

# Implementation of the DATA Act

Information contained in this presentation was provided by OMB at the March 2016, National Association of State Comptrollers Conference

# Purpose & Discussion Topics

## Discussion Topics

DATA Act Overview

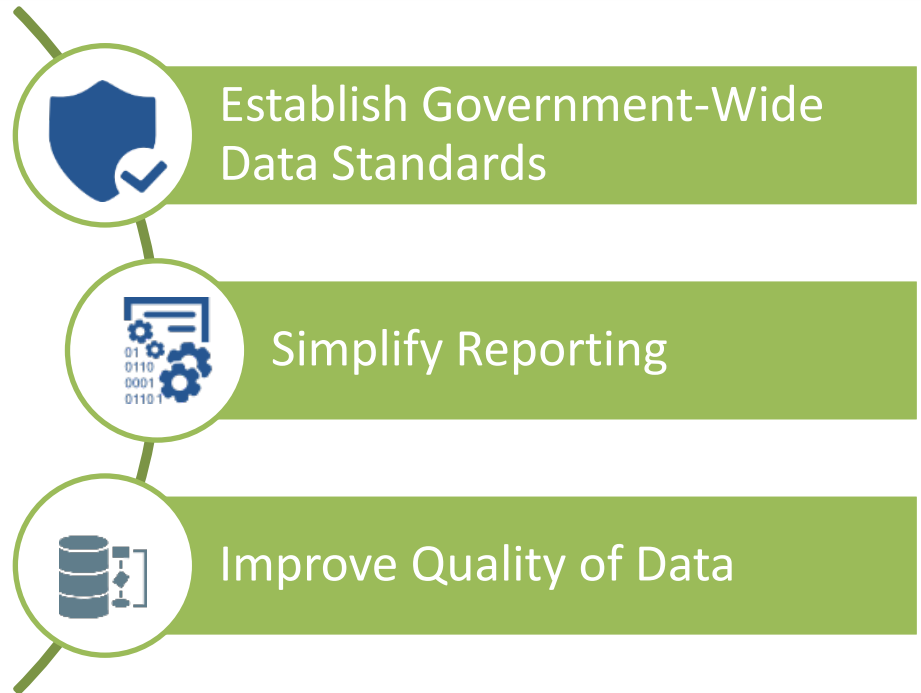
Section 5 Grants Pilot

Data Centric Vision

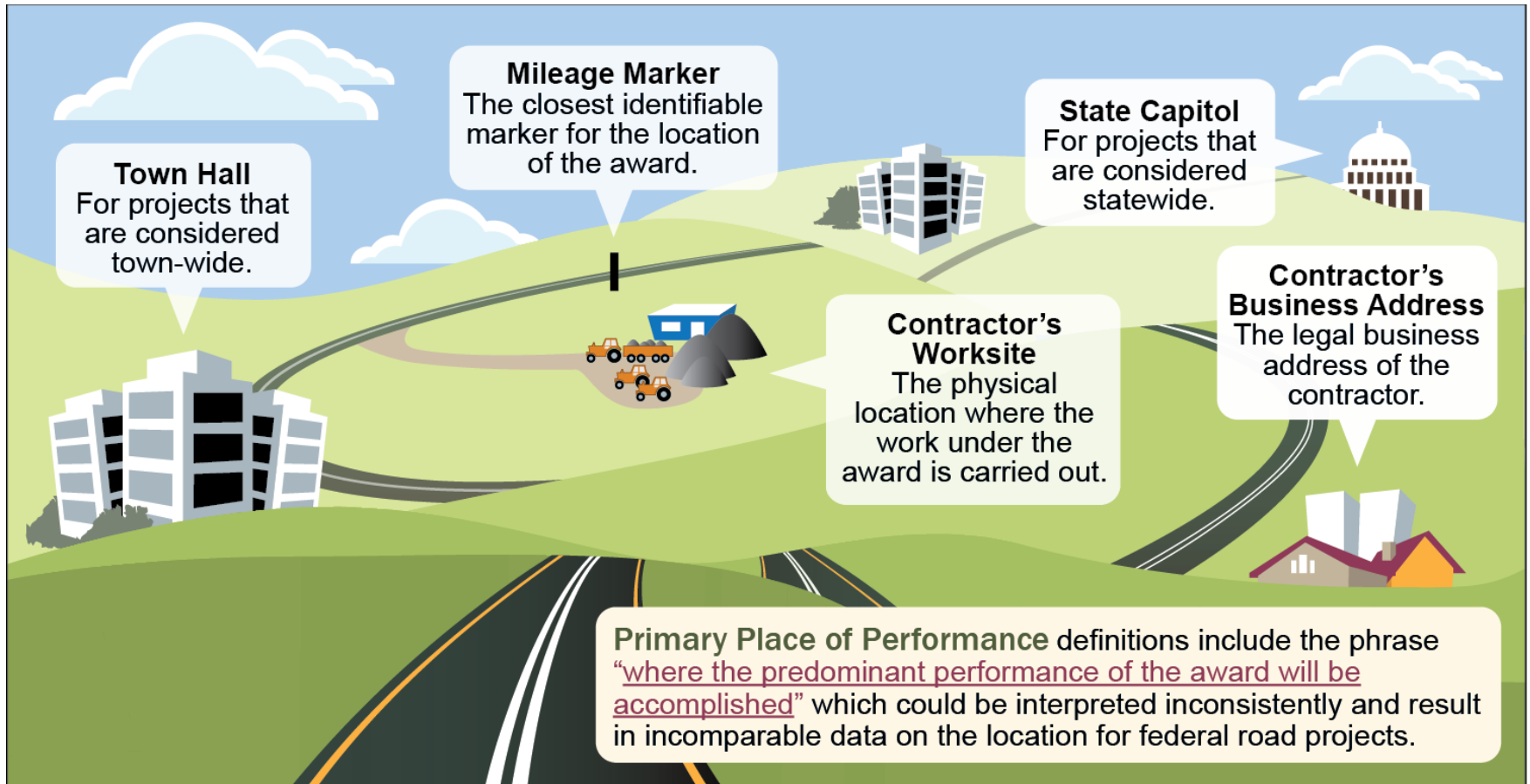
Opportunities for Involvement

# DATA Act Overview

In May 2014, Public Law 113-101 Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (DATA Act) was signed into law with the purpose to establish government-wide financial data standards and increase the availability, accuracy, and usefulness of federal spending information.



# Standardization is needed!



Source: GAO analysis of Office of Management and Budget and Treasury information. | GAO-16-261

## Section 5 Pilot Requirements

The goal of the Pilot is to implement Section 5 of the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act (DATA Act) of 2014, Pub. L. No. 113-101, which requires the Federal Government to, “ establish a pilot program with the participation of appropriate Federal agencies to facilitate the development of recommendations for –



(A) standardized reporting elements across the Federal government (§5(b)(1)(A));



(B) the elimination of unnecessary duplication in financial reporting (§5(b)(1)(B));



(C) the reduction of compliance costs for recipients of Federal awards (§5(b)(1)(C)).”

***The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has engaged HHS to serve as the executing agent for the Section 5 Grants Pilot.***

# Section 5 Legislative Timeline

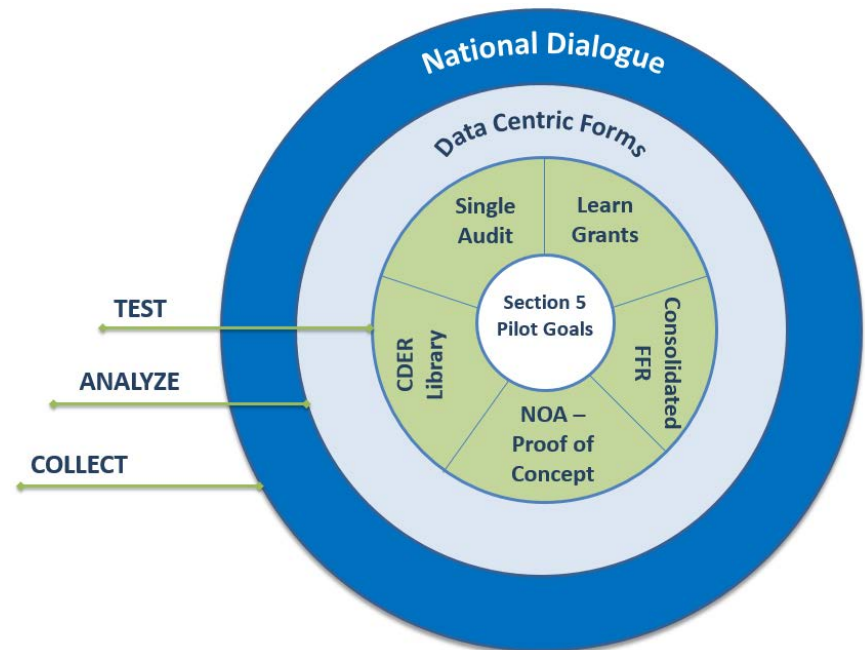
Activity	Deadline
<b>Section 5: Establish Pilot program that will generate recommendations to standardize reporting, eliminate duplication and unnecessary reports, and reduce compliance costs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish 1 year after enactment</li><li>• Complete within 2 years after pilot established</li><li>• May 2015 – May 2017</li></ul>
<b>Section 5: Report on results of pilot</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 90 days after pilot completion</li><li>• August 2017</li></ul>
<b>Section 5: Guidance to agencies on how data standards can reduce burden and simplify reporting requirements/eliminate duplication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 year after Report</li><li>• August 2018</li></ul>

# Section 5 Grants Pilot – Approach & Framework

**Section 5 Grants Pilot Framework takes a holistic approach to meeting the Section 5 Pilot Goals by:**

- *Collecting* feedback through the National Dialogue (<https://cxo.dialogue2.cao.gov/>).
- *Analyzing* data centric forms.
- *Testing* models like the CDER Library, Consolidated FFR, Single Audit, NOA – POC, Learn Grants, and other models as appropriate.
- Each component of the Framework interacts with and informs the others.
- Time frames associated with each test model will align with legislative requirements to execute the Pilot by May 2017, and support OMB’s report due to Congress by August 2017.

## Section 5 Grants Pilot Framework



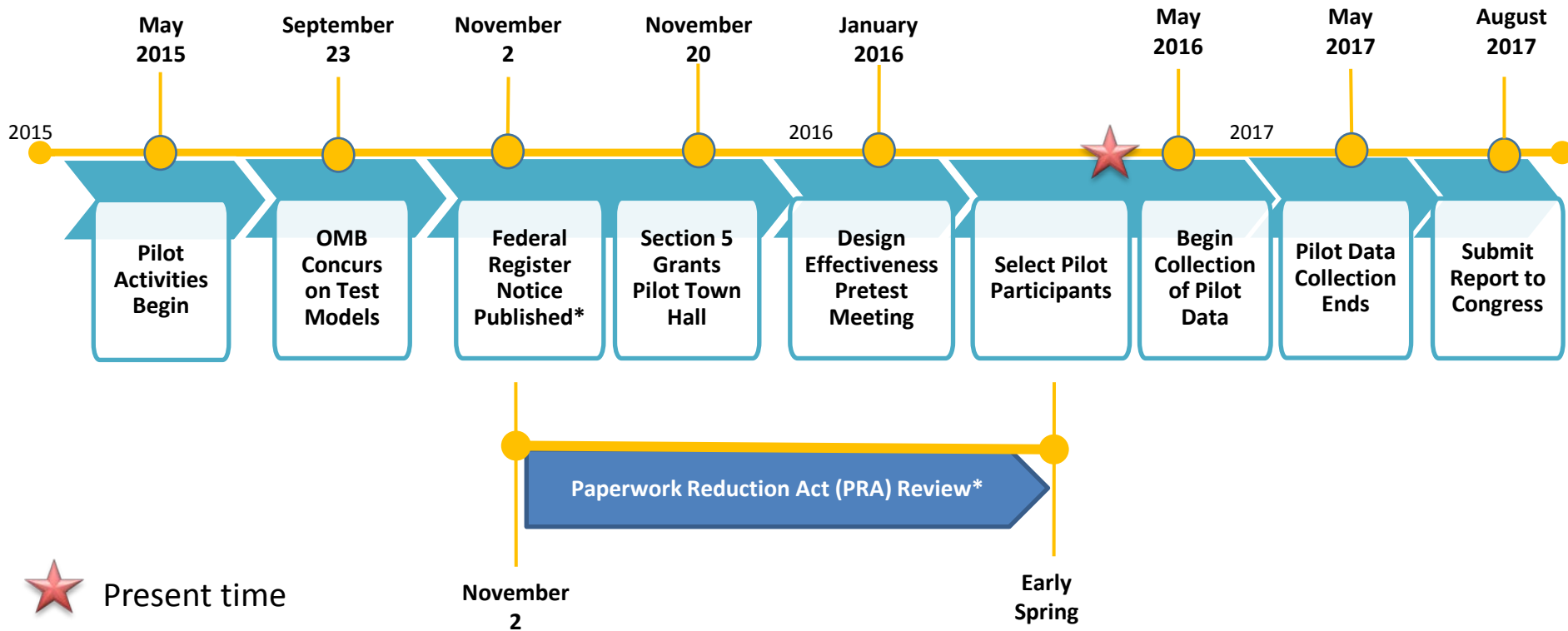
### **Section 5 Pilot Goals**

- ✓ Standardize reporting elements.
- ✓ Eliminate unnecessary duplication.
- ✓ Reduce compliance costs for Federal award recipients.

# Section 5 Grants Pilot Timeline Update

HHS has conducted a Town Hall, a series of Subject Matter Expert (SME) meetings, and a Pretest Meeting to inform the development of the Section 5 Grants Pilot test models.

Groups represented included: FDP, AGA, NGMA, DTC, ACT-IAC, NCURA





# Section 5 Grants Pilot Test Models

## Common Data Element Repository (CDER) Library

**Designed to be a federal-wide, online repository for grants-specific data standards, definitions, and context.**

**Test 1:** Provide grantees with data element definitions to identify potential changes in accuracy and speed of grant lifecycle form completion.

**Test 2:** Identify form duplication and update/reduce forms to reduce grantee burden.

## Consolidated Federal Financial Reporting (FFR)

**A test model that will allow grantees to submit the FFR form in one system, rather than in multiple entry systems.**

**Test:** Provide grantees with one consolidated process for submitting the FFR to identify potential changes in the time it takes to complete and submit two separate components of the FFR.

**Focus Group Discussion:** Walk participants through the changes to the FFR and allow for questions/feedback.

## Single Audit

**A financial statement audit of an organization's federal funds.**

**Test:** Provide grantees with draft 2016 expanded Single Audit form (SF-SAC only) and collect participant feedback on a more streamlined approach for SF-SAC/SEFA reporting.

**Focus Group Discussion:** Present draft expanded Single Audit form and allow participants to comment upon the SF-SAC changes in a live setting.

## Notice of Award – Proof of Concept (NOA – POC)

**A document containing information a grant recipient needs to perform routine accounting and finance operations.**

**Test:** Provide grantees with standardized NOA cover sheet for Federal awards to populate a data collection tool. Identify potential changes in speed of completing the data collection tool with and without the standardized NOA.

## Learn Grants

**An online web portal that provides information for grant recipients to access federal grant lifecycle information.**

**Test:** Determine users' level of understanding on the grants lifecycle after using Learn Grants.

# Opportunities for Involvement

There are several ways to participate in DATA Act Section 5 Pilot for Grants activities.



Send inquiries and feedback to  
[DATAActPMO@hhs.gov](mailto:DATAActPMO@hhs.gov).



Visit the HHS Website at  
[www.hhs.gov/dataactpmo](http://www.hhs.gov/dataactpmo).



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For more information on the DATA Act, visit  
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