

compensation, USDA reimburses them for travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, for travel away from their homes or regular places of business in performance of Advisory Committee service (see 5 U.S.C. 5703).

A list of current Advisory Committee members and other relevant information are available on the GIPSA Web site at <http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/fgis/adcommit.html>.

GIPSA is seeking nominations for individuals to serve on the Advisory Committee to replace seven members whose terms will expire May 2014.

Nominations are open to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, marital status, or sexual orientation. To ensure that recommendations of the Advisory Committee take into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the USDA, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

The final selection of Advisory Committee members and alternates is made by the Secretary.

Larry Mitchell,

Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

[FR Doc. 2013-29348 Filed 12-9-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service (RHS), USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; Comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the above-named Agency to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the Community Facilities Grant Program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by February 10, 2014 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Derek L. Jones, Loan Specialist, Community Programs, RHS, USDA, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Mail Stop 0787, Washington, DC 20250-0787. Telephone: (202) 720-1504. Email: derek.jones@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Community Facilities Grant Program.

OMB Number: 0575-0173.

Expiration Date of Approval: January 31, 2014.

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

Abstract: Community Programs, a division of the Rural Housing Service (RHS), is part of the United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Development mission area. The Agency is authorized by Section 306(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926), as amended, to make grants to public agencies, nonprofit corporations, and Indian tribes to develop essential community facilities and services for public use in rural areas. These facilities include schools, libraries, child care, hospitals, clinics, assisted-living facilities, fire and rescue stations, police stations, community centers, public buildings, and transportation. Through its Community Programs, the Department of Agriculture is striving to ensure that such facilities are readily available to all rural communities.

Information will be collected by the field offices from applicants, consultants, lenders, and public entities. The collection of information is considered the minimum necessary to effectively evaluate the overall scope of the project.

Failure to collect information could have an adverse impact on effectively carrying out the mission, administration, processing, and program requirements.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.00 hours per response.

Respondents: Public bodies, nonprofit corporations and associations, and federally recognized Indian tribes.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 922.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 3.27.

Estimated Number of Responses: 3,015

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 6,030 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, at (202) 692-0040. 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.

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 20250-0742. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 27, 2013.

Richard A. Davis,

Acting Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 2013-29364 Filed 12-9-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; Comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the program for Fire and Rescue Loans.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by February 10, 2014 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Derek L. Jones, Loan Specialist, Community Programs Division, RHS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 0787, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0787. Telephone (202) 720-1504.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Fire and Rescue Loans.

OMB Number: 0575-0120.

Expiration Date of Approval: February 28, 2014.

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

Abstract: The Fire and Rescue Loan program is authorized by Section 306 of

the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926) to make loans to public entities, nonprofit corporations, and Indian tribes for the development of community facilities for public use in rural areas and is covered by 7 CFR 1942–C. The primary regulation for administering the Community Facilities program is 7 CFR 1942–A (OMB Number 0575–0015) that outlines eligibility, project feasibility, security, and monitoring requirements.

The Community Facilities fire and rescue program has been in existence for many years. This program has financed a wide range of fire and rescue projects varying in size and complexity from construction of a fire station with fire fighting and rescue equipment to financing a 911 emergency system. These facilities are designed to provide fire protection and emergency rescue services to rural communities.

Information will be collected by the field offices from applicants, borrowers, and consultants. This information will be used to determine applicant/borrower eligibility, project feasibility, and to ensure borrowers operate on a sound basis and use funds for authorized purposes. Failure to collect proper information could result in improper determination of eligibility, improper use of funds, and/or unsound loans.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.16 hours per response.

Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions, State, local, or tribal governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,500.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 4.95.

Estimated Number of Responses: 12,375.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 26,730 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, (202) 692–0040.

Comments:

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Rural Housing Service (RHS), including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of RHS' 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. 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 responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 27, 2013.

Richard A. Davis,

Acting Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 2013–29363 Filed 12–9–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–XV–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Intent To Review Online Homeownership Education Courses for Nationwide Use in the Single Family Housing Section 502 Direct Loan Program

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On September 23, 2013, the Rural Housing Service (RHS) Single Family Housing Direct Program published a Notice in the **Federal Register**, "Notice of Intent To Review Online Homeownership Education Courses for Nationwide Use in the Single Family Housing Section 502 Direct Loan Program" (78 FR 58272). Through this action, RHS is extending the submission deadline of online homeownership education course packages for National Office approval to December 31, 2013.

DATES: Online homeownership education providers interested in having their courses reviewed should submit a complete package to the Single Family Housing, Direct Loan Division on or before December 31, 2013.

Submissions may be sent electronically to SFHDDIRECTPROGRAM@wdc.usda.gov or by mail to 1400 Independence Avenue, Stop 0783, Washington, DC 20250–0783.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shantelle Gordon, shantelle.gordon@wdc.usda.gov or (202) 205–9567.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Effective on May 7, 2007, first-time homebuyers financed under the direct loan program

must successfully complete an approved homeownership education course prior to loan closing. 7 CFR Part 3550.11 outlines the order of preference given to courses. First preference is given to classroom, one-on-one counseling, or interactive video conference. These formats are generally extensive and require a significant time and participation commitment from the Agency applicants. Second preference is given to interactive home-study or interactive telephone counseling of at least four hours duration. These formats may only be used if the formats under the first preference are not reasonably available. Third preference, which can only be used if all other formats are not reasonably available, is given to online counseling. The regulation also outlines the requirements an education provider and their course must meet in order to be approved for use by Agency applicants.

While approval is generally made by the Agency at the state level, there is currently one nationally approved online education provider. To expand the Agency applicants' access to and options of approved education providers, the Agency will consider approving other online education providers on a national level. Approval will be subject to meeting course criteria, a recommendation by the Agency-selected panel of housing partners, and signoff by the Administrator. Approval will be given as a third preference format unless the education provider is able to demonstrate and document how their online course along with a required supplemented service provides the same level of training and individualized attention as a first or second preference.

A notice of education providers approved through this process will be issued via a memorandum to the Rural Development (RD) state offices. The memorandum will list the format preference assigned to each provider. A copy of the memorandum will be simultaneously emailed to all education providers who applied through this notice.

Approvals are not subject to expiration. However, an approval may be revoked for justifiable cause.

At a minimum, courses submitted for consideration must contain the following content:

- Preparing for homeownership (evaluate readiness to go from rental to homeownership)
- Budgeting (pre and post purchase)
- Credit counseling
- Shopping for a home
- Lender differences (predatory lending)