., youth engagement and rapport with facilitators). Purpose: To describe the sample population, allow for a demonstration of baseline equivalence, and to examine short-term impacts across outcome domains of interest.	Mode: Web-based or in-person hard copy (option for pre-program and immediate post-program only) Duration: 15-20 minutes
Instrument 2: Staff interview protocol	Respondents: Program facilitators, grant recipient program staff (such as project director), and partner implementation site staff Content: Staff feedback on various topics related to program implementation (SRAE and/or comparison program), including delivering the program within the summer program, youth engagement, rapport	Mode: In-person or virtual Duration: 50 minutes

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	with facilitators, and program fidelity. Purpose: To better understand implementation experiences with the SRAE and comparison programs	
Instrument 3: Youth focus group protocol	Respondents: Youth Content: Youth feedback on various topics related to their participation and level of engagement in the program, satisfaction with the program, perceptions of the relevance of program content, and relationship with the facilitators Purpose: To gather information on youth's perceptions of the programming	Mode: In-person or virtual Duration: 40 minutes

Other Data Sources and Uses of Information

We identified the grant recipient for this study through a review of SRAE grant applications. As part of their SRAE performance measures, the grant recipient collects information on youth attendance. The SRAE grant recipient in this evaluation will share this program administrative data on attendance with the study team.

A3. Use of Information Technology to Reduce Burden

The data collection plan reflects sensitivity to issues of efficiency, accuracy, and respondent burden.

Impact Evaluation

The Youth Survey (Instrument 1) is a web-based survey, with hard-copy as a backup. The web-based survey will have built-in mobile formatting to ensure that the display adjusts for device screen size. If needed, respondents can pause and restart the survey, with their responses saved. The survey platform will also include tailored skip patterns and text-fill capabilities. These features allow respondents to move through the questions more easily and automatically skip questions that do not apply to them, thus minimizing respondent burden. The pre-program survey and immediate post-program survey will be web-based and administered to youth at the sites in a group setting. The study team will also be prepared to administer these surveys as hard copies if internet connectivity is challenging in any area where study activities are occurring. Having hard copy back up surveys will limit the burden on site staff and the potential need to reschedule survey administration. The six-month follow-up data will be collected via a web-based survey. The summer youth employment program will have ended by this time, and youth will no longer be in a single, designated location, so providing the option to complete via the web gives youth flexibility regarding where and when they complete the survey.

Implementation Evaluation

The study team will conduct focus groups using Instrument 3, Youth Focus Group Protocol, with youth during in-person site visits, scheduling at times and places convenient for the respondents. In the event that the groups cannot be scheduled in-person due to time constraints at the sites or respondent availability, the study team will conduct the focus group virtually through a secure web platform, such as WebEx. The study team will conduct semi-structured interviews with staff using Instrument 2 either in-person or virtually through a secure web platform. This flexibility in mode is to ensure we connect with staff at a time that works best for their schedule and work commitments. Also, the virtual data collection

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option offers an approach with minimal burden on respondents, and the team will schedule the interviews at times conducive to the respondents. With respondent approval, the study team plans to record the interviews and focus groups. These recordings can assist in minimizing burden as verbatim transcripts will be made, decreasing the need for the interviewer to ask the respondent to repeat themselves to ensure the notes are accurate.

A4. Use of Existing Data: Efforts to reduce duplication, minimize burden, and increase utility and government efficiency

ACF has carefully reviewed the information collection requirements, and no other federal or nonfederal studies are collecting the same type of data requested, which is specifically focused on assessing the effectiveness and implementation of delivering the SRAE program. The data collection is intended to build the evidence base about what innovations work to improve programming and outcomes across the SRAE grant recipients and the youth they serve.

A5. Impact on Small Businesses

The grant recipient delivering the SRAE and comparison conditions is a small business, and some implementation sites may also be small businesses. The study team will request information required only for the intended use. We will schedule data collection at times and locations convenient for respondents.

A6. Consequences of Less Frequent Collection

Rigorous evaluation of innovative initiatives is crucial to building evidence of what works and how best to allocate scarce government resources. Conducting the youth survey three times is necessary to assess the impact of the program on youth outcomes. Youth survey data collected as part of this study are essential to conducting a rigorous evaluation of the SRAE program. Without youth survey data collected through the impact evaluation, we could not estimate the effects of the program (using the immediate post-program survey and six-month follow-up survey). The pre- survey allows the study to see baseline data trends, prior to youth receiving programming.

Data collected through the implementation evaluation will be essential for understanding the results of the impact evaluation and assessing SRAE program implementation. The staff interviews and youth focus groups will occur once.

A7. Now subsumed under 2(b) above and 10 (below)

A8. Consultation

Federal Register Notice and Comments

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR Part 1320 (60 FR 44978, August 29, 1995), ACF published notices in the Federal Register announcing the agency's intention to request an OMB review of information collection activities that included draft versions of this specific information collection (89 FR 105050, 90 FR 23530). No comments were received during these comment periods.

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Consultation with Experts Outside of the Study

The study team consulted with staff from the SRAE grant recipient on the youth survey and the plans for collecting implementation data.

A9. Tokens of Appreciation

The proposed tokens of appreciation are designed to boost overall response rates to data collection for this hard-to-reach population and to reduce potential costs associated with six-month follow-up data collection. Concern about the potential for low overall response rates is particularly relevant to this study because youth participants can be challenging to track overtime for various reasons, including:

- Unstable housing
- Less reliable internet availability
- Use of pay-as-you-go phones
- Wariness of participating in research studies

Survey results may be biased if respondents differ from non-respondents. The risk of biased results increases the fewer total responses there are.² Multiple studies have found that including a monetary token of appreciation results in higher rates of survey completion among youth.³ In addition to improving response rates, tokens of appreciation have been found to reduce nonresponse bias and improve survey representativeness for populations such as those in this study, by encouraging those less interested in research to participate.⁴

To address these concerns, we propose providing youth with the following tokens of appreciation:

² What Works Clearinghouse. (2022). What Works Clearinghouse Procedures and Standards Handbook (Version 5.0). U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences. Retrieved from https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/Docs/referenceresources/Final_WWC-HandbookVer5_0-0-508.pdf

³ Afkinich, J. L., & Blachman-Demner, D. R. (2020). Providing incentives to youth participants in research: A literature review. *Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics*, 15(3), 202-215.

Singer, E., and Ye, C. (2013). The use and effects of incentives in surveys. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 645(1), 112-141.

Yu, S., Alper, H. E., Nguyen, A. M., Brackbill, R. M., Turner, L., Walker, D. J., ... & Zweig, K. C. (2017). The effectiveness of a monetary incentive offer on survey response rates and response completeness in a longitudinal study. *BMC medical research methodology*, 17(1), 1-9.

Pejtersen JH. The effect of monetary incentive on survey response for vulnerable children and youths: A randomized controlled trial. *PLoS One*. 2020;15(5):ArtID e0233025.

⁴ Groves, R., Singer, E., and Corning, A. (2000). Leverage-saliency theory of survey participation: Description and an illustration. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 64(3), 299-308.

Groves, R.M., Couper, M.P., Presser, S., Singer, E., Tourangeau, R., Acosta, G., and Nelson, L. (2006). Experiments in producing nonresponse bias. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 70(5), 720-736.

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- **Consent Form:** A \$10 token of appreciation for returning a hard copy completed consent form (Attachment A), regardless of whether the response is “yes” or “no”.
- **Six-Month Follow Up Survey:** Youth who complete the six-month follow-up survey will receive a \$40 token of appreciation.
 - The six-month follow-up survey will take place once youth have left the program and will require youth to complete the survey on their own time. Offering a token of appreciation could help encourage responses and achieve the target response rate. Failure to achieve the target response rate of 80 percent at the six-month follow-up could compromise data quality. Given that the pre-program and immediate post-program surveys will happen on-site while the youth are participating in the program, we do not intend to provide tokens of appreciation for those activities.
- **Focus Groups:** A \$40 token of appreciation for youth that participate in a focus group.
 - Focus group data are not intended to be representative in a statistical sense, in that they will not be used to make general statements about experiences of youth participating in SRAE programs. However, it is important to secure enough participants to provide quality data and capture the experiences of youth participating in the SRAE program and comparison group. The goal is to ensure recruitment of a sufficient number of youth.
 - Youth will be asked to participate on their own time outside of regular programming and may have to travel to a central location to participate.

The proposed tokens of appreciation for consent and the follow up survey are similar to those used in other similar studies approved by OMB.

- On the Components Study of REAL Essentials Advance (REA) (OMB No. 0990-0480), a token of appreciation valued at \$5 was provided for returning a consent form. Consent returns for REA were lower than anticipated at 61 percent, so we are proposing a slightly larger token of appreciation for this study in an effort to increase consent returns.
- On the Supporting Youth to be Successful in Life Study (SYSIL) (OMB Control No. 0970-0574), a \$45 token of appreciation was given to youth who completed the six-month survey. SYSIL six-month survey response rate was 77 percent. The SYSIL population is made up of youth with experience in the child welfare system, which is a group that is difficult to locate. We anticipate the population for the SRAE program evaluation will also be somewhat mobile and dispersed across different areas at the time of the six-month data collection, making them difficult to locate after completing the program.

This proposed token of appreciation for the youth focus groups is similar to two recent data collection efforts conducted with youth for ACF. For both, recruitment for the focus groups was successful, with all groups meeting the minimum number of participants.

- In the Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) and SRAE pretest data collection (approved under the ACF generic for pretesting instruments, 0970-0355, in 2025), youth received a \$50 token of appreciation for completing two surveys and participating in a 60-minute focus group about the instruments.
- On the ACF-funded Adulthood Preparation Subjects (APSS) Study of Dosage and Cultural Relevance (approved under generic clearance for program support, 0970-0531, in 2023), youth participating in adolescent pregnancy prevention programming at a community-based organization outside of school hours received a \$40 token of appreciation for participating in a 75-minute focus group.

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A10. Privacy: Procedures to protect privacy of information, while maximizing data sharing

Personally Identifiable Information (PII)

For the impact study, the study team will use PII to contact youth with information on how to complete the six-month follow-up survey since they will no longer be participating in the program at that time. This will include the youth's name and their parent's name, along with contact information (address, phone number, email, and social media contact information). This information is collected by the grant recipient as part of enrollment in the program.

For the implementation evaluation, the study team will use the youth contact information mentioned above to contact youth with information about focus group time and location (if applicable). In addition, the study team will collect PII (names, work email addresses, and telephone numbers) from the facilitators and other program staff, such as program managers and supervisors, to obtain consent to participate in data collection activities and arrange data collection (including scheduling and sending invitations/reminders for data collections).

Table 2. Summary of PII to be Included and Intended Use

PII	Intended Use
Youth First and last name	Participant contact information collected by the grant recipient as part of enrollment in the program and securely shared with the study team. It will be used to contact respondents about completing the 6-month follow-up survey and for scheduling focus groups.
Youth Address (street, city, state, and zip code)	
Youth Phone numbers (cell, home)	
Youth Email address	
Parent First and last name	Parent contact information collected by the grant recipient as part of enrollment in the program and securely shared with the study team. It will be used as an alternate contact if we are unable to reach youth respondents about completing the 6-month follow-up survey.
Parent Address (street, city, state, and zip code)	
Parent Phone numbers (cell, home)	
Parent Email address	
Study staff first and last name	Contact information for program staff will be collected to schedule interviews.
Study staff work email address	
Study staff work phone number	

PII will be stored in secure files, separate from survey and other individual-level data. Access to respondents' contact information is restricted to those working on the study. Any files containing PII are stored on the study team's network in a secure project folder whose access is limited to select project team members. Only the principal investigator, project director, and key study staff have access to this folder. Furthermore, approved study team members can only access this folder after going through multiple layers of security, including connecting to Mathematica's Virtual Private Network (VPN). A secure FTP site (Box.com) will be used to transfer data from the grant recipient to the project team, which will contain as limited PII as possible. Box Enterprise Cloud Content Collaboration Platform is certified through the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP) at a high impact level.

Information will not be maintained in a paper or electronic system from which data are actually or directly retrieved by an individuals' personal identifier.

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Assurances of Privacy

Information collected will be kept private to the extent permitted by law. Respondents will be informed of all planned uses of data and that their participation is voluntary, and that their information will be kept private to the extent permitted by law (see Appendix A and B).

Interviews and focus groups will be recorded only with permission from respondents. Before the discussions begin, respondents will be informed that the study team would like to record the discussion, and the interviewer will ask for respondents' permission to record. The interviewer will not record any interviews or focus groups for which any respondent does not give permission. The interviewer will wait to begin recording the discussion until after everyone has introduced themselves. Respondents will be asked to keep each other's information private (see Appendix A).

The study team will have the recordings transcribed and will delete the recordings after the transcriptions are complete. The transcribed notes will not include any names. All recordings will be stored on the study team's secure network and destroyed per the contract requirements.

Due to the sensitive nature of this research (see A.11 for more information), the evaluation will obtain a Certificate of Confidentiality. The Certificate of Confidentiality helps to assure participants that their information will be kept private to the extent permitted by law. This study was approved by an IRB on June 17th, 2025. An amendment to increase the sample size and add new program sites is currently under review.

Data Security and Monitoring

As specified in the contract, the Contractor shall protect respondent privacy and will comply with all Federal and Departmental regulations for private information. For all contracts that were awarded prior to FY 23, the Contractor has developed a Data Security Plan that assesses all protections of respondents' PII. The Contractor shall ensure that all of its employees, subcontractors (at all tiers), and employees of each subcontractor, who perform work under this contract/subcontract, are trained on data privacy issues and comply with the above requirements. Beginning in FY 23, all awarded contracts will be required to go through the Assessment and Accreditation (A&A) process and obtain a three (3) year Authority to Operate (ATO) if required by ACF/OCIO.

As specified in the contract, the Contractor shall use Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Special Publication (SP) 800.53 rev 5 compliant encryption (Security Requirements for Cryptographic Module, as amended) to protect all instances of sensitive information during storage and transmission. The Contractor shall securely generate and manage encryption keys to prevent unauthorized decryption of information, in accordance with the Federal Processing Standard. The Contractor shall: ensure that this standard is incorporated into the Contractor's property management/control system; establish a procedure to account for all laptop computers, desktop computers, and other mobile devices and portable media that store or process sensitive information. Any data stored electronically will be secured in accordance with the most current NIST requirements and other applicable Federal and Departmental regulations. In addition, the Contractor must submit a plan for minimizing to the extent possible the inclusion of sensitive information on paper records and for the protection of any paper records, field notes, or other documents that contain sensitive or PII that ensures secure storage and limits on access.

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A11. Sensitive Information⁵

The proposed impact evaluation seeks to understand if youth outcomes improve as expected after receiving the SRAE program. Based on the SRAE program model, these outcomes include changes in sexual risk behaviors and alcohol and drug use. The implementation study does not collect any sensitive information.

Table 3 lists the sensitive topics on the youth survey (Instrument 1), along with justification for including each topic. Although these topics are sensitive, they are commonly and successfully asked of similar populations. Questions about sensitive topics have been drawn from previously successful youth surveys and similar federal evaluations. Prior to administering the pre-program survey, the study team seeks active consent from a parent, legal guardian, or legally authorized representative for those participants younger than age 18. Youth age 18 or older will be asked to consent for themselves. The consent form states that answers will be kept private to the extent permitted by law and not seen by anyone outside of the study team, that participation is voluntary, they can skip any questions that they do not want to answer and that they may refuse to participate at any time without penalty (Appendix A). They are and will be informed that, to the extent permitted by law, individual identifying information will not be released or published; rather, data collection will be published only in summary form with no identifying information at the individual level. We will train all staff who administer the surveys how to follow the protocols on dealing with sensitive questions and situations. Youth are able to end their participation in the study at any time without affecting the services they receive. This study was approved by an IRB on June 17th, 2025. An amendment to increase the sample size and add community sites is currently under review. The study team will also obtain a Certificate of Confidentiality.

Table 3. Summary of sensitive topics included on the youth survey

Topic	Justification
Sexual risk behaviors and attitudes	The SRAE program includes content that focuses on increased understanding of sexual health, STIs, HIV/AIDS, and pregnancy prevention, which are expected to influence sexual risk-taking behaviors in youth. To measure the medium-term outcomes related to avoidance of risky behaviors related to sexual health, the youth outcome surveys include questions about youth's personal opinions regarding sexual activity and sexual behaviors. Similar questions have been approved previously by OMB.
Drug and alcohol use	The SRAE program includes a lesson on expanding youth knowledge of the effects of drug and alcohol use and decreasing drug and alcohol use. To assess the impacts of the curriculum on these targeted outcomes, the youth outcome surveys include questions about drug and alcohol use. Similar questions have been approved previously by OMB.

A12. Burden

⁵ Examples of sensitive topics include (but not limited to): social security number; sex behavior and attitudes; illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating and demeaning behavior; critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close relationships, e.g., family, pupil-teacher, employee-supervisor; mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to respondents; religion and indicators of religion; community activities which indicate political affiliation and attitudes; legally recognized privileged and analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians and ministers; records describing how an individual exercises rights guaranteed by the First Amendment; receipt of economic assistance from the government (e.g., unemployment or WIC or SNAP); immigration/citizenship status.

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Explanation of Burden Estimates

Table 4 provides the estimated annual burden and cost calculations for the data collection instruments included in this ICR.

Youth survey (Instrument 1). Based on previous experience with similar instruments and the pretest discussed in section B.4, we estimate the youth survey will take 15-20 minutes to complete, depending on the administration time point. The total annual burden across all three survey administrations (described below) is 137 hours.

- **Pre-program survey administration:** We expect to survey 500 youth before random assignment and program administration. The pre-program survey is estimated to take 20 minutes to complete.
- **Immediate post-program administration:** We expect a 90 percent response rate (of those enrolled) for the immediate post-program survey to account for youth attrition during the program; we expect 450 respondents to complete the survey. The immediate post-program survey is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete.
- **Six-month follow-up administration:** We expect an 80 percent response rate (of those enrolled) for the six-month follow-up survey; we expect 400 respondents to complete the survey. The six-month follow-up survey is estimated to take 20 minutes to complete.

Staff interviews (Instrument 2). We expect to interview 32 program staff across study sites and staff delivering both the SRAE and comparison program. This will involve two grant recipient program staff, up to 12 facilitators delivering programming, and two partner staff per site at up to nine sites (18 total staff at sites). The interview is estimated to take 50 minutes to complete.

Youth focus groups (Instrument 3). We expect to conduct focus groups with up to 10 youth in the SRAE program group and 10 youth in the comparison group at three sites, for a total of up to 60 youth participants (20 youth at 3 sites). The focus group protocol is estimated to take 40 minutes to complete.

Estimated Annualized Cost to Respondents

The total annual cost for data collection instruments in this request is \$529.46. Table 4 details estimated total annualized costs per information collection.

To generate the estimated annualized cost to respondents, the project team consulted the Bureau of Labor Statistics' average wage rates by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) business code from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, last updated May 2024. Cost estimates for participating in interviews for the assessment guide were calculated using the following wage rates:

- Facilitators, program staff, and site staff: the average hourly wage for Social and Community Services Managers is \$41.39 ([NAICS 999200, 11-9151](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm)).
- Youth over age 18: the average hourly wage is the federal minimum wage.⁶ The estimates assume 15 percent of the youth in the sample will be over age 18 for Instrument 1 (pre-program survey, immediate post-program survey, and six-month follow-up survey) and Instrument 3. For the pre-program survey, this assumes 75 youth would be over 18, resulting in a total annual cost of \$59.81. For the immediate-post program survey, this assumes 68 youth would be over 18, resulting in a total annual cost of \$40.78. For the six-month follow-up, this assumes 60 youth

⁶ https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm

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would be over 18, resulting in a total annual cost of \$47.85. For Instrument 3, this assumes 9 youth would be over 18, resulting in a total annual cost of \$14.57.

Table 4: Estimated burden and costs to respondents for each study

Instrument	No. of Respondents (total over request period)	No. of Responses per Respondent (total over request period)	Avg. Burden per Response (in hours)	Total Burden (in hours)	Annual Burden (in hours)	Average Hourly Wage Rate	Total Annual Respondent Cost
Instrument 1: Youth surveys: pre-program survey administration	500	1	.33	165	55	\$7.25	\$59.81
Instrument 1: Youth surveys: immediate post-program administration	450	1	.25	113	38	\$7.25	\$40.78
Instrument 1: Youth surveys: six-month follow-up administration	400	1	.33	132	44	\$7.25	\$47.85
Instrument 2: Staff interview protocol	32	1	.83	27	9	\$41.39	\$366.44
Instrument 3: Youth focus group protocol	60	1	.67	40	13	\$7.25	\$14.57
Totals				477	159		\$529.46

Note: For Instruments 1 and 3, the study team assumes 15 percent of youth in the sample will be over age 18 and receive average hourly wage is the federal minimum wage https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm.

A13. Costs

There are no additional costs to respondents.

A14. Estimated Annualized Costs to the Federal Government

The total cost to the federal government for the data collection activities under this ICR is estimated at \$1,361,767. Annualized costs to the federal government are estimated at \$453,922 for the proposed data collection. These estimates of costs are derived from Mathematica's budgeted estimates and include labor rates and, direct and indirect costs and are displayed below in Table 5.

Table 5. Estimated costs to the Federal Government

Cost Category	Estimated Costs
Data collection	\$640,165
Analysis and reporting	\$721,602
Total costs over the request period	\$1,361,767
Annual costs	\$453,922

A15. Reasons for changes in burden

This is a new information collection request.

A16. Timeline

**Alternative Supporting Statement for Information Collections Designed for
Research, Public Health Surveillance, and Program Evaluation Purposes**

Table 6 presents the estimated timeline for data collection, analysis, and reporting for the study.

Table 6. Plan and Time Schedule for Information Collection, Tabulation, and Publication

Project Activity	Time Period
Data collection (youth pre-program and post-program survey for impact study, implementation study data collection activities)	Summer 2026, following OMB approval
Data collection (youth 6-month follow-up for impact study)	Fall 2026, beginning 6 months after study enrollment
Data analysis	Fall 2026 through Spring 2027
Draft final report	Spring to Summer 2027
Revised final report	Summer 2027

A17. Exceptions

No exceptions are necessary for this information collection.

Attachments

Instrument 1: Youth survey

Instrument 2: Staff interview protocol

Instrument 3: Youth focus group protocol

Appendix A: Parental consent form, consent form for youth over 18, and assent form for youth

Appendix B: Consent form for staff participating in interviews

Appendix C: Outreach materials for six-month follow-up survey