

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments are requested regarding: whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by May 11, 2026 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Rural Utilities Service

Title: Substantially Underserved Trust Areas (SUTA), 7 CFR 1700, Subpart D.

OMB Control Number: 0572–0147.

Summary of Collection: The 2008 Farm Bill (Pub. L. 110–246, codified at 7 U.S.C. 906f) authorized the Substantially Underserved Trust Area (SUTA) initiative. The SUTA initiative gives the Secretary of Agriculture certain discretionary authorities relating to financial assistance terms and conditions that can enhance the financing possibilities in areas that are underserved by certain Rural Utilities Service (RUS) electric, water and waste, telecommunications and broadband programs. The SUTA initiative identifies the need for the program and improves the availability of RUS programs to reach trust areas when they are determined by the Secretary of Agriculture (such authority has been delegated to the Administrator of RUS) to be substantially underserved, as set forth in the regulations at 7 CFR part 1700, subpart D. RUS programs that are affected by this provision include: Rural Electrification Loans and Guaranteed Loans, New ERA and PACE Loans and Grants and High-Cost Energy Grants; Water and Waste Disposal Loans, Guaranteed Loans and Grants; Rural Broadband Loans, Loan/Grant Combinations, and Loan Guarantees; Community Connect Program and Rural eConnectivity Program.

Need and Use of the Information:

RUS provides loans, loan guarantee and grant programs for rural electric, water and waste, and telecommunications and broadband infrastructure. Eligible applicants notify RUS in writing, at the time of application, that it seeks consideration under the requirements of 7 CFR 1700, subpart D. The data covered by this collection are those materials necessary to allow the agency to determine applicant and community eligibility, and an explanation and documentation of the high need for the benefits of the SUTA provisions. Without this information RUS would not be able to make a prudent loan decision.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 72.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 2160.

Levi S. Harrell,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2026–06790 Filed 4–8–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Child Nutrition Programs: Income Eligibility Guidelines

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the Department's annual adjustments to the Income Eligibility Guidelines to be used in determining eligibility for free and reduced-price meals, free milk, and Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) benefits for the period from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. These guidelines are used by schools, institutions, and facilities participating in the National School Lunch Program (and Commodity School Program), School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program for Children, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and Summer Food Service Program, as well as for States and Indian Tribal Organizations that administer the Summer EBT for Children Program. The annual adjustments are required by section 9 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act. The guidelines are intended to direct benefits to those children most in need and are revised annually to account for changes in the Consumer Price Index.

DATES: July 1, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Penny Burke, Program Monitoring and Operational Support Division, Child Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, United States Department of Agriculture, 1320 Braddock Place, Suite 401, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Tel. (720) 822–8597.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of that Act.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), no recordkeeping or reporting

requirements have been included that are subject to approval from the Office of Management and Budget.

The affected programs are listed in the Assistance Listings (<https://sam.gov/>) under No. 10.553, No. 10.555, No. 10.556, No. 10.558, and No. 10.559 and are subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. (See 2 CFR part 415).

Background

Pursuant to sections 9(b)(1), 13A(h)(2), and 17(c)(4) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(b)(1), 42 U.S.C. 1762(h)(2), and 42 U.S.C. 1766(c)(4)), and sections 3(a)(6) and 4(e)(1)(A) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1772(a)(6) and 1773(e)(1)(A)), the Department annually issues the Income Eligibility Guidelines for free and reduced-price meals for the National School Lunch Program (7 CFR part 210), the Commodity School Program (7 CFR part 210), School Breakfast Program (7 CFR part 220), Summer Food Service Program (7 CFR part 225), and Child and Adult Care Food Program (7 CFR part 226), free milk in the Special Milk Program for Children (7 CFR part 215), and program benefits in the Summer EBT Program (7 CFR part 292). These eligibility guidelines are based on the Federal income poverty guidelines and are stated by household size. The guidelines are used to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price meals, free milk, and Summer EBT benefits in accordance with applicable program rules.

Definition of Income

In accordance with the Department's policy as provided in the Food and

Nutrition Service publication, Eligibility Manual for School Meals, "income," as the term is used in this notice, means income before any deductions such as income taxes, Social Security taxes, insurance premiums, charitable contributions, and bonds. It includes the following: (1) monetary compensation for services, including wages, salary, commissions or fees; (2) net income from nonfarm self-employment; (3) net income from farm self-employment; (4) Social Security; (5) dividends or interest on savings or bonds or income from estates or trusts; (6) net rental income; (7) public assistance or welfare payments; (8) unemployment compensation; (9) government civilian employee or military retirement, or pensions or veterans payments; (10) private pensions or annuities; (11) alimony or child support payments; (12) regular contributions from persons not living in the household; (13) net royalties; and (14) other cash income. Other cash income would include cash amounts received or withdrawn from any source including savings, investments, trust accounts, and other resources that would be available to pay the price of a child's meal.

"Income," as the term is used in this notice, does *not* include any income or benefits received under any Federal programs that are excluded from consideration as income by any statutory prohibition. Furthermore, the value of meals, milk, or EBT benefits to children shall not be considered as income to their households for other benefit programs in accordance with the prohibitions in section 12(e) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act and section 11(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1760(e) and 1780(b)).

The Income Eligibility Guidelines

The following are the Income Eligibility Guidelines to be effective from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. The Department's guidelines for free meals and milk, and reduced price meals were obtained by multiplying the year 2026 Federal income poverty guidelines by 1.30 and 1.85, respectively, and by rounding the result upward to the next whole dollar.

This notice displays only the annual Federal poverty guidelines issued by the Department of Health and Human Services because the monthly and weekly Federal poverty guidelines are not used to determine the Income Eligibility Guidelines. The chart details the free and reduced price eligibility criteria for monthly income, income received twice monthly (24 payments per year), income received every two weeks (26 payments per year), and weekly income.

Income calculations are made based on the following formulas: monthly income is calculated by dividing the annual income by 12; twice monthly income is computed by dividing annual income by 24; income received every two weeks is calculated by dividing annual income by 26; and weekly income is computed by dividing annual income by 52. All numbers are rounded upward to the next whole dollar. The numbers reflected in this notice for a family of four in the 48 contiguous States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the territories represent an increase of 2.6 percent over last year's level for a family of the same size.

Authority: Section 9(b)(1) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758 (b)(1)).

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES										
Effective from					July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027					
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES	REDUCED PRICE MEALS =			185% TWICE PER MONTH			FREE MEALS =		130% TWICE PER MONTH
		ANNUAL	MONTHLY	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY	
48 CONTIGUOUS STATES, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, GUAM, AND TERRITORIES										
1	15,960	29,526	2,461	1,231	1,136	568	1,729	865	798	399
2	21,640	40,034	3,337	1,669	1,540	770	2,345	1,173	1,082	541
3	27,320	50,542	4,212	2,106	1,944	972	2,960	1,480	1,366	683
4	33,000	61,050	5,088	2,544	2,349	1,175	3,575	1,788	1,650	825
5	38,680	71,558	5,964	2,982	2,753	1,377	4,191	2,096	1,934	967
6	44,360	82,066	6,839	3,420	3,157	1,579	4,806	2,403	2,218	1,109
7	50,040	92,574	7,715	3,858	3,561	1,781	5,421	2,711	2,502	1,251
8	55,720	103,082	8,591	4,296	3,965	1,983	6,037	3,019	2,786	1,393
For each additional family member, add	5,680	10,508	876	438	405	203	616	308	284	142
ALASKA										
1	19,950	36,908	3,076	1,538	1,420	710	2,162	1,081	998	499
2	27,050	50,043	4,171	2,086	1,925	963	2,931	1,466	1,353	677
3	34,150	63,178	5,265	2,633	2,430	1,215	3,700	1,850	1,708	854
4	41,250	76,313	6,360	3,180	2,936	1,468	4,469	2,235	2,063	1,032
5	48,350	89,448	7,454	3,727	3,441	1,721	5,238	2,619	2,418	1,209
6	55,450	102,583	8,549	4,275	3,946	1,973	6,008	3,004	2,773	1,387
7	62,550	115,718	9,644	4,822	4,451	2,226	6,777	3,389	3,128	1,564
8	69,650	128,853	10,738	5,369	4,966	2,478	7,546	3,773	3,483	1,742
For each additional family member, add	7,100	13,135	1,095	548	506	253	770	385	355	178
HAWAII										
1	18,360	33,966	2,831	1,416	1,307	654	1,989	995	918	459
2	24,890	46,047	3,838	1,919	1,772	886	2,697	1,349	1,245	623
3	31,420	58,127	4,844	2,422	2,236	1,118	3,404	1,702	1,571	786
4	37,950	70,208	5,851	2,926	2,701	1,351	4,112	2,056	1,898	949
5	44,480	82,288	6,858	3,429	3,165	1,583	4,819	2,410	2,224	1,112
6	51,010	94,369	7,865	3,933	3,630	1,815	5,527	2,764	2,551	1,276
7	57,540	106,449	8,871	4,436	4,095	2,048	6,234	3,117	2,877	1,439
8	64,070	118,530	9,878	4,939	4,559	2,280	6,941	3,471	3,204	1,602
For each additional family member, add	6,530	12,081	1,007	504	465	233	708	354	327	164

Patrick A. Penn,

Deputy Under Secretary, Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services.

[FR Doc. 2026-06842 Filed 4-8-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-C

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection

Activities: Proposed Collection; 60-Day Public Comment Request for the Study Food Price Data Collection in the Non-Contiguous States and U.S. Territories

AGENCY: Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion (CNPP), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), United States Department of Agriculture (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 for the Food Price Data Collection in the Non-Contiguous States and U.S. Territories Study. This is a new information collection request. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) uses information on current food prices for several applications related to research, policy, and consumer education. Accurate food price data are crucial for informing federal nutrition and agricultural policies such as the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP), which estimates the cost of a healthy diet. The purpose of this study is to fill a gap in existing food price data by collecting and estimating the prices of foods and beverages in the TFP market basket in seven States and Territories: Alaska, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Hawaii, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before June 8, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be sent to: Kevin Kuczynski, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1320 Braddock Place, Floor 4, Suite 4080, Alexandria, VA 22314. Comments may also be submitted via email to kevin.kuczynski@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 collected should be directed to Kevin Kuczynski by phone at 703-305-2153 or email at kevin.kuczynski@usda.gov.

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: Food Price Data Collection in the Non-Contiguous States and U.S. Territories.

Form Number: Not applicable.

OMB Number: 0584-NEW.

Expiration Date: Not yet determined.

Type of Request: New collection.

Abstract: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) uses information on current food prices for several applications related to research, policy, and consumer education. An important application of data on food prices is in calculating cost adjustments to the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) to reflect the food prices in specific areas of the country as required by law. Retail scanner data reflect the best source of information on food prices currently available for adjusting the cost of the TFP to reflect local food prices. However, existing retail scanner data in specific locations are limited—particularly in the U.S. Territories of Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)—and increasing levels of aggregation present in the scanner data could limit future analyses for Alaska and Hawaii.

The purpose of this study is to answer the question, “What are the prices of foods and beverages in the TFP market basket in each of the non-contiguous States and U.S. Territories?” and to explore development and application of a standardized approach for collecting sufficiently representative food price data. Study objectives include:

1. Develop a detailed plan for collecting representative food price data

in each of the non-contiguous States and U.S. Territories.

2. Collect food price data in each of the non-contiguous States and U.S. Territories using the data collection approach developed.

The study will use multiple methods to gather food price data, including: (1) Electronic retailer data (retailer-provided sales data from point-of-sale system, retailer-provided price data from inventory management system, commercial scanner data); (2) WIC EBT data; (3) Web scraped data (from retailer website); and (4) In-store survey data (field data collection).

Affected Public: Members of the public affected by the data collection include: (1) State and local governments, (2) business for-profit agencies, and (3) business not-for-profit organizations.

1. **State and local governments:** Staff from the 7 non-contiguous States and Territories (2 States and 5 U.S. territories) will participate in data collection activities.

2. **Business for-profit agencies:** Staff from 244 retailers in the 7 non-contiguous States and Territories (39 in Alaska, 31 in American Samoa, 30 in CNMI, 36 in Guam, 40 in Hawaii, 42 in Puerto Rico, and 26 in U.S. Virgin Islands) will participate in the study.

3. **Business not-for-profit organizations:** Staff from 21 organizations in the 7 non-contiguous States and Territories will participate in the study.

Estimated Number of Respondents
The total estimated number of respondents for the study is 1,299: 546 staff representing State and local government agencies, 732 staff from business for-profit organizations, and up to 21 business not-for-profit organizations. We anticipate all State government staff to be responsive to outreach. Of the 753 businesses contacted (732 for-profit and 21 not-for-profit), we anticipate 258 to be responsive and 495 to be nonresponsive. The breakdown of respondents follows:

1. **State and local staff:** Of the 21 State staff contacted to participate in the study (7 SNAP/NAP staff, 7 WIC staff, 7 Department of Health Staff), 21 staff are estimated to participate in the study and 0 to be nonresponsive. Of the 525 local SNAP/NAP staff contacted to participate in the study, 525 are estimated to participate in the study and 0 to be nonresponsive.

2. **Business for-profit organizations:** Of the 732 business for-profit organizations contacted to participate in the study, 244 are estimated to participate in the study and 488 to be nonresponsive.