

Higher Education Challenge Grants Program (HEC)

The Higher Education Challenge Grants Program (HEC) is a NIFA-administered competitive grants program focused on improving formal, baccalaureate or master's degree level food, agricultural, natural resources, and human sciences (FANH) education and first professional degree-level education in veterinary medicine (DVM). HEC projects provide funding to eligible applicants to help ensure a competent, qualified and diverse workforce will exist to serve the FANH sciences system. At the same time, HEC-funded projects improve the economic health and viability of communities through the development of degree programs emphasizing new and emerging employment opportunities. Finally, HEC projects address the national challenge to increase the number and diversity of students entering the FANH sciences (*i.e.*, having a FANH sciences workforce representative of the Nation's population).

Implementation Plans

All comments and the official transcript of the listening session, once available, may be reviewed on the NIFA Web page, <https://nifa.usda.gov/stakeholder-feedback-education>. NIFA plans to consider stakeholder input received from this listening session as well as other written comments in developing the Fiscal Year 2018–19 solicitations for these programs.

Done at Washington, DC this 26th day of July, 2017.

Sonny Ramaswamy,

Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

[FR Doc. 2017–16262 Filed 8–1–17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Solicitation of Input From Stakeholders Regarding the Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program (MSP) and the National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship (NNF) Grants Program: Stakeholder and Public Listening Session

AGENCY: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of web-based listening session and request for stakeholder input.

SUMMARY: As part of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's

(NIFA) strategy to successfully meet the needs of its stakeholders, NIFA will host a virtual listening session. The focus of the listening session is to gather stakeholder input for the Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program (MSP) and the National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship (NNF) Grants Program Request for Applications (RFA) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2018. NIFA is particularly interested achieving the most impact and identifying suggested priorities in these workforce development programs.

DATES: The listening session will be held on Thursday, August 24, 2017 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). Anyone interested may submit written comments. All written comments must be submitted to Dr. Joyce Parker at joyce.parker@nifa.usda.gov by 5 p.m. EDT on August 24, 2017.

ADDRESSES: The web-based listening session will be hosted using Adobe Connect and audio conference call. On August 24th, please access the following Web site, <https://zoom.us/j/261558898>. The audio conference call capabilities can be accessed at 1–888–844–9904, participant code 7923533#.

Registration: Persons wishing to present during the web-based listening session on Thursday, August 24, 2017, are requested to pre-register by contacting Dr. Joyce Parker at joyce.parker@nifa.usda.gov. Participants may reserve one 5-minute comment period. More time may be available, depending on the number of people wishing to make a presentation. Reservations will be confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis. All other participants may provide comments during the listening session if time permits, or by the listed means. You may submit comments, identified by NIFA–2017–0004, by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Email:

For the MSP program email—MSP@nifa.usda.gov.

For the NNF program email—NNF@nifa.usda.gov.

Include NIFA–2017–0004 in the subject line of the message.

Mail: Paper, disk or CD-ROM submissions should be submitted to Dr. Joyce Parker, Division of Community and Education; Institute of Youth, Family and Community (IYFC), National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 2201, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–2220.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and reference to NIFA–2017–0004. All comments received will be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Joyce Parker, Program Specialist, NIFA at (202) 401–4512 or by email at joyce.parker@nifa.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Purpose: Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program (MSP)—The purpose of the MSP is to provide scholarships to support recruiting, engaging, retaining, mentoring, and training committed, eligible multicultural scholars, resulting in either baccalaureate degrees within the food and agricultural sciences disciplines or a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.) degree. The scholarships are intended to encourage outstanding students from groups that are historically underrepresented and underserved to pursue and complete baccalaureate degrees in the Food, Agricultural, Natural Resources, and Human Sciences, or achieve a D.V.M., that would lead to a diverse and highly skilled work force.

Through these scholarships, the goal of the MSP is to increase the participation of any group historically underrepresented in USDA mission areas and prepare them for the professional and scientific workforce in these areas. Underrepresented/underserved groups are those whose representation among food and agricultural professionals is disproportionately less than their proportion in the general population as indicated in standard statistical references, or as documented on a case-by-case basis by national survey data (*e.g.* the U.S. Department of Education's Digest of Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Agricultural Education Information Systems, etc.).

National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship Grants Program (NNF)—The purpose of the NNF Grants Program is to provide funding to support students' training and completion of master's and/or doctoral degree programs in identified national need areas within the Food, Agricultural, Natural Resources, and Human Sciences. Awards made under NNF are specifically intended to support traineeship programs that engage outstanding students to pursue and complete their degrees in areas where there is a national need for the development of scientific and professional expertise in the food and

agricultural sciences. NNF awards invest in graduate training and relevant international experiential learning for a cadre of diverse individuals who demonstrate their potential to successfully complete graduate degree programs in disciplines relevant to the mission of the USDA.

Implementation Plans

All comments and the official transcript of the listening session, once available, may be reviewed on the NIFA Web page, <https://nifa.usda.gov/stakeholder-feedback-education>. NIFA plans to consider stakeholder input received from this listening session as well as other written comments in developing the Fiscal Year 2018 solicitations for these programs.

Done at Washington, DC, this 26 day of July, 2017.

Sonny Ramaswamy,

Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

[FR Doc. 2017-16259 Filed 8-1-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Business-Cooperative Service's (RBS) intention to revise a currently approved information collection in support of the program for the Annual Survey of Farmer Cooperatives, as authorized in the Cooperative Marketing Act of 1926.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by October 2, 2017 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this revision. Comments should refer to the information collection by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: James Wadsworth, Policy and Research Branch, RBS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 3254, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-3254, (202) 720-7395 (this is not a toll-free number) or email james.wadsworth@wdc.usda.gov for a copy of the information collection or other available information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James Wadsworth, Policy and Research Branch, RBS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 3254, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-3254, Telephone (202) 720-7395 (this is not a toll-free number) or send an email message to: james.wadsworth@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Annual Survey of Farmer Cooperatives.

OMB Number: 0570-0007.

Expiration Date of Approval: November 30, 2017.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: A primary objective of Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS) is to promote understanding, use and development of the cooperative form of business as a viable option for enhancing the income of agricultural producers and other rural residents. RBS direct role is providing knowledge to improve the effectiveness and performance of farmer cooperative businesses through technical assistance, research, information, and education. The annual survey of farmer cooperatives collects basic statistics on cooperative business volume, net income, members, financial status, employees, and other selected information to support RBS' objective and role. Cooperative statistics are published in various reports and used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, cooperative management and members, educators and researchers, and others in planning and in promoting the cooperative form of business.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour or less per response.

Respondents: Farmer cooperatives.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,175.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Number of Responses: 1,175.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1,160 Hours.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of RBS, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the RBS' estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the

methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) 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 forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Stop 0742, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250. All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 25, 2017.

Chad Parker,

Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 2017-16183 Filed 8-1-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-890]

Wooden Bedroom Furniture, From the People's Republic of China; Partial Rescission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: On March 15, 2017, the Department of Commerce (the Department) published a notice of initiation of an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on wooden bedroom furniture from the People's Republic of China (PRC). Based on the timely withdrawal of the requests for review of certain companies, we are now rescinding this administrative review for the period January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016, with respect to 67 companies.

DATES: Effective August 2, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patrick O'Connor, AD/CVD Operations, Office IV, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, telephone: (202) 482-0989.