

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

Office of the Secretary

Notice of the Research, Education, and Economics Task Force Meeting

AGENCY: Research, Education, and Economics; USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., the United States Department of Agriculture announces a meeting of the Research, Education, and Economics Task Force.

DATES: The Research, Education, and Economics Task Force will meet on July 31, 2003.

The public may file written comments before or up to two weeks after the meeting with the contact person.

ADDRESSES: On July 31, the meeting will take place at the Phoenix Park Hotel (TENTATIVE), 20 North Capitol Street, NW., Washington, DC 20001.

Written comments from the public may be sent to the contact person identified in this notice at: The Research, Education, and Economics Task Force; Office of the Under Secretary, Room 214-W, Jamie L. Whitten Building, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathryn Boots, Executive Director, Research, Education, and Economics Task Force; telephone: (202) 690-0826; fax: (202) 690-2842; or email: katie.boots@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On Thursday, July 31, 2003, the Research, Education, and Economics Task Force will hold a general meeting at the Phoenix Park Hotel (TENTATIVE). The Task Force will begin its evaluation of the merits of establishing one or more National Institutes focused on

disciplines important to the progress of food and Agricultural science. In the morning there will be welcoming remarks made by the Chairman of the Task Force, Dr. William Danforth, Chancellor Emeritus, Vice Chairman, Board of Trustees, Washington University in St. Louis, as well as the USDA Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics (REE), Dr. Joseph J. Jen. Welcoming remarks will be followed by a presentation by Dr. Mary Clutter, Assistant Director, Directorate for Biological Sciences, National Science Foundation (NSF), about how research is conducted at NSF. Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health (NIH), will follow Dr. Clutter's presentation, with a presentation about how research is conducted at NIH. Following Dr. Fauci's presentation, a representative from each of the four REE Agencies, including the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the Economic Research Service (ERS), the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES), and the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), will give a brief presentation of how research is conducted in each agency. There will be a working lunch, followed by an afternoon session consisting of a general discussion among Task Force members where they will begin their evaluation of the merits of establishing one or more National Institutes focused on disciplines important to the progress of food and Agricultural science. The Task Force Meeting will adjourn on Thursday, July 31, 2003 around 4 p.m. This meeting is open to the public. Due to a delay, this notice could not be published at least 15 days prior to the meeting date. The meeting will be held as scheduled because of the significant sacrifice rescheduling would require of Task Force members who have adjusted their schedules to accommodate the proposed meeting date.

Written comments for the public record will be welcomed before and up to two weeks following the Task Force meeting (by close of business Thursday, August 14, 2003). All statements will become part of the official record of the Research, Education, and Economics Task Force and will be kept on file for public review in the Office of the Under

Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics.

Dated Washington, DC, this 15 day of July 2003.

Joseph J. Jen,

Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.

[FR Doc. 03-18446 Filed 7-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3401-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Economic Research Service

Notice of Intent To Seek Approval to Collect Information

AGENCY: Economic Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR part 1320 (60 FR 44978, August 29, 1995), this notice announces the Economic Research Service's (ERS) intention to request approval for a new information collection from School Food Authorities, public primary and secondary school administrators, students, and parents of students. The study will collect information on school meal program operations, costs, and outcomes, and on the characteristics of participating schools and both participating and non-participating students.

DATES: Written comments on this notice must be received by September 24, 2003 to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Requests for additional information or to comment regarding this notice should be directed to Joanne Guthrie, Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program, Food and Rural Economics Division, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1800 M Street, NW., Room N2154, Washington, DC 20036-5831; Telephone: 202-694-5373. Submit electronic comments to jguthrie@ers.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Integrated Study of School Meal Costs and Outcomes.

OMB Number: Not yet assigned.

Expiration Date: Three years from date of issuance.

Type of Request: Approval to collect information from School Food Authorities (SFAs), public primary and secondary school administrators, students, and parents of students.

Abstract: USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) has the responsibility to provide social and economic intelligence on consumer, food marketing, and rural issues, including food security status of the poor; domestic food assistance programs; low-income assistance programs; economic food consumption determinations and trends; consumer demand for food quality, safety, and nutrition; food market competition and coordination; and food safety regulation. In carrying out this overall mission, ERS seeks approval of information gathering activities to conduct an integrated study of school meal costs and outcomes for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP).

The integrated study will collect data in five domains: policies and practices of schools and School Food Authorities (SFAs) affecting school meal programs; characteristics of USDA-reimbursable meals as offered, served, and consumed; costs and revenues of providing school meals; student participation and satisfaction; and students' dietary intakes and other student/family outcomes. Data will also be collected on the demographic characteristics of participating SFAs and schools, and on the characteristics of participating and non-participating students and their families.

This study will update national studies of program costs and outcomes that were conducted prior to the School Meal Initiative (SMI) of 1995. It will extend research findings from the School Nutrition Dietary Assessment Study II and the School Meals Initiative Implementation Study and explore, in a nationally representative study, the implications of their findings for program costs and outcomes. In addition, because of its integrated design and data collection, it will allow an unprecedented level of analysis of the relationship among key operating characteristics (such as menu planning systems), costs, and students' participation, consumption and quality of diet.

The sample frame for the study will include public school districts in the 48 contiguous States, the District of Columbia, and, for data to be collected by mail, Alaska and Hawaii. At all levels of sampling for the study, school districts will be elected randomly with probability proportional to size, and the sample will be nationally

representative. A preliminary survey will collect data on school district characteristics, menu planning method, program operations, and foodservice costs and revenues. Respondents to the preliminary survey will comprise the sampling frame for the "main study." A multi-level design will be implemented to avoid overburdened individual SFAs with excessive data collection requirement. All SFAs and schools sampled for the main study (Level 1) will be asked to provide data on school meal program operations and information on reimbursable meals offered and served during a randomly assigned school week. A subset of SFAs and schools (Level 2) will be asked to provide detailed information on reported and unreported food service costs. Student and parent interviews will be conducted in a separate subset of SFAs and schools (Level 3) to obtain information on students' dietary intakes and other student/family outcomes.

The study and its data collection methodologies have been designed to minimize respondent burden wherever possible without compromising data quality. Responses to all surveys will be voluntary and confidential. To ensure confidentiality, data will be reported only in tabular form, with analysis cells large to prevent identification of individual agencies, schools, or persons. The data will not be used to evaluate individual schools, school districts, or States. All respondents will be notified to these confidentiality assurances by letter (SFA and school respondents) or Informed Consent/Assent Forms (parents and children).

Estimate of Burden: For the preliminary mail survey, burden for the SFA Directors is estimated to be 90 minutes per response. (All burden estimates include time to prepare for and complete surveys of interview.) For all Level 1 sites, the burden estimates per response are as follows: SFA Director mail survey, 77 minutes; Kitchen Manager mail survey, 20 minutes; School Principal mail survey, 25 minutes. For the Level 1-only and Level 3 SFAs, the burden estimates for the self-administered, mail-based Menu Survey are: 330 minutes per SFA director, and 510 minutes per Kitchen Manager. For Level 1 in-person cost interviews, the burden estimates are as follows: SFA Director, 165 minutes; SFA Business Manager, 60 minutes; Kitchen Manager, 30 minutes; School Principal Interview, 55 minutes. For the Level 1 self-administered, mail-based Menu Survey, the burden estimates are: 330 minutes per SFA director and 690 minutes per Kitchen Manager. The burden of Level 3 in-person CAPI

interviews with students is 40 minutes for younger children and 55 minutes for youth. The burden for in-person CAPI interviews with parents of younger children (interview plus assisting in the child's 24-hour dietary recall) is estimated at 50 minutes; the CATI telephone interview with parents of youth will require 20 minutes. The burden for in-person CAPI second recalls is 25 minutes in school and 30 minutes at home for younger children, and 35 minutes for youth. Parents of younger children will spend 30 minutes on in-person CAPI secondary recall interviews.

Estimated Number of Respondents: SFA directors for Preliminary SFA survey, 2,079; for Level 1 questionnaire, 672; for Level 1 and 3 menu survey, 280; for cost interview and Level 2 menu survey, 392.

Kitchen Managers: For Level 1 questionnaire, 2,016; for Level 1 and 3 menu survey, 840; for cost interview and Level 2 menu survey, 1,176.

School Principals: For Level questionnaire, 2,016, for cost interview, 1,176, SFA Business Managers, 392; Children and Youth, 2,812; Parents, 2,250.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: Total of 37,140 hours, including 8,751 hours for SFA Directors; 21,924 hours for Kitchen Manager; 1,918 hours for Principals; 392 hours for SFA Business Managers; 716 hours for younger children; 2,393 hours for youth; and 1,046 hours for parents.

Comments: Comments are invited on (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, 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 methodology and assumptions 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 the use of appropriate, automated, electronic, mechanical or other technology. Comments should be sent to the address in the preamble. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: June 30, 2003.

Susan Offutt,

*Administrator, Economic Research Service,
USDA.*

[FR Doc. 03-18445 Filed 7-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-78-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Shasta County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)

AGENCY: USDA, Forest Service.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Shasta County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on July 30, 2003, in Anderson, CA. The purpose of the meeting will be to review project proposals, receive reports from working committees, and discuss the future of RAC appointments.

DATES: The meeting will be held on July 30, 2003, from 8 a.m. to noon.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at Sierra Pacific Industries, 19794 Riverside Avenue, Anderson, CA—off Oxyoke Road between Interstate-5 and Highway 273.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rebeca Franco, coordinator, USDA Forest Service, (530) 242-2322. E-mail: rfranco@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Discussion is limited to Forest Service staff and committee members. However, time will be provided for public input, giving individuals the opportunity to address the committee.

Dated: July 14, 2003.

J. Sharon Heywood,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 03-18416 Filed 7-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: Current Population Survey, October 2003 School Enrollment and Computer Use Supplement.

Form Number(s): None. All interviewing is done in person or over

the telephone using laptop computers and an automated survey instrument.

OMB Approval Number: 0607-0464.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 11,400.

Number of Respondents: 57,000.

Average Hours Per Response: 12 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The purpose of this request for review is to obtain clearance for the supplemental inquiry concerning school enrollment and computer use to be conducted in conjunction with the October 2003 Current Population Survey (CPS). The school enrollment supplement is the only source of National data on the age distribution and family characteristics of college students and the only source of demographic data on pre-primary school enrollment. As part of the federal government's efforts to collect data and provide timely information to local governments for policy-making decisions, the survey provides National trends in enrollment and progress in school. The Computer Use Supplement will provide a source of National and state level data on the demographic, social, and economic characteristics of Internet users and non-users. The development of statistical profiles of disadvantaged groups will permit public-private partnerships to target assistance to those that are most in need. It will provide information on where users access the Internet (at home, work, school, or other facility), the features used, and the reasons for non-use of the Internet. The data from this supplement will provide policy-relevant information on the U.S. population's access to, and use of, these technologies. Such information is essential for tracking the rapidly changing trends, understanding the nature of the changes, and planning policies and programs that will help make information technologies even more accessible across demographic groups and geographic regions.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C., Section 182 and Title 29 U.S.C., Sections 1-9.

OMB Desk Officer: Susan Schechter, (202) 395-5103.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dhynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Susan Schechter, OMB Desk Officer either by fax (202-395-7245) or e-mail (susan_schechter@omb.eop.gov).

Dated: July 15, 2003.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-18408 Filed 7-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission For OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (DOC) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: Current Industrial Reports (Wave I Mandatory & Voluntary Surveys).

Form Number(s): MQ325B, MQ327D, MA311D, MA325F, MA327C, MA331A, MA331B, MA331E, MA332Q, MA333A, MA333M, MA333N, MA334B, MA335A, MA335F, MA335H and MA335K.

OMB Approval Number: 0607-0392.

Type of Request: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 9,519.

Number of Respondents: 9,309.

Average Hours Per Response: 54 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau conducts a series of monthly, quarterly, and annual surveys as part of the Current Industrial Reports (CIR) program. The CIR program focuses primarily on the quantity and value of shipments of particular products and occasionally with data on production and inventories; unfilled orders, receipts, stocks and consumption; and comparative data on domestic production, exports, and imports of the products they cover.

Primary users of these data are government agencies, business firms, trade associations, and private research and consulting organizations. The Federal Reserve Board uses CIR data in its monthly index of industrial production as well as its annual revision to the index. The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) use the CIR data in the estimate of components of gross domestic product (GDP) and the estimate of output for productivity analysis, respectively. Many