

# Notices

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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 will submit the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 on or after the date of publication of this notice. 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 these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received by June 27, 2022. 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](http://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.

### Agricultural Marketing Service

*Title:* Regional Food Business Centers.  
*OMB Control Number:* 0581–NEW.

*Summary of Collection:* The Regional Food Business Centers are authorized and funded by Section 1001(b)(4) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. 117–2). Under Section 1001(b)(4), the Secretary is directed to provide assistance for maintaining and improving food and agricultural supply chain resiliency. AMS will enter into cooperative agreements with the RFBCs.

The Regional Food Business Centers will be the backbone for local and regional supply chain development and will offer coordination, technical assistance, and capacity building support to small and mid-sized food and farm businesses which will lead to more resilient, diverse, and connected supply chains. This program will provide a way for geographic regions to tailor development and investment to fit their needs, while recognizing that resilient supply chains are built upon strong relationships between individuals, communities, regions, sectors, and institutions. The RFBCs will support coordination in their region, fund technical assistance (TA) providers to offer business technical assistance to food and farm businesses and provide small grants to food businesses looking to expand or start in their region.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The information collected is needed to certify that RFBCs are complying with applicable program regulations, and the data collected is the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of the program. The information collection requirements in this request are essential to administer and evaluate the program and to provide the necessary technical assistance to RFBCs and their subrecipients.

The data collection will include the collection of application information, quarterly reports, in addition to biannual interviews and quantitative information related to RFBCs (awardees), the TA providers (sub-awardees) and the businesses they fund.

*Description of Respondents:* State, Local, and Tribal Governments.  
*Number of Respondents:* 50.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: Annually.

*Total Burden Hours:* 470.

Levi S. Harrell,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2022–11312 Filed 5–25–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

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### Agricultural Marketing Service

*Title:* Local Food for Schools Cooperative Agreement Program (LFS).  
*OMB Control Number:* 0581-0334.

*Summary of Collection:* The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 et. seq.), as amended, directs and authorizes USDA to administer Federal cooperative agreements programs. AMS cooperative agreement programs are administered according to the OMB Guidance for Grants and Cooperative Agreements under the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR part 200) (85 FR 49506; December 13, 2020). The information collection requirements in this emergency request are needed for AMS to administer a new noncompetitive cooperative agreement program, in accordance with section 5(c) of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714c(c)), for the purchase of local foods for distribution to schools.

*Need and Use of The Information:* The information collected is used only by authorized representatives of USDA, AMS, Commodity Procurement Program to certify that cooperative agreement participants are complying with applicable program regulations, and the data collected is the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the program requirements.

*Description of Respondents:* State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

*Number of Respondents:* 50.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: Annually.

*Total Burden Hours:* 3,154.

**Levi S. Harrell,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2022-11298 Filed 5-25-22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-02-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### National Institute of Food and Agriculture

#### Notice of Intent To Extend and Revise Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations this notice announces the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's (NIFA) intention to extend and revise a previously approved information collection, entitled *NIFA Proposal Review Process*. This information collection replaces an existing information collection, also entitled *NIFA Proposal Review Process*.

**DATES:** Written comments on this notice must be received by July 25, 2022 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

*Instructions:* All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Robert Martin, 202-445-5388,  
[Robert.martin3@usda.gov](mailto:Robert.martin3@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title of Collection:* NIFA Proposal Review Process.

*OMB Control Number:* 0524-0041.

*Expiration Date of Current Approval:* 8/31/2022.

*Type of Request:* Notice of intent to extend and revise a currently approved information collection. The burden for this collection remains unchanged.

NIFA is requesting a three-year extension for the current collection entitled "NIFA Proposal Review Process." NIFA is also proposing to update the collection so that the previously approved Reviewer Questionnaire, as well as the Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Certification Form are both available on NIFA's Peer Review System (PRS) web-based portal. Additionally, NIFA is proposing some minor updates to the wording of questions in the Reviewer Questionnaire in order to ensure that peer review panels have the required scientific and technical expertise, comprised of research, education, extension, and other subject matter experts as appropriate, while remaining inclusive, representative, and diverse. Furthermore, the data collected through this questionnaire will ensure that NIFA is compliant in its Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) practices.

*Abstract:* The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is responsible for performing a review of proposals submitted to NIFA competitive award programs in accordance with section 103(a) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998, 7 U.S.C.

7613(a). Reviews are undertaken to ensure that projects supported by NIFA are of high quality, and are consistent with the goals and requirements of the funding program.

Proposals submitted to NIFA undergo a programmatic evaluation to determine worthiness of Federal support. The evaluations consist of a peer panel review and may also entail an assessment by Federal employees and electronically submitted (ad-hoc) reviews in the Peer Review System.

The information collected from the evaluations is used to support NIFA grant programs. NIFA uses the results of the proposal evaluation to determine whether a proposal should be declined or recommended for award. When NIFA has rendered a decision, copies of reviews, excluding the names of the reviewers, and summaries of review panel deliberations, if any, are provided to the submitting Project Director.

Given the highly technical nature of many of these proposals, the quality of the peer review greatly depends on the appropriate matching of the subject matter of the proposal with the scientific and technical expertise of the potential reviewer. In order to obtain this information, an electronic questionnaire is used to collect information about potential panel and ad-hoc reviewers. If the reviewer is already in the NIFA database, the questionnaire asks potential reviewers to update their basic biographical information including address, contact information, professional expertise, and their availability to review for NIFA in the future. If the reviewer is new, they are prompted to complete the questionnaire. This information has been invaluable in the NIFA review process, which has been recognized by the grantee and grantor community for its quality.

The applications and associated materials made available to reviewers, as well as the discussions that take place during panel review meetings are strictly confidential and are not to be disclosed to or discussed with anyone who has not been officially designated to participate in the review process. While each panelist certifies at the time of preparing a review they do not have a conflict-of-interest with a particular application and will maintain its confidentiality in the Peer Review System, a certification of their intent at the time of the panel review proceedings is collected to emphasize and reinforce confidentiality not only of applications and reviews but also panel discussions. On the Conflict-of-Interest and Confidentiality Certification Form, the panelist affirms they understand the