

and other inputs to inform program and policy decision-making.

This collection allows for ongoing, two-way collaborative and actionable communications between the Agency and its state, local and/or Tribal partners, program participants, and stakeholders. It also allows feedback to contribute directly to the improvement and planning of research studies, program changes, regulatory activities, guidance, outreach and/or training activities. As individual collections occur under this generic umbrella, consideration will be given to the appropriate data sharing, equity issues and transparency per collection.

Most but not all generic clearances may meet the following conditions:

- The collections are often voluntary;
- The collections are often low burden for respondents (based on considerations of total burden hours, total number of respondents, or burden-hours per respondent);
- Any collection other than administrative data may be targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with

the program or similar programs, or may be impacted by a program in the future;

- Personally identifiable information (PII) is collected only to the extent necessary and is not retained; and
- Information gathered will yield qualitative and/or quantitative information.

As a general matter, information collections do not result in any new system of records containing privacy information and does not ask questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.

A variety of instruments and platforms are used to collect information from respondents. This includes but is not limited to surveys, including pulse surveys not covered elsewhere, interviews, stakeholder meetings, focus groups, discussion groups, and collection of existing data from state, local and/or Tribal agencies via electronic or other means. The information to be collected could focus on a variety of Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) programs, or portions

thereof, including but not limited to the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), Summer Food Service Program (SFSF), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), other child nutrition and food distribution activities, the Farm to School program, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP), the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP), nutrition and policy promotion, and any associated challenges in implementing programs or subsets of programs. The annual burden hours requested of 43,360 are based on the number of collections we expect to conduct annually over the requested period for this clearance.

Type of collection	Number of annual respondents	Total annual responses	Total annual burden hours
Surveys/Pulse surveys .....	37,180	93,425	27,110
Focus Groups/Discussion Groups/Stakeholder Meetings/Interviews .....	2,500	4,500	5,000
Administrative data collection and associated requests .....	895	2,430	11,250
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>40,575</b>	<b>100,355</b>	<b>43,360</b>

### Annual Reporting Burden Estimates

**Affected Public:** Individuals and households, businesses and organizations, State, local or Tribal government.

**Estimated Number of Annual Respondents:** 40,575.

**Estimated Number of Annual Responses per Respondent:** Ranges from 1 response to 10 responses depending on category of respondent.

**Estimated Annual responses:** 100,355.

**Estimated time per response:** Ranges from 10 minutes per response to 10 hours per response depending on type of collection (that is, survey, discussion group, or administrative data collection) and the nature of the request.

**Estimated Annual Burden hours:** 43,360.

In summary, the total estimated annual burden is 43,360 hours and 100,355 responses. Thus, we are requesting 130,080 hours for our three year burden estimate and 301,065 total responses for the three year approval period. Current estimates are based on both historical numbers of respondents

from past projects as well as estimates for projects to be conducted in the next three years.

**Tameka Owens,**

*Assistant Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food and Nutrition Service

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Determining Eligibility for Free and Reduced Price Meals and Free Milk

**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 a revision of a

currently approved collection for determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals and free milk as stated in FNS regulations. These Federal requirements affect eligibility under the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, and the Special Milk Program and are also applicable to the Child and Adult Care Food Program and the Summer Food Service Program when individual eligibility must be established.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before July 7, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be sent to: Tina Namian, Director, School Meals Policy Division—4th floor, Child Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314. Comments will also be accepted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget

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 Wesley Gaddie at 703-457-7718.

**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 will 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:* Determining Eligibility for Free and Reduced Price Meals and Free Milk in Schools—7 CFR part 245.

*Form Number:* This collection does not contain any forms. However, FNS-742 and FNS-874, which are approved under OMB Control Number 0584-0594 Food Programs Reporting System (FPRS) (expiration date July 31, 2023), are used in conjunction with this collection.

*OMB Number:* 0584-0026.

*Expiration Date:* July 31, 2023.

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

*Abstract:* The Food and Nutrition Service administers the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, and the Special Milk Program

as mandated by the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 1751, *et seq.*), and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1771, *et seq.*). The proposed collection reports the eligibility burden of the National School Lunch Program; the School Breakfast Program; and the Special Milk Program. The eligibility burden of the Child and Adult Care Food Program and the Summer Food Service Program is reported in information collections under OMB Control Numbers 0584-0055 and 0584-0280, respectively.

Per 7 CFR part 245, schools participating in these meal and milk programs must make free and reduced-price meals and free milk available to eligible children. This information collection obtains eligibility information for free and reduced-price meals and free milk and also incorporates verification procedures as required to confirm eligibility. The Programs are administered at the State and local levels and operations include direct certification, the submission of household size and income applications for school meal/milk benefits, record maintenance, and public notification of eligibility determinations, documentation, and other data. The information collection burden associated with this revision is summarized in the chart below. Since the last renewal of this collection, school meal programs have been operating under waivers that allowed meals to be served under the Summer Food Service Program and the Seamless Summer Option, which do not require eligibility determinations to be made. As a result, USDA does not have updated data for most requirements covered under this information collection. There are two updates based

on new programmatic data. USDA has updated data on the number of state agencies required to maintain direct certification improvement plans. Additionally, since the last renewal the U.S. Virgin Islands have adopted the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), leading to an increase in the number of State agencies required to meet requirements related to CEP. USDA has also adjusted the previous estimates for hours per response in order for the estimates to be written in whole minutes. This is a revision of the currently approved information collection.

*Affected Public:* State, local, and Tribal government and individual/households: Respondent groups identified include State agencies, school food authorities/local educational agencies, and individuals/households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 3,571,312 (55 SAs, 19,371 SFAs/LEAs, and 3,551,886 households).

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 3.514.

*Estimated Total Annual Responses:* 12,550,211.

*Estimated Hours per Response:* 0.0527.

*Estimated Total Annual Reporting Burden:* 651,084.

*Estimated Total Annual Recordkeeping Burden:* 2,965.

*Estimated Total Annual Public Disclosure Burden:* 6,754.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 660,803.

*Current OMB Inventory for Part 245:* 664,726.

*Difference (Burden Revisions Requested with this renewal):* -3,923.

Refer to the following table for estimated annual burden per each type of respondent:

Affected public (a)	Estimated number respondents (b)	Estimated number responses per respondent (c)	Estimated total annual responses (d) = (b × c)	Estimated hours per response (e)	Estimated total annual burden hours (f) = (d × e)
<b>Reporting</b>					
State Agencies .....	55	163.56	8,996	0.0646	581
School Food Authorities/Local Educational Agencies .....	19,371	455.953	8,832,491	0.0209	184,972
Individuals/Households .....	3,551,886	1.03	3,653,373	0.1274	465,531
Total Reporting Burden .....	3,571,312	3.50	12,494,860	0.0521	651,084
<b>Recordkeeping</b>					
State Agencies .....	55	12.00	660	0.1797	119
School Food Authorities/Local Educational Agencies .....	15,786	1.03	16,286	0.1748	2,847
Total Recordkeeping Burden .....	15,841	1.07	16,946	0.1750	2,965

Affected public (a)	Estimated number respondents (b)	Estimated number responses per respondent (c)	Estimated total annual responses (d) = (b × c)	Estimated hours per response (e)	Estimated total annual burden hours (f) = (d × e)
<b>Public Notification</b>					
State Agencies .....	55	1.98	109	0.1339	15
School Food Authorities .....	19,371	1.98	38,296	0.1760	6,740
Total Public Notification Burden .....	19,426	1.98	38,405	0.1759	6,754
<b>Total Reporting, Recordkeeping and Public Disclosure</b>					
Reporting .....	3,571,312	3.50	12,494,860	0.0521	651,084
Recordkeeping .....	15,841	1.07	16,946	0.1750	2,965
Public Notification .....	19,426	1.98	38,405	0.1759	6,754
Total Reporting, Recordkeeping, and Public Disclosure Burden .....	3,571,312	3.514	12,550,211	0.0527	660,803

**Tameka Owens,**

*Assistant Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food and Nutrition Service

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Operational Challenges in Child Nutrition Programs (OCCNP) Surveys

**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 is a new collection focusing on Operational Challenges in Child Nutrition Programs and will utilize survey instruments for school years (SY) 2023–2024, SY 2024–2025, and SY 2025–2026. The studies encompassed under this information collection will collect data from institutions administering and operating Child Nutrition Programs such as State agencies, School Food Authorities (SFAs) and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Sponsors, including information on emerging and ongoing operational challenges facing Child Nutrition Program operators.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before July 7, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be sent to: Sarah Reinhardt, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture,

1320 Braddock Pl., 5th floor, Alexandria, VA 22314. Comments may also be submitted via email to [Sarah.Reinhardt@usda.gov](mailto:Sarah.Reinhardt@usda.gov). Comments will also be accepted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget 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 Sarah Reinhardt at [Sarah.Reinhardt@usda.gov](mailto:Sarah.Reinhardt@usda.gov), 703–305–2532.

**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:** Operational Challenges in Child Nutrition Programs (OCCNP) Surveys.

**Form Number:** N/A.

**OMB Number:** 0584–NEW.

**Expiration Date:** Not yet determined.

*Type of Request:* New collection.

**Abstract:** FNS administers the Child Nutrition (CN) Programs in partnership with States, local SFAs, other program sponsors, and local program operators. Section 28(a) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act authorizes the U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary to conduct annual national performance assessments of the school meal programs and requires States and local entities participating in the programs to cooperate with program research and evaluations. FNS plans to collect periodic data to obtain information on operational challenges facing institutions who operate or administer child nutrition programs, including State agencies, SFAs and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Sponsors. The Operational Challenges in Child Nutrition Programs (OCCNP) Surveys, are designed to collect timely data on emerging school food service operational challenges, including but not limited to supply chain disruptions, food costs, and labor shortages, and/or related issues in SY 2023–2024, 2024–2025, and SY 2025–2026. Access to a timely and reliable source of data on these topics has become particularly important following the COVID–19 pandemic. In addition to changing the ways that school meal programs operated, the pandemic has contributed to lasting supply chain issues and substantial changes in the cost and availability of food and labor. The ability to collect this data will allow FNS to provide the best possible support to States and program sponsors and operators facing continued food service operations challenges and enable FNS to respond more quickly and effectively to potential disruptions in the future.