

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS



September 2025 | A-06-22-07000

ACF Did Not Award, Monitor, and Close Selected Contracts for the Unaccompanied Alien Children Program in Accordance With Federal Requirements

Why OIG Did This Audit

- In Federal fiscal year 2021, an unprecedented number of unaccompanied alien children began arriving at the U.S. southern border. The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) awarded contracts to provide shelter and services for unaccompanied alien children at emergency intake sites.
- In 2021, ACF awarded 62 contracts totaling \$4.8 billion without using a competitive bidding process.
- This audit examined whether ACF awarded, monitored, and closed five of these contracts totaling over \$2.8 billion in accordance with Federal requirements.

What OIG Found

ACF did not comply with Federal requirements when awarding, monitoring, and closing out the five contracts as shown below.



What OIG Recommends

We made four recommendations to ACF, including developing an action plan to address time constraints when awarding contracts during influxes of unaccompanied alien children. The full recommendations are in the report.

ACF concurred with our recommendations and outlined the actions that it has taken to address our recommendations.