From:
 Mindy Meuli

 To:
 SNAP-Ed - FNS

Cc: Bebo, Patricia A. (bebo.1@osu.edu)

Subject: FPRS Comments

Date: Thursday, October 15, 2015 6:29:52 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.jpg</u>

image002.png image004.png FPRS Comments.pdf

Please find attached comments on the Food Program and Reporting System (FPRS) proposed collection from the Land Grant Universities Program Development Team.

Thanks, Mindy



Jane Duffield, Chief
State Administration Branch
Program Accountability and Administration Division
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
US Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 818
Alexandria, VA 22302

October 14, 2015

Ms. Duffield:

The Land Grant University Program Development Team appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed 2016 EARS Report. The comments are collected from multiple universities and compiled.

General comments: a nice feature of the proposed form is that for several of the items estimated or actual can be selected rather than having to report all of the data in that category one way or the other, 2a, 2b, etc.

However, the form continues to be very cumbersome to complete. The information asked for is even harder to collect and does not show the outcomes or impacts of the program. It was thought that the revision was to help show the behavior changes exhibited by the participants, not to simply collect numbers. The form should include some kind of outcome measurement. When asking about the topics taught, could a question be asked about the outcome of the education? Perhaps the number of eligibles taught that topic and the number that changed behavior or intent to change behavior? This seems to be more pertinent information that needs to be collected and reported.

First paragraph estimates that 60 hours are needed per response. Some respondents felt that with staff collecting data and reporting and data collected and reported, total would estimate around 600 hours, greatly increasing the administrative costs. Indirect contacts are no longer reported, some indirect reporting is under PSE where you estimate numbers reached.

Specific comments follow:

Page 1

- Instructions for 1a-1f include that these numbers refer to contacts
- Item 1b the value should match item 2b column E which would be direct education contacts. This would align with the remaining data which are all measured in contacts rather than unduplicated counts which is not possible to determine with SM or PSE.

• While RE-AIM and other tools can be used to estimate 1c-1e, 1f will be a greater challenge, especially if the intent is for the percentages to add up to 100%. Staffing is the largest percentage of many SNAP-Ed budgets and several states do not have dedicated staff to work solely on each approach, but rather SNAP-Ed staff work on two or three approaches simultaneously. These activities (and the partnership building required for success in all three) are interconnected and could be a challenge to separate into each category to determine staff costs/percentages

Page 2

• last bullet on CEP. We are now 3-4 years out from pilot schools beginning the program, what would determine eligibility for SNAP-Ed if F/RP numbers were now consider old data?

Page 3

• item 2 a and b appreciate that we can select actual counts vs. estimated for each audience

Page 4

- 3b remove the word unduplicated in parenthesis
- Table suggestion for 3a and 3b check actual or estimated

Age	Male	Female	Actual	Estimated
			count	count
<5				
5-17				
18-59				
>60				

Page 5 Item 4 no comments

Page 6 Item 5 thanks for the expanded list

Page 7 Item 6 a suggest adding the word supports (direct education is part of/or supports SM) reasoning is that a curriculum may not be developed that is part of a total SM initiative but classes taught and messages given may serve to reinforce the message and intent of SM initiative.

A SM initiative is being considered as its own messaging/outreach vehicle as noted on pages 8-10.

Page 11 PSEC

Need more explicit description of, expectation for measurement and reporting of PSE suggest that it be very limited in what is expected to be collected for this first year. Instructions for 8a: it would be helpful to have a collection tool so that everyone is collecting and reporting the data the same way. In addition, this section only collects data on identified changes made rather than work done with organizations that are in the process of working through decisions of what to change. So we have no place to report establishing partnerships to formalize goals; projects begun but not completed yet; progress made but actual change has not been achieved yet.

Page 13: Codes not inclusive of other in kind supports such as space, copying, program outreach and recruitment or put more detail in what is included in the codes. For column D, we are unclear about whose cash should be identified, amount from partner organization? Again, a standard collection tool would be helpful.

Page 14: Clarify on table headings: B. We get assistance from...C. We provide assistance to

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the EARS form.

With Regards,

Pat Bebo and Mindy Meuli

Land Grant University Program Development Team Legislative and Advocacy Committee Co-Chairs

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