

The RHS is authorized under various sections of title V of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, to provide financial assistance to construct, improve, alter, repair, replace, or rehabilitate dwellings, which will provide modest, decent, safe, and sanitary housing to eligible individuals in rural areas. The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended, authorizes the credit programs of the RHS, RBCS and RUS to provide financial assistance for essential community facilities such as construction of community facilities and water and waste systems; and the improvement, development, and financing of businesses, industries, and employment.

**Need and Use of the Information:** The applicant/borrower, contractor, subcontractor, material supplier, equipment lessor, architect, engineer, manufacturer or sponsor of manufactured housing collects the required information. Rural Development provides forms and/or guidelines to assist in the collection and submission of information. The information is usually submitted via hand delivery or U.S. Postal Service to the Rural Development Field Office, although receipt through email or USDA Service Center's eForms website is becoming more common. Occasionally, information is submitted directly to the Rural Development State Office.

The information is used by Rural Development to determine whether a loan/grant can be approved, to ensure that Rural Development has adequate security for the loans financed, to provide for sound construction and development work and to determine that the requirements of the applicable acts have been met. The information is also used to monitor compliance with the terms and conditions of the loan/grant and to monitor the prudent use of Federal funds.

**Description of Respondents:** Individuals and households.

**Number of Respondents:** 1.

**Frequency of Responses:** Annually.

**Total Burden Hours:** 6.

#### Rural Business-Cooperative Service

**Title:** 1980 Guaranteed Loan Common Forms Package.

**OMB Control Number:** 0570-NEW.

**Summary of Collection:** The Rural Housing Service (RHS), Rural Business and Cooperative Service (RBCS) and Rural Utilities service (RUS) agencies within the Rural Development mission area, hereinafter referred to as Agency, is the credit Agency for agriculture and rural development for the United States Department of Agriculture. The Agency

offers loans, grants and loan guarantees to help create jobs and support economic development and essential services such as housing; health care; first responder services and equipment; and water, electric and communications infrastructure.

The Authorities that allow the Rural Housing Service (RHS), Rural Business and Cooperative Service (RBCS) and Rural Utilities service (RUS), Agencies within Rural Development (RD) are as follows:

The RHS is authorized under various sections of Title V of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, to provide financial assistance to construct, improve, alter, repair, replace, or rehabilitate dwellings, which will provide modest, decent, safe, and sanitary housing to eligible individuals in rural areas. The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended, authorizes the credit programs of the RHS, RBCS and RUS to provide financial assistance for essential community facilities such as construction of community facilities and water and waste systems; and the improvement, development, and financing of businesses, industries, and employment.

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**Description of Respondents:** Individuals and households.

**Number of Respondents:** 1.

**Frequency of Responses:** Annually.

**Total Burden Hours:** 2.

**Levi S. Harrell,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food and Nutrition Service

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Recordkeeping of D-SNAP Benefit Issuance and Commodity Distribution for Disaster Relief

**AGENCY:** Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on this proposed information collection. This collection is an extension of a currently approved collection. This information collection addresses the recordkeeping burden associated with forms FNS-292A (*Report of Commodity Distribution for Disaster Relief*) and FNS-292B (*Report of Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Benefit Issuance*).

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before February 2, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** The Food and Nutrition Services, USDA, invites interested persons to submit written comments.

- Preferred Method: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

- Regarding form FNS-292A, comments may be sent to Polly Fairfield, Chief, Food Distribution Policy Branch, Policy Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314, or via email to [polly.fairfield@usda.gov](mailto:polly.fairfield@usda.gov).

- Regarding form FNS-292B, comments may be sent to John "David" Noble, Chief, Program Modernization and Integration Branch, Program Development Division, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314, or via email to [john.noble@usda.gov](mailto:john.noble@usda.gov).

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will be a matter of public record.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or

copies of this information collection should be directed to David Noble, (703) 305-4382 or to Polly Fairfield, (703) 305-2746.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions that were used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**Title:** Report of Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefit Issuances and Report of Commodity Distribution for Disaster Relief.

**Form Number:** FNS-292A and FNS-292B.

**OMB Number:** 0584-0037.

**Expiration Date:** 5/31/2024.

**Type of Request:** Extension of a currently approved collection.

**Abstract:** This information collection pertains only to the recordkeeping burden associated with forms FNS-292A and FNS-292B. The reporting burden associated with these forms is approved under OMB No. 0584-0594 (Food Program Reporting System; expiration date: 9/30/2026). The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) utilizes forms FNS-292A and FNS-292B to collect information not otherwise available on the extent of FNS-funded disaster relief operations. Following OMB approval of this extension, this information collection will be merged with OMB Control # 0584-0336 (expiration 11/30/2025) to streamline burden estimates related to disasters into one information collection.

Form FNS-292A, *Report of Commodity Distribution for Disaster Relief*, is used by State distributing agencies, including Indian Tribal Organizations administering the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), to provide a summary report to FNS following termination of disaster commodity assistance and to request replacement of donated foods distributed during the disaster or situation of distress. Donated food distribution in disaster situations is authorized under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c); Section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1431); Section 709 of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1965 (7 U.S.C. 1446a-1); Section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note); and by sections 412 and 413 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5179, 5180). Program implementing regulations are contained in part 250 of title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). In accordance with 7 CFR 250.69(f) and 7 CFR 250.70(f), State distributing agencies shall provide a summary report to FNS within 45 days following termination of the disaster assistance and maintain records of these reports and other information relating to disasters.

Form FNS-292B, *Report of Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Benefit Issuance*, is used by State agencies to report to FNS the number of households and persons certified for Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) benefits as well as the value of benefits issued. D-SNAP is a separate program from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and is authorized by sections 402 and 502 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 *et seq.*) and the temporary emergency provisions contained in section 5 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, and in 7 CFR part 280 of the SNAP regulations. State agencies may request FNS

approval to operate a D-SNAP to address the temporary food needs of certain households in affected areas following a disaster after certain criteria is met. If approved to operate D-SNAP by FNS, a State agency must submit its final FNS-292B to FNS within 45 days of terminating D-SNAP operations, and maintain records of this report.

The number of disasters that will result in a State requesting to operate a FNS disaster food relief activity in a given year is impossible to predict. However, 55 is the maximum number of State distributing agencies that have ever utilized disaster commodity assistance in a given year. Accordingly, FNS is estimating this burden by assuming that, at maximum, 55 State distributing agency will distribute donated foods during a disaster or situation of distress once per year. In the case of State SNAP agencies, FNS is estimating this burden assuming that each State SNAP agency will request and be approved to operate D-SNAP once per year.

**Affected Public:** State agencies that administer FNS disaster food relief activities.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 55 Food Distribution State agencies for Form FNS-292A; 53 State SNAP agencies for Form FNS-292B.

**Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:** 1 recordkeeping response per State distributing agency; 1 recordkeeping responses per State SNAP agency. 1.964 responses per respondent.

**Estimated Total Annual Responses:** 108.

**Estimated Time per Response:** Recordkeeping burden for the State agencies is estimated to be 7.5 minutes (.125 hours) per form (FNS-292A and FNS-292B) per respondent.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:** Recordkeeping burden for the State agencies is estimated to be 7.5 minutes (.125 hours) per form (FNS-292A and FNS-292B) per respondent for a total of 14 hours (13.5 rounded up).

Respondent	Estimated number of recordkeepers	Number of records per recordkeeper	Total annual records	Estimated average number of hours per record	Estimated total hours
<b>Record Keeping Burden</b>					
Food Distribution State Agencies—Commodity Distribution Form FNS-292A.	55	1.00	55	0.125	6.875.
State SNAP Agencies—D-SNAP Benefit Issuance Form FNS-292B.	53	1.00	53	0.125	6.625.
Total Record Keeping Burden .....	55	1.964	108	0.1250	14 (13.5 rounded up).

**Tameka Owens,**

*Assistant Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.*

[FR Doc. 2023–26561 Filed 12–1–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–30–P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Business-Cooperative Service

[Docket #: RBS–23–BUSINESS–0020]

#### Notice of Solicitation of Applications for the Rural Business Development Grant Programs for Fiscal Year 2024

**AGENCY:** Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBCS or the Agency) invites the submission of applications for grants under the Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) Program for fiscal year (FY) 2024, subject to the availability of funding. This notice is being issued prior to passage of a FY 2024 Appropriations Act 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 2024. Based on FY 2023 appropriated funding, the Agency estimates that approximately \$37,000,000 will be available for FY 2024. Successful applications will be selected by the Agency for funding and subsequently awarded to the extent that funding may ultimately be made available through appropriations. All applicants are responsible for any expenses incurred in developing their applications.

**DATES:** Complete applications may be submitted in paper or electronic format and must be received by 4:30 p.m. local time on February 28, 2024, in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) State Office for the State where the project is located. A list of the USDA RD State Offices can be found at: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices>.

**ADDRESSES:** This funding announcement will also be announced on [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov). Applications must be submitted to the USDA RD State Office for the State where the project is located. For projects involving multiple states, the application must be filed in the RD State Office where the Applicant is located. Applicants are encouraged to contact their respective RD State Office for an email contact to submit an electronic application prior to the submission deadline date. A list of the

USDA RD State Office contacts can be found at: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lisa Sharp at [lisa.sharp@usda.gov](mailto:lisa.sharp@usda.gov), or Cindy Mason at [cindy.mason@usda.gov](mailto:cindy.mason@usda.gov), Program Management Division, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, MS 3226, Room 5160—South, Washington, DC 20250–3226, or call (202) 720–1400. For further information on submitting program applications under this notice, please contact the USDA RD State Office in the State where the applicant's headquarters is located. A list of RD State Office contacts is provided at the following link: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Overview

*Federal Agency Name:* Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBCS).

*Funding Opportunity Title:* Rural Business Development Grant Program (RBDG).

*Announcement Type:* Notice of Solicitation Announcement (NOSA).

*Funding Opportunity Number:* RDBCP–RBDG–2024.

*Assistance Listing:* 10.351.

*Dates:* Complete applications may be submitted in paper or electronic format and must be received by 4:30 p.m. local time on February 28, 2024, in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) State Office for the State where the project is located. A list of the USDA RD State Offices can be found at: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices>.

*Rural Development Key Priorities:* 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 through more and better market opportunities and through improved infrastructure.
- Ensuring all rural residents have equitable access to RD programs and benefits from RD funded projects.
- Reducing climate pollution and increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change through economic support to rural communities.

#### A. Program Description

1. *Purpose of the Program.* The purpose of the program is to promote economic development and job creation projects through the awarding of grant funds to eligible entities. Applications will compete in two separate categories, business opportunity grants and

business enterprise grants, for use in funding various business and community projects that serve rural areas.

Business opportunity projects must be in compliance with eligible uses as stated in 7 CFR 4280.417(a)(1) that include the establishment of business support centers or providing funds for job training and leadership development in rural areas. Business opportunity projects must be consistent with any tribal, local and area-wide strategic plans for community and economic development, coordinated with other economic development activities in the project area, and consistent with any RD State Strategic Plan.

Business enterprise projects must be in compliance with eligible uses as stated in 7 CFR 4280.417(a)(2) and are to be used to finance or develop small and emerging businesses in rural areas. Enterprise grant purposes include projects for the acquisition and development of land, access streets and roads, the conversion or modernization of buildings, capitalization of revolving loan funds and the purchase of machinery and equipment for businesses located in a rural area.

#### 2. Statutory and Regulatory Authority.

(a) *RBDG Program:* The RBDG Program is authorized under 7 U.S.C. 1932(c) (<https://www.govinfo.gov/link/uscode/7/1932>) and implemented by 7 CFR part 4280, subpart E (<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/part-4280/subpart-E>). Assistance provided under the RBDG Program will be made to eligible entities and will be used for funding various business opportunity projects and business enterprise projects, as applicable, that serve Rural Areas.

(b) *Set-Aside Funding:* The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Pub. L. 117–328), designated funding for Federally-Recognized Native American Tribes, Rural Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Communities/Rural Economic Area Partnerships, projects in Persistent Poverty Counties (as discussed below), Native American Persistent Poverty areas and for Strategic Economic and Community Development (SECD) projects in FY 2023.

Set-aside funding may or may not be made available through appropriations in FY 2024 where continued emphasis is given to financial assistance for projects located in these areas. For funding made available in FY 2023, eligible applicants for the Native American and Rural Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Communities/Rural Economic Area Partnership set-aside funds were required to demonstrate that