

— GROWING OUR VOICE · SESSION 5

From Insight to Impact

How to comment on a federal proposed rule — and
how the Roundtable will help you do it.



AGENDA

What We'll Cover

01 How commenting works

02 An example using the latest Head Start NPRM

03 Support you can expect from the Roundtable

The caveat before we start

We do not know what will be in the proposed rule — we are preparing so we can move quickly.

And we are not positive when the proposed rule will come out.

Three Stages of a Federal Rule

STAGE 1

Prerule

The agency announces on its rule list that it intends to make a new rule.

STAGE 2 · WE ARE HERE

Proposed rule

Published in the Federal Register and opened for public comment. This is the window where your voice counts.

STAGE 3

Final rule

The agency responds to comments and publishes the rule programs must implement.

BEFORE IT PUBLISHES

It stops at OMB for a price tag

The Office of Management and Budget reviews the cost of the changes — normally it is within 90 days, though those timeframes fluctuate.

WHAT WE ARE HEARING

September — but nothing is certain

Reducing Federal Burden for Head Start Programs

Aug 7

Published in the Federal Register

60 days

Comment window — closes
October 6

~1,000

Comments already filed, and
public to read

200+ pages

Which is why analysts read it for
you

How a rule is organized

- 01** Background and summary
Why the agency says the change is needed.
- 02** The proposed changes
Section by section — the part you comment on.
- 03** Impacts of the rule
Costs and benefits, regulatory impact analysis.

WHY THIS ONE MATTERS TO US

It is intersectional. Your organization — or you as an individual — may want to comment on it, and the meal pattern rule will draw the same volume of attention from groups and the media.

Support from the Roundtable

A plain-language summary

We read the rule so you do not have to — what changed, what it means for your setting.

Model comments

A starting point you make your own — in your voice, with your program's reality.

An organizational letter

Filed on behalf of the CACFP community, grounded in what you told us in the survey.

The survey is still open — it is how we make sure the model comments and our letter reflect the whole community.



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