

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 81, No. 101

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

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

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

May 19, 2016.

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 (1) 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; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (4) 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 June 24, 2016 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. 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 and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such person are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Title: Supplier Credit Audit Recovery.
OMB Control Number: 0505–0026.

Summary of Collection: On March 10, 2010, the President signed a presidential memorandum directing all federal departments and agencies to expand and intensify their use of payment recapture audits. These are audits which offer specialized private auditors financial incentives to root out improper payments, and have been demonstrated through pilot programs to be highly effective. The Office of Management and Budget's Circular A123 Appendix C, offers guidance to implement the requirements of the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010, which requires agencies to conduct payment recapture audits for each program that expends more than \$1 million annually. The authority for this collection can be found under the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010 (124 Statute 2229, Pub. L. 111–204), under Section C, Recovery Audit Contracts.

Need and Use of the Information: The Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) sends out a letter to USDA vendors on an annual basis requesting account and payment information as to whether the vendor currently has a credit on their books due back to USDA. If the information is not collected, OCFO would not be able to identify the root cause of improper payments and would not be able to accomplish this without verification of suspected overpayments to suppliers or vendors.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 12,299.

Frequency of Responses: Third party disclosure; Reporting: Semi-annually.

Total Burden Hours: 24,598.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection
Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2016–12261 Filed 5–24–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-KS-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

May 19, 2016.

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 (1) 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; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden 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 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 June 24, 2016 will be considered. Written comments 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. 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 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: Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery—FNS.

OMB Control Number: 0584–NEW.

Summary Of Collection: The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public to comment on the “Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery” for approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 et. seq.). This collection is being developed as part of a Federal Government-wide effort to streamline the process for seeking feedback from the public on service delivery. This notice announces our intent to submit this “fast track” collection to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval and to solicit comments on specific aspects for the proposed information collection.

Need And Use Of The Information: The proposed information collection activity provides a means to garner qualitative customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient and timely manner. By qualitative feedback we mean, information that provides useful insights on perceptions and opinions, but are not statistical surveys that yield quantitative results that can be generalized to the population. This feedback will, (1) provide insights into customer or stakeholder perceptions, experiences and expectations, (2) provide an early warning of issues with service and, (3) focus attention on areas where communication, training or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. This collection will allow for ongoing, collaborative and actionable communications between the Agency and its customers and stakeholders. It will also allow feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of program management.

Description of Respondents: Individuals and Households, Businesses and Organizations, State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 30,000.

Frequency of Responses:
Recordkeeping; Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 30,000.

Ruth Brown,

*Departmental Information Collection
Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2016-12259 Filed 5-24-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Request for Information: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Data Exchange Standardization

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Section 4016 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 amended Section 11 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to require FNS to designate data exchange standards to govern both (1) necessary categories of information that SNAP State agencies operating related programs are required under applicable law to electronically exchange with another State agency, and (2) federal reporting and data exchange requirements under applicable law. The Act also directs FNS to consult with an interagency workgroup established by the Office of Management and Budget, which no longer exists, and to consider State government perspectives. As a result, FNS is issuing this Request for Information in order to obtain State government and other stakeholder perspectives as it considers how to best to proceed with establishing data exchange standards.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before July 25, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be sent to Jane Duffield, Chief, State Administration Branch, Program Accountability and Administration Division, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 818, Alexandria, VA 22302. Comments may also be emailed to SNAPSAB@fns.usda.gov. Comments will also be accepted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

All written comments will be open for public inspection at the FNS office located at 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, Virginia, 22302, Room 800, during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday). All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will be a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of this request for information should be directed to Jane Duffield at (703) 605-4385.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Data standardization can enhance the ability of States and the federal government to administer the SNAP program more effectively by strengthening oversight, improving decision-making by program administrators, and fostering innovation through the greater use of data analytics. Data standardization may also help States and the federal government to reduce improper benefit payments, as well as to improve the detection and prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse by allowing for easier data sharing. Greater use of data sharing may improve program integrity by increasing the accuracy of payments, improving efficiency and case management through increased automation, improving decision-making by expanding verification, and by allowing for better-targeted efforts through data analysis of trends across States and populations served by the program.

With these general interests in mind, FNS is seeking information from stakeholders on the following particular questions:

1. Legislation requires FNS to propose a rule to identify federally required data exchanges, including the specification and timing of the exchanges to be standardized. FNS is also required to address the factors used to determine whether and when to standardize data exchanges, specify State implementation options, and to describe future milestones. Please provide your input on the following questions:

a. Should FNS consider requiring additional data exchanges that are not currently required by SNAP regulations? If so, what additional data exchanges would improve communication between the States and FNS?

b. What frequency should be considered for any data exchange that is currently required by regulation, or any data exchange that is not currently required and is being proposed in response to the preceding question?

c. What implementation options should be available to States in enacting a standardized data exchange?

d. What constraints, if any, would the technologies used to operate existing SNAP eligibility systems have on meeting data exchange requirements?

e. If FNS were to standardize a data exchange, how much time would be required for States to adapt processes and systems to comply?

2. The Act specifies that FNS should not require a change to an existing data exchange standard for Federal reporting if that standard has already been found to be effective and efficient. What criteria should FNS consider to determine whether an existing data