

other locally announced locations. Please contact the SBA disaster assistance customer service center by email at [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov) or by phone at 1-800-659-2955 for further assistance.

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

*Primary Counties:* Randolph.

*Contiguous Counties:*

Indiana: Delaware, Henry, Jay, Wayne.

Ohio: Darke.

The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
<i>For Physical Damage:</i>	
Homeowners with Credit Available Elsewhere .....	5.375
Homeowners without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	2.688
Businesses with Credit Available Elsewhere .....	8.000
Businesses without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	4.000
Non-Profit Organizations with Credit Available Elsewhere ...	3.250
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	3.250
<i>For Economic Injury:</i>	
Business and Small Agricultural Cooperatives without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	4.000
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	3.250

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 20235C and for economic injury is 202360.

The States which received an EIDL Declaration are Indiana, Ohio.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

**Isabella Guzman,**  
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2024-07124 Filed 4-3-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8026-09-P

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration**

[Docket No. FMCSA-2024-0097]

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Emergency Approval of Revision to an Approved Information Collection Request: Apprenticeship Pilot Program**

**AGENCY:** Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of request for emergency OMB approval.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) discussed below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review of a required revision and emergency approval. FMCSA requests approval to revise, on an emergency basis, an ICR titled, “Safe Driver Apprenticeship Pilot Program” to conform the collection with recently revised statutory authority. FMCSA requests that OMB approve this collection by April 15, 2024.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nicole Michel, Mathematical Statistician, Research Division, DOT, FMCSA, West Building, 6th Floor, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001; 202-366-4354; *email:* [Nicole.michel@dot.gov](mailto:Nicole.michel@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**  
*Title:* Safe Driver Apprenticeship Pilot Program.

*OMB Control Number:* 2126-0075.  
*Type of Request:* Request for emergency approval of revisions to an existing information collection.

*Respondents:* Motor carriers; drivers.  
*Estimated Total Respondents:* 14,830 total (1,600 motor carriers and 13,230 CMV drivers); 5,410 annually (1,000 carriers and 4,410 CMV drivers).

*Estimated Total Responses:* 168,430 total, or 56,143 annually (applications: 14,830 total, or 4,943 annually; plus data collection for participating carriers: 153,600 total, or 51,200 annually).

*Estimated Burden Hours:* 169,343 hours total, or 56,448 hours annually (Motor carriers: 164,933 hours total, or 54,978 hours annually; Drivers: 4,410 hours total, or 1,470 hours annually).

*Estimated Burden per Response:* 20 minutes per response for carrier, apprentice, and experienced driver application forms; 15 minutes per response for safety benchmark certifications; 60 minutes per month per driver for monthly driving and safety data; 90 minutes per month for miscellaneous data submission.

*Frequency:* Once for carrier, apprentice, and experienced driver application forms; twice per apprentice for safety benchmark certifications; monthly per number of participating drivers for driving and safety data; and monthly for miscellaneous monthly data.

**Background**

Current regulations on driver qualifications (49 CFR part 391.11(b)(1)) state that a driver must be 21 years of age or older to operate a CMV in interstate commerce. Currently, drivers

under the age of 21 may operate CMVs only in intrastate commerce subject to State laws and regulations.

Section 23022 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), requires the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a commercial driver Apprenticeship Pilot Program. An *apprentice* is defined as a person under the age of 21 who holds a commercial driver’s license (CDL). Under this program, these apprentices will complete two probationary periods, during which they may operate in interstate commerce only under the supervision of an experienced driver in the passenger seat. An *experienced* driver is defined in section 23022 as a driver who is not younger than 26 years old, who has held a CDL and been employed for at least the past 2 years, and who has at least 5 years of interstate CMV experience and meets the other safety criteria defined in the IIJA.

The first probationary period must include at least 120-hours of on duty time, of which at least 80 hours are driving time in a CMV. To complete this probationary period, the employer must determine competency in:

1. Interstate, city traffic, rural 2-lane, and evening driving;
2. Safety awareness;
3. Speed and space management;
4. Lane control;
5. Mirror Scanning;
6. Right and left turns; and
7. Logging and complying with rules relating to hours of service.

The second probationary period must include at least 280 hours of on-duty time, including not less than 160 hours driving time in a CMV. To complete this probationary period, the employer must determine competency in:

1. Backing and maneuvering in close quarters;
2. Pre-trip inspections;
3. Fueling procedures;
4. Weighing loads, weight distribution, and sliding tandems;
5. Coupling and uncoupling procedures; and
6. Trip planning, truck routes, map reading, navigation, and permits.

After completion of the second probationary period, the apprentice may begin operating CMVs in interstate commerce unaccompanied by an experienced driver.

In addition to data regarding successful completion of the probationary periods, the IIJA requires data collection and submission relating to any incident in which a participating apprentice is involved, as well as other data relating to the safety performance of apprentices. Additional data will include crash data (incident reports,

police reports, insurance reports), inspection data, citation data, safety event data (as recorded by all safety systems installed on vehicles, to include advanced driver assistance systems, automatic emergency braking systems, onboard monitoring systems, required forward-facing video systems and optional in-cab video systems, if a carrier chooses to provide this data) as well as exposure data (record of duty status logs, on-duty time, driving time, and time spent away from home terminal). This data will be submitted monthly through participating motor carriers.

The data collected will be used to report on the following items, as required by section 23022:

1. The findings and conclusions on the ability of technologies or training provided to apprentices as part of the pilot program to successfully improve safety;
2. An analysis of the safety record of participating apprentices as compared to other CMV drivers;
3. The number of drivers that discontinued participation in the apprenticeship program before completion;
4. A comparison of the safety records of participating drivers before, during, and after each probationary period; and
5. A comparison of each participating driver's average on-duty time, driving time, and time spent away from home terminal before, during, and after each probationary period.

FMCSA will monitor the monthly data being reported by the motor carriers and will identify drivers or carriers that may pose a risk to public safety. While removing unsafe drivers or carriers may bias the dataset, it is a necessary feature for FMCSA to comply with 49 CFR 381.505, which requires development of a monitoring plan to ensure adequate safeguards to protect the health and safety of pilot program participants and the general public. Knowing that a driver or carrier was removed from the pilot program for safety reasons will help FMCSA minimize bias in the final data analysis.

The statutory mandate for this pilot program is contained in section 23022 of the IJA. FMCSA's regulatory authority for initiation of a pilot program is 49 CFR 381.400. The Apprentice Pilot Program supports the DOT strategic goal of economic strength while maintaining DOT's and FMCSA's commitment to safety.

#### Revision

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 (Pub. L. 118-42) revised FMCSA's authority regarding the Safe

Driver Apprenticeship Pilot (SDAP) Program. Section 422 of that Act states that FMCSA may not require the use of inward facing cameras or require a motor carrier to register an apprenticeship program with the Department of Labor as a condition for participation in the SDAP program. As such, the application and monthly report forms have been revised to remove those two elements as mandatory requirements. However, the Agency will continue to ask carriers whether they use inward facing cameras and whether they have a Registered Apprenticeship program approval number, and will give carriers the option of providing that information. Therefore, FMCSA does not expect to see any change in the number of respondents, responses, or the overall burden of this information collection.

In accordance with the PRA and OMB's implementing regulations at 5 CFR 1320.13, this information is necessary to the mission of the Agency and is needed prior to the ordinary time periods established for revision of an approved collection of information (found within 5 CFR part 1320). The Agency cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures listed under this part because the use of normal clearance procedures is reasonably likely to cause a statutory deadline to be missed (5 CFR 1320.13(2)(iii)).

Issued under the authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.87.

**Thomas P. Keane,**

*Associate Administrator, Office of Research and Registration.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Transit Administration

[Docket No. FTA-2024-0004]

#### Rural Areas Formula Grant Programs Guidance Proposed Circular

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of proposed circular updates and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has placed in the docket and on its website, proposed guidance in the form of an updated circular, to assist recipients in their implementation of the Rural Areas Formula Program and the rural component of the Buses and Bus

Facilities Program. The purpose of these proposed updates is to provide recipients of FTA financial assistance with updated guidance on program administration. The proposed revisions to these circulars are a result of changes in the law since the last updates to both the Rural Areas and Buses and Bus Facilities circulars. By this notice, FTA invites public comment on the proposed circular.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted by June 3, 2024. Late-filed comments will be considered to the extent practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit your comments by only one of the following methods, identifying your submission by docket number FTA-2024-0004. All electronic submissions must be made to the U.S. Government electronic site at <https://www.regulations.gov/>.

(1) *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov/> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

(2) *Mail:* Docket Management Facility: U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

(3) *Hand Delivery or Courier:* West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

(4) *Fax:* 202-493-2251.

*Instructions:* You must include the agency name (Federal Transit Administration) and Docket number (FTA-2024-0004) for this notice at the beginning of your comments. Submit two copies of your comments if you submit them by mail. For confirmation that FTA received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov/> including any personal information provided and will be available to internet users. For information on DOT's compliance with the Privacy Act, please visit <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>.

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read background documents and comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov/> at any time or to the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For program questions, Jay Lindsey, Office of Program Management, phone, (202)