

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 77, No. 203

Friday, October 19, 2012

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

Notice of Request for an Extension to a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration's (ASA) intention to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for an extension of the currently approved information collection for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) 1994 Tribal Scholars Program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by December 18, 2012 to be assured of consideration.

Additional Information or Comments

Contact Lawrence Shorty, Program Director, USDA 1994 Program, USDA, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250; phone: (202) 720-7265; fax: (202) 720-7704.

ADDRESSES: Lawrence Shorty, Program Director, 1994 Program Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Mail Stop 9577, Washington, DC 20250.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: USDA 1994 Tribal Scholars Program.

OMB Number: 0503-0016.

Expiration Date of Approval: December 31, 2012.

Type of Request: Extension to the currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The purpose of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) 1994 Tribal Scholars Program is to strengthen the long-term partnership between USDA and the 1994 Land-Grant Institutions to increase the number of students studying and graduating in

food, agriculture, natural resources, and other related fields of study and to offer career opportunities to increase the pool of scientists and professionals to annually fill 50,000 jobs in the food, agricultural, and natural resources system.

This partnership effort is a joint human capital initiative between USDA and the Nation's 1994 Land-Grant Institutions utilizing the Federal USDA Pathways Internship Program. This student internship program offers a combination of paid work experience with the USDA sponsoring agency through a USDA internship applied for under the new Office of Personnel Management Pathways Program guidelines. The program is designed to integrate classroom study in a degree university program that prepares the student for employment in the sponsoring agency's future workforce with paid tuition, fees, books, use of a laptop computer, and Leadership training. The program is conducted in accordance with a planned schedule and a working agreement between USDA agencies and students through a Pathways US Department of Agriculture Internship Program Participant Agreement.

Summary of Collection: Each applicant will be required to submit a USDA Pathways Internship Program application for the USDA 1994 Tribal Scholars Program under the new Office of Personnel Management Pathways Program, including an OF-612 or resume following OF-612 guidance for content, proof of acceptance or enrollment in school via transcript (mandatory for current students and recent graduates); and a letter of acceptance, or proof of registration, or letter from a school official (on official letterhead); Standing Register/Certificate of Eligible; and OF-306 Declaration for Federal Employment.

If selected, each student must sign a Pathways U.S. Department of Agriculture Internship Program Participant Agreement, furnish course registration at the start of each school term, provide verification of academic status at the end of each academic term (grade report or transcript), meet academic standards as set forth by the school they are attending, maintain satisfactory progress in completing academic requirements, and demonstrate satisfactory performance

and conduct. Students will be required to complete all academic requirements for the target position as stipulated by the Office of Personnel Management Qualification Standards.

Need and Use of the Information: The information is needed for identifying and tracking applicants that match the human capital needs of USDA agencies from 1994 Land-Grant Institutions through an internship and an award of an annually reviewed and renewed scholarship with the objective of preparing the student for successful placement into the USDA's permanent workforce.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.2 hours per response.

Respondents: Individuals attending or interested in attending 1994 Land Grant Institutions, teachers, principals, and guidance counselors.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 480.

Estimated Number of Responses: 1,440.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 3.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1,728 hours.

Comments are invited on: (1) 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; (2) 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; (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 respondents, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Lawrence Shorty, Program Director, USDA 1994 Program, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, USDA, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Mail Stop 9577, 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 OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Lawrence Shorty,

Program Director, USDA 1994 Program, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

[FR Doc. 2012-25572 Filed 10-18-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3412-88-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

October 15, 2012.

The Department of Agriculture will submit the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), *OIRA Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV* or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

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.

Rural Utilities Service

Title: Certification of Authority.
OMB Control Number: 0572-0074.

Summary of Collection: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). It makes mortgage loans and loan guarantees to finance electric, telecommunications, and water and waste facilities in rural areas. Rural Electrification Act of 1936, 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*, as amended, (RE ACT) and as prescribed by Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-129, Policies for Federal Credit Programs and Non-Tax Receivables, which states that agencies must, based on a review of a loan application, determine that an applicant complies with statutory, regulatory, and administrative eligibility requirements for loan assistance. A major factor in managing loan programs is controlling the advancement of funds. RUS Form 675 allows this control to be achieved by providing a list of authorized signatures against which signatures requesting funds are compared.

Need and Use of the Information: RUS will collect information to ensure that only authorized representatives of the borrower signs the lending requisition form. Without the information RUS would not know if the request for a loan advance was legitimate or not and the potential for waste, loss, unauthorized use, and misappropriation would be increased.

Description of Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions; Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 250.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 25.

Rural Utilities Service

Title: Lien Accommodations and Subordinations 7 CFR Part 1717, Subparts R and S.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0100.

Summary of Collection: The Rural Electrification Act (RE Act) of 1936, 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*, as amended, authorizes and empowers the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to make loans in the several States and Territories of the United States for rural electrification and the furnishing electric energy to persons in rural areas who are not receiving central station service. The RE Act also authorizes and empowers the Administrator of RUS to provide financial assistance to borrowers for purposes provided in the RE Act by accommodating or subordinating loans made by the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, the Federal Financing Bank, and other lending agencies.

Need and Use of the Information:

RUS will use the information to determine an applicant's eligibility for a lien accommodation or lien subordination under the RE Act; facilitates an applicant's solicitation and acquisition of non-RUS loans as to converse available Government funds; monitor the compliance of borrowers with debt covenants and regulatory requirements in order to protect loan security; and subsequently to granting the lien accommodation or lien subordination, administer each so as to minimize its cost to the Government. If the information were not collected, RUS would not be able to accomplish its statutory goals.

Description of Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions; Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 15.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 290.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012-25758 Filed 10-18-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Shoshone National Forest, WY, Revised Land and Resource Management Plan

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service (USFS), Shoshone National Forest announces the extension of the comment period for the Shoshone National Forest Land Management Plan Revision Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The comment period ends November 26, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Shoshone National Forest, 808 Meadow Lane Avenue, Cody, WY 82414-4549.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carrie Christman, Forest Planner at (307) 578-5118.

Dated: October 11, 2012.

Joseph G. Alexander,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 2012-25726 Filed 10-18-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P