

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.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments are requested regarding; whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and 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.

Comments regarding this information collection received by February 5, 2025 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Evaluating the Interview Requirement for SNAP Certification.

OMB Control Number: 0584–NEW.

Summary of Collection: The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), is authorized to collect these data under Section 17 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended through Public Law 118–5, enacted June 3, 2023. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the foundation of the nation's nutrition assistance safety net and is a core source of support to millions of Americans, particularly during economic downturns. To help States handle increased need and participation amid the health risks of the pandemic, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) offered States a range of flexibilities which provided support to States administering the program and clients in the application process, including the option to waive the certification and recertification interview requirement. This allowed States to continue administering SNAP during the public health emergency with minimal client contact. FNS required States that waived the interview requirement to document their experiences processing cases without the interview. However, more rigorous evidence is needed to confidently understand the effects of waiving the interview requirement.

Need and Use of the Information: The Evaluating the Interview Requirement for SNAP Certification study will collect information in five States to assess how eliminating interviews affects outcomes, including administrative efficiency, costs, benefit accuracy, and client access. The project will include a randomized control trial (RCT) to analyze the impacts of outcomes between those clients assigned to receive an interview (the regular interview process group) and those assigned to not receive an interview (the no-interview group).

Description of Respondents: State and Local Governments, Businesses (Not-for-profit), and Individuals and Households.

Number of Respondents: 494.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Once.

Total Burden Hours: 1,807.33.

Rachelle Ragland-Greene,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–31632 Filed 1–3–25; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Title: Annual Survey of Farmer Cooperatives.

OMB Control Number: 0570–0007.

Summary of Collection: The Rural Business Cooperative Service (RBS) was mandated the responsibility to acquire and disseminate information pertaining to agricultural cooperatives under the Cooperative Marketing Act of 1926: 7 U.S.C. 451–457 and Public Law 450. The primary objective of 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. The annual survey collects basic statistics on cooperative business volume, net income, members, financial status, employees, and other selected information to support RBS' objective and role. RBS will use a variety of forms to collect information.

Need and Use of the Information: RBS uses the information collected to summarize for program planning, evaluation service work and cooperative analysis and education. The information collected and published in the annual report on farmer cooperatives supports and enhances most of the major functions of RBS. By not collecting this information, the RBS would have difficulties in carrying out its policy on farmer cooperatives.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 1,035.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 806.

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Title: Voluntary Labeling Program for Biobased Products.

OMB Control Number: 0570–0072.

Summary of Collection: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBCS or the Agency), a Rural Development agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), announced the availability of approximately \$450 million, under section 22003 of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, in competitive grants to eligible entities for activities designed to expand the sales and use of renewable fuels under the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP). Cost-share grants of up to 75 percent of total eligible project costs, but not more than \$5 million, are made available to assist transportation fueling facilities and fuel distribution facilities with converting to higher blend friendly status for ethanol (*i.e.*, greater than 10 percent ethanol) and biodiesel (greater than 5 percent

biodiesel) by sharing the costs related to the installation, and/or retrofitting, and/or otherwise upgrading of fuel dispenser or pumps and related equipment, storage tank system components, and other required infrastructure. All applicants are responsible for expenses incurred in developing their applications.

HBIIP is intended to encourage a more comprehensive approach to marketing higher blends biofuels by sharing the costs related to building out biofuel-related infrastructure. To be eligible for this program, a project's sole purpose must be to assist transportation fueling and biodiesel distribution facilities with converting to higher ethanol and biodiesel blend friendly status by sharing the costs related to the installation, and/or retrofitting, and/or otherwise upgrading of fuel storage, dispenser/pumps, related equipment, and infrastructure. An eligible project must conform to all applicable Federal, State and local regulatory requirements.

Need and Use of the Information: Pursuant to section 22003 of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (Pub. L. 117–169), RBCS will collect information to determine whether participants meet the eligibility requirements to be a recipient of grant funds, project eligibility, conduct the technical evaluation, calculate a priority score, rank and compete the application, as applicable, in order to be considered. Lack of adequate information to make the determination could result in the improper administration and appropriation of Federal grant funds.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 641.

Frequency of Responses:

Recordkeeping; Reporting: Other (once).

Total Burden Hours: 84,177.

Levi S. Harrell,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–31627 Filed 1–3–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–XY–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Rural Business-Cooperative Service**

[DOCKET #: RBS–X24BUSINESS–0016]

Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Rural Business Development Grant Program To Provide Technical Assistance for Rural Transportation Systems for Fiscal Year 2025

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBCS or Agency), a Rural Development (RD) agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), is issuing this notice to invite applications for grants to provide technical assistance for passenger Rural Transportation (RT) systems under the Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) program and the terms for such funding. Grant funds will provide technical assistance for RT systems including designated funds to provide technical assistance to RT systems operating within Tribal lands of Federally Recognized Native American Tribes (FRNAT) (collectively “Programs”). This notice is being issued in order to allow applicants sufficient time to leverage financing, prepare and submit their applications, and give the Agency time to process applications within fiscal year (FY) 2025. Based on FY 2024 appropriated funding, the Agency estimates that approximately \$750,000 will be made available for FY 2025. Successful applications will be selected by the Agency for funding and subsequently awarded to the extent that funding may ultimately be made available through appropriations. All applicants are responsible for any expenses incurred in developing their applications.

DATES: Completed applications may be submitted in paper or electronic format and must be received in the USDA RD State Office no later than 4:30 p.m. (local time) on April 7, 2025, to be eligible for FY 2025 grant funding. Applications received after the deadline will be ineligible for funding.

ADDRESSES: This funding announcement will also be announced on *Grants.gov*. Applications must be submitted to the USDA RD State Office where the Project is located. A list of the USDA RD State Office contacts can be found at: rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cindy Mason at cindy.mason@usda.gov, Business Loan and Grant Analyst, Program Management Division, RBCS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mail Stop 3226, Room 5160-South, Washington, DC 20250–3226, or call 202–720–1400.

For further information on submitting program applications under this notice, please contact the USDA RD office for the State in which the applicant is located. A list of USDA RD Office contacts is provided at the following link: rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: