

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Notice of Public Information Collections Being Reviewed by the U.S. Agency for International Development; Comments Requested

SUMMARY: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is making efforts to reduce the paperwork burden. USAID invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act for 1995. Comments are requested concerning: (a) Whether the proposed or continuing collections of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the burden estimates; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Submit comments on or before November 25, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Johnson, Bureau of Management, Office of Administrative Services, Information and Records Division, U.S. Agency for International Development, Room 2.07-106, RRB, Washington, DC 20523, (202) 712-1365 or via e-mail bjohnson@usaid.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB No.: OMB 0412-0506.

Form No.: AID 1420-50.

Title: Vendor Database (formerly known as ACRIS) Instruction Books for the Organization Profile.

Type of Review: Renewal of Information Collection.

Purpose: USAID procuring activities are required to establish bidders mailing

lists to assure access to sources and to obtain meaningful competition (41 CFR Section 1-2.205). In compliance with this requirement, USAID's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization/Minority Resource Center has responsibility for developing and maintaining a Contractor's Index of bidders/offerors capable of furnishing services for use by the USAID procuring activities. (AIDAR 719.271-2(b)(4)).

Annual Reporting Burden:

Respondents: 1,000.

Total annual responses: 1,000.

Total annual hours requested: 250 hours.

Dated: September 22, 2003.

Joanne Paskar,

*Chief, Information and Records Division,
Office of Administrative Services, Bureau for
Management.*

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection, Comment Request—Food Stamp Program: State Issuance and Participation Estimates—Form FNS-388

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is publishing for public comment a summary of a proposed information collection. The proposed collection would extend a currently approved collection under OMB No. 0584-0081 for the Food Stamp Program for the form FNS-388, State Issuance and Participation Estimates.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by November 25, 2003 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Send comments and requests for copies of this information collection to Barbara Hallman, Chief, State Administration Branch, Food Stamp Program, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302. Copies of the estimate of the information collection

can be obtained by contacting Ms. Hallman.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Hallman, telephone number (703) 305-2383.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Form FNS-388, State Issuance and Participation Estimates.

Title: Form FNS-388, State Issuance and Participation Estimates.

OMB Number: 0584-0081.

Expiration Date: November 2003.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Section 18(b) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (the Act) (7 U.S.C. 2027(b)) limits the value of allotments paid to food stamp households to an amount not in excess of the appropriation for the fiscal year. If allotments in any fiscal year would exceed the appropriation, the Secretary of Agriculture is required to direct State agencies to reduce the value of food stamp allotments to the extent necessary to stay within appropriated funding limits. Timely State monthly issuance estimates are necessary for FNS to ensure that it remains within the appropriation, to timely request a supplemental appropriation if appropriate, and to reduce allotments if a supplemental appropriation is not provided. While benefit reductions have never been ordered in the past under section 18(b), nor are they anticipated based on current data, the Department