

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 (Pub. L. 116-127), enacted March 18, 2020, includes a general provision that allows the Department of Agriculture to issue emergency allotments (EA) 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.

Need and Use of the Information: The purpose for this collection is for FNS to implement administrative actions in response to the current economic crisis resulting from the pandemic. FNS distributed updated State guidance on April 1, 2021, outlining a new approach for States to calculate EA, which provides greater equity for households most in need. In addition to outlining a new EA minimum benefit policy, the updated guidance describes an EA phase-out process States may request and use when their State-level emergency declaration expiration date is coming up. The State agency process for requesting EA, as outlined in the April 2021 guidance, remains generally unchanged, though the State must now confirm that the State's emergency or disaster declaration remains active when requesting EA.

FNS reviews request for approval to provide EA to households to bring all households up to the maximum benefit allowable 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 are carefully tracked to ensure FNS does not exceed its appropriation. As such, it is necessary for FNS to collect information from State agencies operating EA on a more frequent basis than would be reported normally.

Description of Respondents: (53) State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 53.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Recordkeeping Once, On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 763.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Food Safety and Inspection Service**

[Docket No. FSIS-2021-0021]

National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection; Nominations for Membership

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice to solicit nominations for membership.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is soliciting nominations for membership for the National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection (NACMPI). The full Committee consists of 20 members, and each person selected is expected to serve a 2-year term. The USDA is announcing Committee vacancies to minority businesses and organizations, consumer groups, businesses, media, local and state governments, and academia to attract and appoint diverse candidates. The USDA expects to appoint new Committee members for the entire committee in 2022.

DATES: Nominations, including a cover letter to the Secretary, the nominee's typed resume or curriculum vitae, and a completed USDA Advisory Committee Membership Background Information form AD-755, must be received by February 18, 2022. Self-nominations are welcome.

ADDRESSES: The USDA Advisory Committee Membership Background Information form AD-755 is available online at: https://www.fsis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2020-08/AD-755_0512.doc.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Valeria Green, Designated Federal Official, National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection, U.S. Department of Agriculture, by telephone at (301) 504-0846, Email: valeria.green@usda.gov, regarding specific questions about the Committee or this solicitation. General information about the Committee can also be found at: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/nacmpi>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2), USDA is seeking nominees for membership on the National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection (NACMPI). The Committee provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture on meat and poultry inspection programs (see 21 U.S.C. 607(c), 624, 645, 661(a)(3), and

661(c) and 21 U.S.C. 454(a)(3), 454(c), 457(b), and 460(e)). Nominations for membership are being sought from persons representing industry; academia; State and local government officials; public health organizations; and consumers and consumer organizations. NACMPI is seeking members with knowledge and interest in meat and poultry food safety and other FSIS policies. Appointments to the Committee will be made by the Secretary of Agriculture. To ensure that recommendations of the Committee consider the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership will include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to serve on behalf of underrepresented minorities, women, and persons with disabilities. It is anticipated that the Committee will meet at least once annually. Please note that federally registered lobbyists cannot be considered for USDA advisory committee membership. Members can only serve on one USDA advisory committee at a time. All nominees will undergo a USDA background check.

How To Apply

To receive consideration for service on the NACMPI, a nominee must submit their resume and the USDA Advisory Committee Membership Background Information form AD-755. The resume or curriculum vitae must be limited to five one-sided pages and should include the nominee's educational background and expertise. For submissions received that are more than five one-sided pages in length, only the first five pages will be reviewed. The USDA Advisory Committee Membership Background Information form AD-755 is available online at: https://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/AD-755-Approved_Master-exp-3.31.22_508.pdf. The AD-755 will only be considered if it is complete.

Nomination packages should be accompanied by a resume or curriculum vitae and AD-755 form and can be sent via email to Valeria Green, Director, Resource and Administrative Staff, Office of Policy and Program Development, Food Safety and Inspection Service at NACMPI@usda.gov.

Regarding Nominees Who Are Selected

The USDA Office of Ethics determines who will be designated as Special Government Employees (SGE) and must complete the U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) 450 Confidential Financial Disclosure Report electronically through the USDA online system before rendering any advice or before their first

meeting. SGEs are required to update financial forms yearly. An invitation to fill out the OGE 450 form will be sent via email before the NACMPI meeting. All members will be reviewed for conflict of interest pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 208 in relation to specific NACMPI work charges. Advisory Committee members serve a two-year term, renewable for two consecutive terms.

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint> and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, FSIS will

announce this **Federal Register** publication online through the FSIS web page located at: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register>.

FSIS also will announce and provide a link to it through the FSIS *Constituent Update*, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The *Constituent Update* is available on the FSIS web page. Through the web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an email subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe>.

Options range from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their accounts.

Dated: December 14, 2021.

Cikena Reid,

USDA Committee Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

[Docket #: RBS-21-BUSINESS-0039]

Notice of Solicitation of Applications for the Rural Innovation Stronger Economy (RISE) Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2022

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation of applications.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (Agency), an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), invites applications under the Rural Innovation Stronger Economy (RISE) program for fiscal year (FY) 2022, subject to the availability of funding. This notice is being issued in order to allow applicants sufficient time to leverage financing, prepare and submit their applications, and give the Agency time to process applications within FY 2022. Selected applicants will use Agency grant funds to provide financial assistance in support of innovation centers and job accelerator programs

that improve the ability of distressed rural communities to create high wage jobs, accelerate the formation of new businesses, and help rural communities identify and maximize local assets. An announcement will be made on the Agency website: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/newsroom/notices-solicitation-applications-nosas> regarding any amount received in the FY 22 appropriations.

DATES: Completed applications must be submitted electronically by no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, April 19, 2022, through [Grants.gov](https://www.usda.gov/grants), to be eligible for grant funding. Please review the [Grants.gov](https://www.usda.gov/grants) website at https://grants.gov/applicants/organization_registration.jsp for instructions on the process of registering your organization as soon as possible to ensure that you are able to meet the electronic application deadline. The Agency will not consider any application(s) received after the deadline and that are not submitted through [Grants.gov](https://www.usda.gov/grants). Potential applicants may submit a concept proposal for review by the Agency to SM.USDA-RD.RISE@usda.gov no later than February 18, 2022 in compliance with 7 CFR 4284.1115(a). The application and Concept Proposal deadline dates and time are firm.

ADDRESSES: Entities wishing to apply for a RISE grant, or to submit a Concept Proposal for their project, may download the application documents and requirements delineated in this notice from <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/rural-innovation-stronger-economy-rise-grants>. Information for the submission of an electronic application may be found at: <https://www.usda.gov/grants>. Concept Proposals containing elements outlined in Section D.2.(b) of this Notice must be submitted to SM.RISE-RD.RISE@usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Will Dodson, Program Management Division, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mail Stop-3226, Room 5160-South, Washington, DC 20250-3226, (202) 720-1400 or email: SM.USDA-RD.RISE@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Agency encourages applicants to consider projects that will advance the following key priorities (more details available at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/priority-points>):

—Assisting rural communities to recover economically from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly disadvantaged communities;