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 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) 720–8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number. The collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Food and Nutrition Service
Title: Healthy Incentives Pilot Evaluation.
OMB Control Number: 0584–NEW. Summary of Collection: The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, also known as the 2008 Farm Bill (Pub. L. 110–246), Section 4141 (K) (3) (E) authorizes funds for pilot projects to evaluate health and nutrition promotion in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to determine if nutrition education and incentives provided to SNAP recipients at the point-of-sale increase the consumption of fruits, vegetables, or other healthful foods. The legislation also provided for an evaluation of the funded pilot project. On the bases of this legislative authority, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) designed the Healthy Incentives Pilot (HIP) and its evaluation.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS will use the collected information from the pilot to determine if SNAP recipients participating in HIP have higher fruit and vegetable consumption than recipients who did not receive the incentive. The data will also permit analysis of how impacts vary by recipients characteristics. The data collection is also essential for allowing FNS to determine the potential implications of a nationwide HIP-like program.

Description of Respondents: Individuals or household; State, Local or Tribal Government; Not-for-profit institutions; Business or other for-profit.
Number of Respondents: 4,383.
Frequency of Responses: On occasion.
Total Burden Hours: 4,831.

Food and Nutrition Service
Title: Child Nutrition Database.
OMB Control Number: 0584–0494. Summary of Collection: The Child Nutrition (CN) Database is a necessary component in implementation of USDA’s Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP): School Meals Initiative for Healthy Children final rule published in the June 13, 1995 Federal Register. Volume 60, No. 113. The regulations (7 CFR 210.10) require school food authorities (SFAs) following the Nutrient Standard Menu Planning option to conduct a nutrient analysis which require nutrient data contained in a wide range of foods. The CN Database provides the SFAs with the necessary nutrient information for this purpose.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS will collect information on (1) USDA commodities; (2) USDA Nutrient Database for Standard Reference food items which are used in the SBP and NSLP; (3) quantity recipes for school food service developed by USDA; and (4) brand name commercially processed foods. Implementation of Nutrient Standard Menu Planning is dependent upon the school school food authority’s ability to analyze the nutrient content of foods. The information gathered for the CN Database is required to be used in software programs approved by USDA for use in meeting the nutrient standards and nutrition goals of the Child Nutrition Programs. Both the State agencies and program operators use the information for auditing and menu planning purposes. If the information is not collected or updated regularly for the CN Database, the nutrient data will become less useful to program operators, causing them to rely on their vendor for required nutritional information.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.
Number of Respondents: 32.
Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Other (as needed).
Total Burden Hours: 2,240.

Dated: May 26, 2011.
Ruth Brown, Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2011–13506 Filed 5–31–11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–30–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service

Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) Inviting Applications for the 2011 Farmers’ Market Promotion Program (FMPP)

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.
SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) announces the availability of approximately $10 million in competitive grant funds for fiscal year (FY) 2011 to increase domestic consumption of agricultural commodities by expanding direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities. Examples of direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities include new farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture (CSA) programs, agri-tourism activities, and other direct producer-to-consumer infrastructure. AMS hereby requests proposals from eligible entities within the following categories: agricultural cooperatives, producer networks, producer associations, local governments, nonprofit corporations, public benefit corporations, economic development corporations, regional farmers market authorities, and Tribal governments. The minimum award per grant is $5,000 and the maximum award per grant is $100,000. No matching funds are required.

DATES: Applications should be received at the address below and must be delivered not later than July 1, 2011. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.


For hard-copy (paper) submissions, all forms, narratives, letters of support, and other required materials must be forwarded in one application package. AMS will not accept application packets. Electronic applications will be accepted only if submitted via http://www.Grants.gov. AMS strongly recommends that each applicant visit the AMS Web site at http://www.ams.usda.gov/FMPP to review a copy of the 2011 FMPP Guidelines and application instructions to assist in preparing the proposal narrative and application.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This solicitation is issued pursuant to Section 6 of the Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act of 1976 (7 U.S.C. 3001–3006) as amended by Section 10605 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107–171) authorizing the establishment of the Farmers’ Market Promotion Program (7 U.S.C. 3005) (FMPP) and as amended by section 10106 of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110–246). The amended act states that the purposes of the FMPP are “(A) to increase domestic consumption of agricultural commodities by improving and expanding, or assisting in the improvement and expansion of domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agri-tourism activities and other direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities; and (B) to develop, or aid in the development of new farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agri-tourism activities, and other direct producer-to-consumer marketing opportunities.”

Detailed program guidelines may be obtained at http://www.ams.usda.gov/FMPP or from the contact listed above. In accordance with the Secretary’s Statement of Policy (36 FR 13804), it is found and determined upon good cause that it is impracticable, unnecessary, and contrary to the public’s interest to engage in further public participation under 5 U.S.C 553 because the applications for the FMPP need to be made available as soon as possible as the program season approaches.

Background

AMS will grant awards for projects that continue developing, promoting, and expanding direct marketing of agricultural commodities from farmers to consumers. Eligible FMPP proposals should support marketing entities where agricultural farmers or vendors sell their own products directly to consumers, and the sales of these farm products should represent the core business of the entity.

All eligible entities shall be domestic entities; i.e., those owned, operated, and located within one or more of the 50 United States and the District of Columbia only. Entities located within U.S. territories are not eligible.

Additionally, under this program eligible entities must apply for FMPP funds on behalf of direct marketing operators that include two or more agricultural farmers/vendors that produce and sell their own products through a common distribution channel. Individual agricultural producers and sole proprietors, including farmers and farmers market vendors, roadside stand operators, community-supported agriculture participants, and other individual direct marketers are not eligible for FMPP funds.

FMPP grant funds must be applied to the specific programs and objectives identified in the application. Proprietary projects and projects that benefit one agricultural producer or individual will not be considered.

In a coordinated effort to eliminate food deserts in urban and rural areas in the United States, projects that focus on increasing access to affordable, nutritious, and healthy food, AMS in coordination with other USDA, Treasury, and Health and Human Services grantors will give funding priority to the development of healthy food retail outlets in food deserts (areas with limited access to affordable and nutritious food, particularly areas composed of predominantly lower-income neighborhoods and communities). USDA, Treasury and Health and Human Services seek to increase access to “healthy foods” which include whole foods such as fruits, vegetables, whole grains, fat free or low-fat dairy, and lean meats that are perishable (fresh, refrigerated, or frozen) or canned as well as nutrient-dense foods and beverages encouraged by the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

Under FMPP, healthy food retail outlets will include producer-to-consumer marketing outlets that sell healthy foods including, but not limited to, farmers markets, CSAs, and roadside stands. A healthy food retail outlet might also be an existing producer-to-consumer market that upgrades to offer a full range of healthy food choices, particularly fresh fruits and vegetables in underserved areas.

AMS will give FMPP funding priority to measurable, outcome-based, and output-based projects that focus on developing healthy food direct-marketing outlets in food deserts. These projects must improve food access by developing new marketing outlets that sell healthy foods in food desert communities; or improving infrastructure and distribution (transportation, processing, storage, and other equipment) for healthy foods in food desert communities. These projects will receive additional points under FMPP if in addition to meeting all the other established criteria for FMPP projects, the project is located in one of the USDA-identified food desert census tracts or a low-income area (with at least a 20 percent poverty rate). For additional information, see the 2011 FMPP Guidelines at http://www.ams.usda.gov/FMPP.

Not less than 10 percent of the total available funds will be used to support
the use of new electronic benefits transfer (EBT) for Federal nutrition programs at farmers markets. To be considered within the 10 percent allotment of funds for EBT, the application narrative must clearly designate the applicant’s intent to compete for FMPP funds as a new EBT project. FMPP funds shall be provided to successful proposals that demonstrate a plan to continue to provide EBT card access at one or more farmers markets following the receipt of the grant.

When an applicant has multiple project ideas, AMS requires that similar proposals be submitted in the application package. Due to the legislative mandate, the Agency differentiates projects as EBT-related or non EBT-related submissions. As such, all non-EBT project ideas must be submitted in one application and all new or existing EBT-related projects submitted in a second, distinctly separate application. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the rejection of the application. See the 2011 FMPP Guidelines at http://www.ams.usda.gov/FMPP for instructions for multiple application submissions.

While there is no limit to the number of applications that may be submitted, AMS will only award an organization one grant in a funding year. Awardees from the FY 2010 grant program will not be considered for FMPP funding in FY 2011.

FMPP reserves the right to reject an application that is incomplete or does not follow the application requirements; i.e., hand-written or in excess of the required page limitation. Application packages without required information will not be considered. FMPP’s award decisions are final.

Paperwork Reduction Act

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the FMPP information collection was previously approved by OMB and was assigned OMB control number 0581–0235. AMS is committed to compliance with the Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA) that requires Government agencies in general to provide the public the option of submitting information or transacting business electronically to the maximum extent possible.

How To Submit Proposals and Applications

Each applicant must follow the application preparation and submission instructions provided within the 2011 FMPP Guidelines at http://www.ams.usda.gov/FMPP. Electronic forms, proposals, letters of support, or any other application materials e-mailed directly to AMS–FMPP or USDA–AMS staff will not be accepted.

Following are the options available for submitting proposals and applications to AMS:

Paper Submissions—An original and one copy of the proposal, required forms, narrative, letters of support, and all required materials must be submitted in one package, preferably via express mail.

Electronic Submissions via Grants.gov—Applicants may apply electronically for grants through Grants.gov at http://www.Grants.gov (insert 10.168 in grant search field) and are strongly encouraged to initiate the electronic submission process at least two weeks prior to the application deadline. Grants.gov applicants who submit their FMPP proposals via this Federal grants web site are not required to submit any paper documents to FMPP.

FMPP is listed in the “Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance” under number 10.168. Subject agencies, including FMPP, must adhere to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bars discrimination in all federally assisted programs.

Dated: May 24, 2011.

Rayne Pegg, Administrator.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service

[AMS–CN–11–0036; CN–11–003]

Cotton Research and Promotion Program: Request for Comments To Be Used in a Review of 1990 Amendments to the Cotton Research and Promotion Act

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As provided for by the Cotton Research and Promotion Act Amendments of 1990, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is announcing its intention to conduct a review to ascertain whether a referendum is needed to determine whether producers and importers favor continuation of amendments to the Cotton Research and Promotion Order. This notice invites all interested parties to submit written comments to the Department of Agriculture (USDA). USDA will consider these comments in determining whether a referendum is warranted. USDA should announce review results sometime during the latter part of 2011.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before August 1, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov or to Shethir M. Riva, Chief, Research and Promotion Staff, Cotton and Tobacco Programs, AMS, USDA, Stop 0224, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Room 2635–S, Washington, DC 20250–0224; fax: (202) 690–1718. All comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the Federal Register and will be made available for public inspection in the above office during regular business hours or can be viewed at http://www.regulations.gov. All comments submitted in response to this notice will be included in the record and will be made available to the public. Please be advised that the identity of the individuals or entities submitting comments will be made public on the Internet at the address provided above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shethir M. Riva, Chief, Research and Promotion Staff, Cotton and Tobacco Programs, AMS, USDA, Stop 0224, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Room 2635–S, Washington, DC 20250–0224, telephone (540) 361–2726, facsimile (202) 690–1718, or e-mail at Shethir.Riva@ams.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Cotton Research and Promotion Act of 1966 (7 U.S.C. 2101–2118) authorized a national Cotton Research and Promotion Program which is industry operated and funded, with oversight by USDA. The program’s objective is to enable cotton growers and importers to establish, finance, and carry out a coordinated program of research and promotion to improve the competitive position of, and to expand markets for cotton.

The program became effective on December 31, 1966, when the Cotton Research and Promotion Order (7 CFR part 1205) was issued. Assessments began with the 1967 cotton crop. The Order was amended and a supplemental assessment initiated, not to exceed one percent of the value of each bale, effective January 26, 1977.

The program is currently financed through assessments levied on domestic and imported cotton and cotton-containing products. Assessments under this program are used to fund promotional campaigns and to conduct