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 are requested regarding: 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; the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and 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 December 18, 2020 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

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: Assessment of the Collection, Analysis, Validation, and Reporting of SNAP Employment and Training Data project.

OMB Control Number: 0584–New.

Summary of Collection: Section 17 [7 U.S.C. 2026] (a)(1) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, provides general legislative authority for the planned data collection. It authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into contracts with private institutions to undertake research that will help to improve the administration and effectiveness of SNAP in delivering nutrition-related benefits. Under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), States are required to operate an Employment and Training (E&T) program to help participants gain skills, education, training, and experience that lead to employment and greater economic self-sufficiency.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS will: (1) Identify and describe the current State and Federal systems that collect, validate, and analyze E&T data; (2) assess the current and future E&T data needs of Federal, Regional, and State staff; and (3) recommend a plan to improve how Federal, Regional, and State staff collect and use data for E&T program improvement and reporting. The data collection effort will culminate in a comprehensive final report of recommendations for FNS to meet its current and future data needs for the SNAP E&T program. The report will describe the current Federal, Regional, and State data systems and processes; the current and future data needs and goals of SNAP E&T; and the gaps between the current systems and data needs.

In addition, the report will recommend methods to address these gaps through changes to data systems and information technology (IT) solutions, improved business processes, and expanded technical assistance.

Description of Respondents: State, Local, Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 53.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 763.

Ruth Brown,
Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Emergency Allotments (COVID–19).

OMB Control Number: 0584–0652.

Summary of Collection: The Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 Public Law 116–127, enacted March 18, 2020, includes a general provision that allows the Department of Agriculture to issue emergency allotments (EA). This is based on a public health emergency declaration by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act related to an outbreak of COVID–19 when a State has also issued an emergency or disaster declaration. This collection is for activities associated with administering emergency allotments.

Need and Use of the Information: State agencies impacted by COVID–19 may submit a waiver request to their FNS Regional Office for approval to provide an EA to households to bring all households up to the maximum benefit due to pandemic related economic conditions. Because the EA waiver increases the monthly benefit of participants above the amount originally anticipated for this fiscal year, the amount of benefits issued and redeemed must be carefully tracked to ensure FNS does not exceed its appropriation. As such, it is necessary for FNS to collect information from State agencies.

Description of Respondents: State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 53.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 763.

Ruth Brown,
Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

Federal Register

Vol. 85, No. 223

Wednesday, November 18, 2020
SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) is requesting comments from all interested individuals and entities on an extension with a revision of a currently approved information collection associated with FSA county committee elections. The collection of information from FSA farmers and ranchers is used to receive nominations from eligible voters for the FSA county committee.

DATES: We will consider comments we receive by January 19, 2021.

ADDRESSES: We invite you to submit comments on this notice. You may submit comments, identified by Docket ID: FSA–2020–0010, by any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to: www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.


You may also send comments to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. Copies of the information collection may be requested by contacting Kyle Mansfield at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, contact Kyle Mansfield at (706) 552–2502 (voice). Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: County Committee Election.

OMB Control Number: 0560–0229.

Expiration Date of Approval: January 1, 2021.

Type of Request: Revision.

Abstract: This information collection is necessary to effectively allow farmers and ranchers to nominate potential candidates using the form FSA–669A for the FSA county committee election in accordance with the requirements as authorized by the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended. Specifically, FSA uses the information provided by the nominee annually or, if needed, throughout the year for special elections to create ballots for FSA county committee elections. Elections for FSA county committees are held each year; therefore, nominations for eligible nominees are requested each year. Any individual who meets the qualifications mentioned in form FSA–669A may be nominated by another person or by themselves. The form FSA–669A is used to collect the information for nominations; it requires the name and address of the nominee and the signatures of both the nominee and the person nominating the individual to be a nominee (only one signature is required for self-nominated individuals). The nominee must be eligible to vote in the designated FSA county committee election, eligible to hold the office of FSA county committee member, and willing to serve, if elected. For more information about FSA county committees, including elections, nominations, eligible voters, eligibility, and other related information, see the regulations in 7 CFR part 7. In addition, the form also includes a voluntary request for race, ethnicity, and gender information from the nominee. FSA is also using the form FSA–669A–3, Nomination Form for Urban Agriculture FSA County Committee Election, to establish Urban Agriculture FSA County Committees in some cities.

The number of respondents increased by 500 in this collection due to more respondents interested in participating in the FSA county committee’s election by either becoming an eligible voter or a County FSA committee member. The travel times decreased by 4,075 hours that have been removed from the collection. The respondents go to the county offices to do regular and customary business with FSA; this means no travel time is required specifically for the information collection and therefore, it is no longer included in the burden hour reporting.

For the following estimated total annual burden on respondents, the formula used to calculate the total burden hours is the estimated average time per response multiplied by the estimated total annual of responses.

Estimate of Average Time to Respond: Public reporting burden for collecting information under this notice is estimated to average 0.25 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information for all respondents.

Type of Respondents: Individuals (eligible voters).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 10,500.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 10,500.

Estimated Average Time per Response: 0.25 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2,625 hours.

FSA is requesting comments on all aspects of this information to help us to:

(1) Evaluate 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) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Evaluate the quality, ability and clarity of the information technology; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the information collection on those who respond through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the submission for Office of Management and Budget Approval.

Richard Fordyce,
Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 2020–25367 Filed 11–17–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Survey of Housing Starts, Sales, and Completions (SOC)

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the Federal Register on September 3, 2020 during a 60-day comment