

innovators from underrepresented backgrounds.

For this RFI, examples of Federal programs and resources to support the innovation ecosystem include STEM education programs, Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) program participation, entrepreneurial training for researchers (e.g., the Innovation Corps I-Corps™ program), collaboration with Federal laboratories, commercialization funding, and other phases of the research, development, demonstration, and deployment (RDD&D) continuum.

Background: The NSTC L2M Subcommittee was established to strengthen the nation's ability to transition Federally-funded innovations from the laboratory to the marketplace. One strategy to accomplish this aim is to enhance participation in the innovation ecosystem. Innovation ecosystem describes the complex community of participants and resources needed to develop and commercialize technology. This ecosystem includes the people (e.g., students, faculty, industry researchers, investors) that make up the institutional entities (e.g., universities, businesses, funding agencies, venture capital firms, state and local economic development organizations, entrepreneur support organizations), material resources (e.g., funding, equipment, facilities), and the relationships among these interconnected actors. Innovation ecosystems may operate at different geographic levels (e.g., city, regional, national) and within multiple sectors (e.g., health, energy, agriculture).

Entrepreneurs may lack knowledge about these resources and have difficulty navigating them, which poses significant barriers to participation. Ensuring that access to resources and capital are available to all Americans as well as ensuring the benefits of entrepreneurship are accessible across the nation are critical in creating a robust and dynamic workforce with inclusive growth.

Information Requested

OSTP seeks responses to the following questions to improve inclusive and equitable access for our nation's diverse pool of innovators and emerging entrepreneurs in Federal science and technology programs. Respondents may provide information for one or as many topics below as they choose. In your response, please indicate your role in the innovation ecosystem (e.g., entrepreneur, investor, ecosystem connector, researcher in

academia, state economic development representative).

Executive Order 13985 defines underserved communities as populations sharing a particular characteristic that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life.

1. a. In your experience, what are barriers to participation in the innovation ecosystem?

b. Do barriers exist that are unique to innovators from specific underrepresented backgrounds or underserved communities? If so, what are those barriers?

c. How can the Federal government identify the specific barriers, problems, or issues faced by innovators and emerging entrepreneurs from underrepresented backgrounds or underserved communities as they seek to engage with Federal programs and services?

2. How can the Federal government increase participation in the innovation ecosystem by innovators from backgrounds and communities underrepresented in the current ecosystem? In your response, please provide your definition of "underrepresented" or "underserved".

3. How can the Federal government meet the specific needs (e.g., training, support, other) of innovators and emerging entrepreneurs from backgrounds and communities underrepresented in the innovation ecosystem by either improving existing government programs or initiatives, or by offering new government programs or initiatives?

4. Are there examples of programs that have seen success in supporting innovators from underrepresented backgrounds and underserved communities in the innovation ecosystem? What are the critical success factors of these programs?

Dated: May 27, 2022.

Stacy Murphy,

Operations Manager.

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FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

[No. 2022-N-7]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Housing Finance Agency.

ACTION: 30-Day notice of submission of information collection for approval from Office of Management and Budget.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA or the Agency) is seeking public comments concerning a previously approved information collection known as "Advances to Housing Associates," which has been assigned control number 2590-0001 by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). FHFA intends to submit the information collection to OMB for review and approval of a three-year extension of the control number, which is due to expire on June 30, 2022.

DATES: Interested persons may submit comments on or before July 5, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of the Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for the Federal Housing Finance Agency, Washington, DC 20503, Fax: (202) 395-3047, email: OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov. Please also submit comments to FHFA, identified by "Proposed Collection; Comment Request: 'Advances to Housing Associates, (No. 2022-N-7)'" by any of the following methods:

- **Agency Website:** www.fhfa.gov/open-for-comment-or-input.
- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. If you submit your comment to the *Federal eRulemaking Portal*, please also send it by email to RegComments@fhfa.gov to ensure timely receipt by the agency.

- **Mail/Hand Delivery:** Federal Housing Finance Agency, Office of General Counsel, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20219, ATTENTION: Proposed Collection; Comment Request: "Advances to Housing Associates, (No. 2022-N-7)".

We will post all public comments we receive without change, including any personal information you provide, such as your name and address, email address, and telephone number, on the FHFA website at <http://www.fhfa.gov>.

Copies of all comments received will be available for examination by the public through the electronic comment docket for this PRA Notice also located on the FHFA website.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James Hedrick, Senior Financial Analyst, by email at James.Hedrick@FHFA.gov, by telephone at (202) 649-3319, or Angela Supervielle, Counsel,

Angela.Superielle@fhfa.gov, (202) 649-3973 (these are not toll-free numbers); Federal Housing Finance Agency, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20219. For TTY/TRS users with hearing and speech disabilities, dial 711 and ask to be connected to any of the contact numbers above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Need For and Use of the Information Collection

Section 10b of the Federal Home Loan Bank Act (Bank Act) establishes the requirements for making Federal Home Loan Bank (Bank) advances (secured loans) to nonmember mortgagees, which are referred to as "Housing Associates" in FHFA's regulations.¹ Section 10b also establishes the eligibility requirements an applicant must meet in order to be certified as a Housing Associate.

Part 1264 of FHFA's regulations implements the statutory eligibility requirements and establishes uniform review criteria the Banks must use in evaluating applications from entities that wish to be certified as a Housing Associate. Specifically, § 1264.4 implements the statutory eligibility requirements and provides guidance to an applicant on how it may satisfy those requirements.² Section 1264.5 authorizes the Banks to approve or deny all applications for certification as a Housing Associate, subject to the statutory and regulatory requirements.³ Section 1264.6 permits an applicant that has been denied certification by a Bank to appeal that decision to FHFA.⁴

In part 1266 of FHFA's regulations, subpart B governs Bank advances to Housing Associates that have been approved under part 1264. Section 1266.17 establishes the terms and conditions under which a Bank may make advances to Housing Associates.⁵ Specifically, § 1266.17(e) imposes a continuing obligation on each certified Housing Associate to provide information necessary for the Bank to determine if it remains in compliance with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, as set forth in part 1264.

The OMB control number for the information collection, which expires on June 30, 2022, is 2590-0001. The likely respondents include entities applying to be certified as a Housing Associate and current Housing Associates.

B. Burden Estimates

FHFA estimates the total annualized hour burden imposed upon respondents by this information collection to be 314 hours (14 hours for applicants + 300 hours for current Housing Associates), based on the following calculations:

I. Applicants

FHFA estimates that the total annual average number of entities applying to be certified as a Housing Associate over the next three years will be one, with one response per applicant. The estimate for the average hours per application is 14 hours. Therefore, the estimate for the total annual hour burden for all applicants is 14 hours (1 applicant × 1 response per applicant × 14 hours = 14 hours).

II. Current Housing Associates

FHFA estimates that the total annual average number of existing Housing Associates over the next three years will be 75, with one response per Housing Associate required to comply with the regulatory reporting requirements. The estimate for the average hours per response is 4 hours. Therefore, the estimate for the total annual hour burden for current Housing Associates is 300 hours (75 certified Housing Associates × 1 response per associate × 4 hours = 300 hours).

C. Comments Request

In accordance with the requirements of 5 CFR 1320.8(d), FHFA published an initial notice and request for public comments regarding this information collection in the **Federal Register** on March 3, 2022.⁶ The 60-day comment period closed on May 2, 2022. FHFA received no comments.

FHFA requests written comments on the following: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FHFA functions, including whether the information has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of FHFA's estimates of the burdens of the collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Shawn Bucholtz,

Chief Data Officer, Federal Housing Finance Agency.

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⁶ See 87 FR 12168 (March 3, 2022).

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

Notice of Stakeholder Survey for Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery

AGENCY: Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS).

ACTION: 30-Day notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) invites the general public and other Federal Agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection request, Stakeholder Survey for Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery. This information collection request was previously approved by the Office of Management Budget (OMB) and FMCS is requesting a revision of a currently approved collection. This collection was developed as part of a Federal Government-wide effort to streamline the process for seeking feedback from the public on service delivery.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before July 5, 2022.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by Stakeholder Survey for Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery, through one of the following methods:

- *Email:* register@fmcs.gov;
- *Mail:* Office of the General Counsel, One Independence Square, 250 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20427. Please note that at this time, mail is sometimes delayed. Therefore, we encourage emailed comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joshua Flax, 202-606-5476, jflax@fmcs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the agency questions are available here.

I. Information Collection Request

Agency: Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

Form Number: OMB No. 3076-0017.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected Entities: Federal government and private sector.

Frequency: This survey is completed once.

Abstract: This information collection provides a means to garner qualitative client and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner, in accordance with the Administration's commitment to improving service delivery. This feedback will provide insights into client or stakeholder perceptions, experiences, and expectations. The

¹ See 12 U.S.C. 1430b; 12 CFR 1264.3.

² See 12 CFR 1264.4.

³ See 12 CFR 1264.5.

⁴ See 12 CFR 1264.6.

⁵ See 12 CFR 1266.17.