

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

Food and Consumer Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Evaluation of the State Nutrition Education Network Cooperative Agreements

AGENCY: Food and Consumer Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Food and Consumer Service's intention to request Office of Management and Budget approval of the Evaluation of the State Nutrition Education Network Cooperative Agreements.

DATES: Written comments on this notice must be received by December 8, 1997.

ADDRESSES: 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: Michael E. Fishman, Acting Director, Office of Analysis and Evaluation, Food and Consumer Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget

(OMB) approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the proposed information collection forms should be directed to Michael E. Fishman, (703) 305-2117.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Evaluation of the State Nutrition Education Network Cooperative Agreements.

OMB Number: Not yet assigned.

Expiration Date: N/A.

Type of Request: New collection of information.

Abstract: The evaluation of the State Nutrition Education Network Cooperative Agreement projects is intended to help the Food and Consumer Service identify the most effective strategies for establishing and sustaining state-level nutrition education networks. It is not designed to measure the performance of any particular individual or State. Information gathered from States will be aggregated so that important trends relating to network development can be identified. Overarching questions guiding this evaluation process include: (1) How effective were the processes employed by cooperators in reaching the goals of the project? (2) What lessons can be learned about effective development of nutrition education networks? and; (3) What can FCS do to foster the development of statewide nutrition education networks?

Twenty-two State nutrition support networks are participating in the evaluation. Interviews will be conducted with the project director(s), network coordinators, the food stamp agency representative and up to five other key network members one to three times over the course of two years. Template protocols have been developed and will be tailored to the unique background and environment of each State. For several of the States, interviews will be held in person as part of a site visit to the State; for the remainder, interviews will be conducted by telephone.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden is estimated to range between 3 and 5 hours for the Project Director and the Network Coordinator, and 1 to 2 hours for other network members. One to three interviews will be conducted over two years.

Respondents: Interviews will be conducted with the project director(s), network coordinators, the food stamp agency representative and up to five other key network members.

Estimated Number of Respondents: An average of eight respondents for the 22 networks or a total of 176.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: Two.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 748 hours.

Dated: September 19, 1997.

Yvette S. Jackson,

Acting Administrator, Food and Consumer Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Public Briefing on Development of a U.S. Action Plan on Food Security

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a public meeting regarding development of a U.S. Action Plan on Food Security will take place on November 5, to brief the public on a discussion paper that is being developed on international topics to be addressed in the U.S. Action Plan and to respond to questions and receive reactions. A similar meeting will be held in December on domestic topics. The purpose of these meetings is to facilitate public participation in the process of developing the U.S. Action Plan on Food Security.

DATES: The meeting will be held November 5, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Room 107A, Administration Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. The discussion paper will be released to the public on World Food Day, October 16 and will be available on the U.S. Government Food Security home page (<http://www.fas.usda.gov/icd/summit/summit.html>). Additional information will also be posted on the home page.

Requests for copies of the paper and inquiries may be directed to the Office of the National Food Security Coordinator, Foreign Agricultural