

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 64, No. 131

Friday, July 9, 1999

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

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 99-041-1]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection in support of the importation of animals and poultry, animal and poultry products, and animal germplasm.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by September 7, 1999, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: We invite you to comment regarding the accuracy of burden estimate, ways to minimize the burden (such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology), or any other aspect of this collection of information. Please send your comment and three copies to: Docket No. 99-041-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Suite 3C03, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 99-041-1.

You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to

help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register**, and related information, including the names of organizations and individuals who have commented on APHIS rules, are available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information regarding the regulations for the importation of animals and poultry, animal products and poultry products, and animal germplasm, contact Dr. Gary Colgrove, Chief Staff Veterinarian, National Center for Import and Export (NCIE), VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 38, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-8364; or e-mail: gary.s.colgrove@usda.gov. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Ms. Cheryl Groves, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-5086.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Importation of Animals and Poultry, Animal and Poultry Products, and Certain Animal Embryos.

OMB Number: 0579-0040.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 1999.

Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture is responsible for preventing the introduction of exotic animal diseases into the United States and for rapidly identifying, containing, and eradicating these diseases when outbreaks occur. To fulfill this mission, we must collect pertinent information from those individuals who import animals or poultry, animal or poultry products, or animal germplasm into the United States.

This information includes important data such as the origins of the animals or animal products to be imported, the health status of the animals or the processing methods used to produce the animal products to be imported, and whether the animals or animal products were temporarily offloaded in another country during their transit to the United States. This information helps us to ensure that these imports pose no more than a negligible risk of

introducing exotic animal diseases into the United States.

Acquiring this information entails the use of a variety of information collection procedures, devices, and forms including, but not limited to: Health certificates, import permits, ear tags, leg bands, specimen submission forms, inspection reports, cooperative and trust fund agreements, and certification statements.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the continued use of this information collection activity.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning this information collection activity. These comments will:

(1) Evaluate 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;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.25304 hours per response.

Respondents: Entities that import animals or poultry, animal or poultry products, or animal germplasm into the United States.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 107,849.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 23.5245.

Estimated annual number of responses: 2,537,098.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 64,200 hours. (Due to rounding, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the average reporting burden per response.)

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval.

All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 2nd day of July 1999.

Craig A. Reed,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 99-17446 Filed 7-8-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Child and Adult Care Food Program: National Average Payment Rates, Day Care Home Food Service Payment Rates, and Administrative Reimbursement Rates for Sponsoring Organizations of Day Care Homes for the Period July 1, 1999-June 30, 2000

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the annual adjustments to: The national average payment rates for meals and supplements served in child care centers, outside-school-hours care centers, at-risk afterschool care centers, and adult day care centers; the food service payment rates for meals and supplements served in day care homes; and the administrative reimbursement rates for sponsoring organizations of day care homes, to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index. Further adjustments are made to these rates to reflect the higher costs of providing meals in the States of Alaska and Hawaii. The adjustments contained in this notice are made on an annual basis each July, as required by the statutes and regulations governing the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Melissa Rothstein, Section Chief, Child and Adult Care and Summer Programs Section, Policy and Program Development Branch, Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, Alexandria Virginia, 22302, (703) 305-2620.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Definitions

The terms used in this notice shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the regulations governing the CACFP (7 CFR Part 226).

Background

Pursuant to sections 4, 11 and 17 of the National School Lunch Act (NSLA) (42 U.S.C. §§ 1753, 1759a and 1766), section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (CNA) (42 U.S.C. 1773) and §§ 226.4, 226.12 and 226.13 of the regulations governing the CACFP (7 CFR part 226), notice is hereby given of the new payment rates for institutions participating in CACFP. These rates shall be in effect during the period July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000.

As provided for under the NSLA and the CNA, all rates in the CACFP must be revised annually on July 1 to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the most recent 12-month period. In accordance with this mandate, the Department last published the adjusted national average payment rates for centers, the food service payment rates for day care homes, and the administrative reimbursement rates for sponsors of day care homes on July 2, 1998 at 63 FR 36205 (for the period July 1, 1998-June 30, 1999). A subsequent notice was published on July 13, 1998 at 63 FR 37628 to correct printing errors in the original notice.

Section 103(b) of the William F. Goodling Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-336, enacted October 31, 1998, amended section 11(a)(3)(B) of the NSLA (42 U.S.C. § 1759a(a)(3)(B)) and changed the method of computing the annual adjustments to the reimbursement rates for free and reduced-price meals and supplements served in centers participating in CACFP. Effective July 1, 1999, the amendment requires that operating reimbursement rates for meals and supplements served in centers be rounded down to the nearest lower whole cent. This complements the amendment made by section 704(b) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub. L. 104-193, enacted August 22, 1996, which changed the method of computing the paid meal reimbursements in centers, and the reimbursements for all meals served in CACFP family day care homes. With the amendment described within section 103(b), all reimbursement rates for meals served in CACFP will be adjusted and then rounded down to the nearest lower whole cent.

Section 708(e)(1) of Pub. L. 104-193 also amended section 17(f)(3)(A) of the NSLA to establish two "tiers" of day care homes and reimbursement rates. Tier I homes are homes located in low-income areas or homes in which the

provider's household income is at or below 185 percent of the Federal income poverty guidelines. Tier II homes are those homes which do not meet the location or provider income criteria for a tier I home. However, tier II homes may receive the tier I rates for meals served to identified income-eligible children (i.e. children from households with incomes at or below 185 percent of the Federal income poverty guidelines).

Pub. L. 104-193 further specified in section 17(f)(3)(A)(ii)(III) and (IV) the reimbursement factors for meals served in tier I day care homes as the factors in effect on July 1, 1996, with adjustments made to the factors on July 1, 1997, and each July 1 thereafter. Pub. L. 104-193 further provided in section 17(f)(3)(A)(ii)(IV) and 17(f)(3)(A)(iii)(I)(bb) (42 U.S.C. 1766(f)(3)(A)(ii)(IV) and 1766(f)(3)(A)(iii)(I)(bb)) of the NSLA that the factors paid to tier I and tier II homes be rounded down to the nearest whole cent, instead of rounding the factors up or down to the nearest quarter-cent increment as previously required. Subsequent adjustments must be based on the unrounded rate from the preceding school year. In addition, annual adjustments, which were previously based on changes in the CPI for food away from home, must now be made based on the CPI for food at home.

Please note that reimbursement rates for tier II family day care homes are set forth in section 17(f)(3)(A)(iii)(I)(aa) of the NSLA (42 U.S.C. 1766(f)(3)(A)(iii)(I)(aa)), as amended by section 708(e)(1) of Pub. L. 104-193. After these reimbursement rates were adjusted and rounded down to the nearest whole cent as required under the law, an additional six cents was added to the breakfast rate as required by section 4(b)(3) of the CNA of 1966, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1773(b)(3)). The CNA requires that all reimbursement rates for breakfasts served under the School Breakfast Program and the CACFP be adjusted upward by six cents. As background, this addition was first made in 1986, under Pub. L. 99-500, the School Lunch and Child Nutrition Amendments of 1986, which added three cents to adjusted breakfast rates to assist States in improving the nutritional quality of the breakfasts. This adjustment was raised from three cents to six cents in 1989 under Pub. L. 101-147, the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 1989, for the same reason.

The payment rates for the period July 1, 1999-June 30, 2000 are: