

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

Food and Nutrition Service

Commodity Supplemental Food Program: Elderly Income Guidelines

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the adjusted income guidelines to be used by State agencies in determining the eligibility of elderly persons applying to participate in the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). These guidelines are to be used in conjunction with the CSFP regulations under 7 CFR Part 247.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lillie F. Ragan, Assistant Branch Chief, Household Programs Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22302-1594, or telephone (703) 305-2662.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory Flexibility Act

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.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This notice does not contain reporting or recordkeeping requirements subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507).

Executive Order 12372

This program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs under No. 10.565 and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with

State and local officials (7 CFR Part 3015, Subpart V, 48 FR 29112).

Description

On December 23, 1985, the President signed the Food Security Act of 1985 (Pub. L. 99-198). This legislation amended sections 5(f) and (g) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note) to require that the Secretary permit agencies administering the CSFP to serve elderly persons if such service can be provided without reducing service levels for women, infants, and children. The law also mandates establishment of income eligibility requirements for elderly participation. Prior to enactment of Pub. L. 99-198, elderly participation was restricted by law to three designated pilot projects which served the elderly in accordance with agreements with the Department.

In order to implement the CSFP mandates of Pub. L. 99-198, the Department published an interim rule on September 17, 1986 at 51 FR 32895 and a final rule on February 18, 1988, at 58 FR 8287. These regulations defined "elderly persons" as those who are 60 years or older (7 CFR 247.2). The final rule further stipulates that elderly persons certified on or after September 17, 1986 must have "household income at or below 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines published annually by the Department of Health and Human Services" (7 CFR 247.7(a)(3)).

The Federal Poverty Income Guidelines are revised annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index. The revision for 1998 was published by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in the **Federal Register** for February 24, 1998 at 63 FR 9235. To establish income limits of 130 percent, the guidelines were multiplied by 1.30 and the results rounded up to the next whole dollar.

At this time, the Department is publishing the income limits of 130 percent of the poverty income guidelines. The table in this notice contains the income limits by household size to be used for elderly certification in the CSFP for the period July 1, 1998-June 30, 1999.

Effective July 1, 1998-June 30, 1999—FNS Income Eligibility Guidelines for the Elderly in CSFP (130 Percent of Poverty Income Guidelines)

Family size	Annual	Month	Week
1	10,465	873	202
2	14,105	1,176	272
3	17,745	1,479	342
4	21,385	1,783	412
5	25,025	2,086	482
6	28,665	2,389	552
7	32,305	2,693	622
8	35,945	2,996	692
For each additional family member add ..	+3,640	+304	+70

Dated: April 20, 1998.

Yvette S. Jackson,

Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

[FR Doc. 98-11183 Filed 4-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Inviting Preapplications for Technical Assistance for Rural Transportation Systems

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), an Agency within the Rural Development mission area, announces the availability of one single \$500,000 grant from the passenger transportation portion of the Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) Program for Fiscal Year 1998 to be competitively awarded to a qualified national organization.

DATES: The deadline for receipt of a preapplication in the Rural Development State Office is June 15, 1998. Preapplications received at a Rural Development State Office after that date will not be considered for Fiscal Year 1998 funding.

ADDRESSES: For further information, entities wishing to apply for assistance should contact a Rural Development State Office to receive further information and copies of the preapplication package. A list of Rural Development State Offices follows:

Alabama

USDA Rural Development State Office, Sterling Centre, Suite 601, 4121 Carmichael Road, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683, (334) 279-3400

Alaska

USDA Rural Development State Office, 800
West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK
99645, (907) 745-2176

Arizona

USDA Rural Development State Office, 3003
North Central Avenue, Suite 900, Phoenix,
AZ 85012, (602) 280-8700

Arkansas

USDA Rural Development State Office,
700 West Capitol Ave. Rm. 5411,
Little Rock, AR 72201-3225,
(501) 324-6281

California

USDA Rural Development State Office,
194 West Main Street, Suite F,
Woodland, CA 95695-2915,
(530) 668-2000

Colorado

USDA Rural Development State Office,
655 Parfet Street, Room E-100,
Lakewood, CO 80215,
(303) 236-2801

Delaware and Maryland

USDA Rural Development State Office,
5201 South Dupont Hwy,
P.O. Box 400,
Camden, DE 19934-9998,
(302) 697-4300

Florida/Virgin Islands

USDA Rural Development State Office,
4440 NW 25th Place,
P.O. Box 147010,
Gainesville, FL 32614-7010,
(352) 338-3400

Georgia

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Stephens Federal Building 355 E. Hancock
Avenue,
Athens, GA 30601,
(706) 546-2162

Hawaii/Western Pacific Territories

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Federal Building, Room 311, 154
Waianuenue Avenue,
Hilo, HI 96720,
(808) 933-3000

Idaho

USDA Rural Development State Office,
3232 Elder Street,
Boise, ID 83705,
(208) 378-5600

Illinois

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Illini Plaza, Suite 103,
1817 South Neil Street,
Champaign, IL 61820,
(217) 398-5235

Indiana

USDA Rural Development State Office,
5975 Lakeside Boulevard,
Indianapolis, IN 46278,
(317) 290-3100

Iowa

USDA Rural Development State Office,

Federal Building, Room 873,
210 Walnut Street,
Des Moines, IA 50309,
(515) 284-4663

Kansas

USDA Rural Development State Office,
1200 SW Executive Drive,
P.O. Box 4653,
Topeka, KS 66604,
(913) 271-2700

Kentucky

USDA Rural Development State Office,
771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200,
Lexington, KY 40503,
(606) 224-7300

Louisiana

USDA Rural Development State Office
3727 Government Street,
Alexandria, LA 71302,
(318) 473-7920

Maine

USDA Rural Development State Office
444 Stillwater Avenue, Suite 2,
P.O. Box 405,
Bangor, ME 04402-0405,
(207) 990-9106

Massachusetts/Rhode Island/Connecticut

USDA Rural Development State Office,
451 West Street,
Amherst, MA 01002,
(413) 253-4300

Michigan

USDA Rural Development State Office,
3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200,
East Lansing, MI 48823,
(517) 337-6635

Minnesota

USDA Rural Development State Office,
410 AgriBank Building,
375 Jackson Street,
St. Paul, MN 55101,
(612) 602-7800

Mississippi

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Federal Building, Suite 831,
100 West Capitol Street,
Jackson, MS 39269,
(601) 965-4316

Missouri

USDA Rural Development State Office,
601 Business Loop 70 West,
Parkade Center, Suite 235,
Columbia, MO 65203,
(573) 876-0976

Montana

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Unit 1, Suite B,
900 Technology Boulevard,
Bozeman, MT 59715,
(406) 585-2580

Nebraska

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Federal Building, Room 152,
100 Centennial Mall N,
Lincoln, NE 68508,
(402) 437-5551

Nevada

USDA Rural Development State Office,
1390 South Curry Street,
Carson City, NV 89703-5405,
(702) 887-1222

New Jersey

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Tarnsfield Plaza, Suite 22,
790 Woodlane Road,
Mt. Holly, NJ 08060,
(609) 265-3600

New Mexico

USDA Rural Development State Office,
6200 Jefferson Street, Room 255,
Albuquerque, NM 87109,
(505) 761-4950

New York

USDA Rural Development State Office,
The Galleries of Syracuse,
441 South Salina Street, Suite 357,
Syracuse, NY 13202,
(315) 477-6400

North Carolina

USDA Rural Development State Office,
4405 Bland Road, Suite 260,
Raleigh, NC 27609,
(919) 873-2000

North Dakota

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Federal Building, Room 208,
220 East Rosser, P.O. Box 1737,
Bismarck, ND 58502,
(701) 250-4781

Ohio

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Federal Building, Room 507,
200 North High Street,
Columbus, OH 43215,
(614) 469-5606

Oklahoma

USDA Rural Development State Office,
100 USDA, Suite 108,
Stillwater, OK 74074,
(405) 742-1000

Oregon

USDA Rural Development State Office,
101 SW Main Street, Suite 1410,
Portland, OR 97204-2333,
(503) 414-3300

Pennsylvania

USDA Rural Development State Office,
1 Credit Union Place, Suite 330,
Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996,
(717) 237-2299

Puerto Rico

USDA Rural Development State Office,
New San Juan Office Building, Rm. 501,
159 Carlos E. Chardon Street,
Hato Rey, PR 00918-5481,
(787) 766-5095

South Carolina

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Strom Thurmond Federal Building,
1835 Assembly Street, Room 1007,
Columbia, SC 29201,
(803) 765-5163

South Dakota

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Federal Building, Room 210,
200 4th Street SW,
Huron, SD 57350,
(605) 352-1100

Tennessee

USDA Rural Development State Office,
3322 West End Avenue, Suite 300,
Nashville, TN 37203-1071,
(615) 783-1300

Texas

USDA Rural Development State Office,
101 South Main, Suite 102,
Temple, TX 76501,
(254) 742-9700

Utah

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building,
125 South State Street, Rm. 4311,
P.O. Box 11350,
Salt Lake City, UT 84147-0350,
(801) 524-4063

Vermont/New Hampshire

USDA Rural Development State Office,
City Center, 3rd Floor,
89 Main Street,
Montpelier, VT 05602,
(802) 828-6002

Virginia

USDA Rural Development State Office,
Culpeper Building, Suite 238,
1606 Santa Rosa Road,
Richmond, VA 23229,
(804) 287-1550

Washington

USDA Rural Development State Office,
1835 Blacklake Boulevard, SW., Suite B,
Olympia, WA 98512-5715,
(360) 704-7700

West Virginia

USDA Rural Development State Office,
75 High Street, Room 320,
P.O. Box 678,
Morgantown, WV 26505,
(304) 291-4791

Wisconsin

USDA Rural Development State Office,
4949 Kirschling Court,
Stevens Point, WI 54481,
(715) 345-7600

Wyoming

USDA Rural Development State Office,
100 East B, Federal Building, Rm 1005,
P.O. Box 82602,
Casper, WY 82601,
(307) 261-6300

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The passenger transportation portion of the RBEG program is authorized by section 310B(c)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (CONACT) (7

U.S.C. 1932). The RBEG program is administered on behalf of RBS at the State level by the Rural Development State Offices. The primary objective of the program is to improve the economic conditions of rural areas. Assistance provided to rural areas under this program may include on-site technical assistance to local and regional governments, public transit agencies, and related nonprofit and for-profit organizations in rural areas; the development of training materials; and the provision of necessary training assistance to local officials and agencies in rural areas.

Awards under the RBEG passenger transportation program are made on a competitive basis using specific selection criteria contained in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, and in accordance with section 310B(c)(2) of the CONACT. That subpart also contains the information required to be in the preapplication package. Up to 25 Administrator's points may be added to an application's priority score based on the extent to which the application targets assistance to Empowerment Zones/Enterprise Communities, Champion Communities, or other rural communities that have experienced pervasive poverty, out-migration of population, or sudden severe structural changes in the local economy. A project that scores the greatest number of points based on the selection criteria and Administrator's points will be selected. Preapplications will be tentatively scored by the State Offices and submitted to the National Office for review, final scoring, and selection.

To be considered "national", a qualified organization is required to provide evidence that it operates in multi-state areas. There is not a requirement to use the grant funds in a multi-state area. Under this program, grants are made to a qualified private nonprofit organization for the provision of technical assistance and training to rural communities for the purpose of improving passenger transportation services or facilities. Public bodies are not eligible for passenger transportation RBEG grants.

Refer to section 310B(c)(2) (7 U.S.C. 1932) of the CONACT and 7 CFR part 1942 subpart G for the information collection requirements of the RBEG program.

Fiscal Year 1998 Preapplication Submission

Each preapplication received in a Rural Development State Office will be

reviewed to determine if the preapplication is consistent with the eligible purposes outlined in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, and section 310B(c)(2) of the CONACT. Each selection priorities criterion outlined in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, section 1942.305(b)(3), must be addressed in the preapplication. Failure to address any of the criteria will result in a zero-point score for that criterion and will impact the overall evaluation of the preapplication. Copies of 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, will be provided to any interested applicant making a request to a Rural Development State Office listed in this notice. All projects to receive technical assistance through these passenger transportation grant funds are to be identified when the preapplication is submitted to the Rural Development State Office. Multiple project preapplications must identify each individual project, indicate the amount of funding requested for each individual project, and address the criteria as stated above for each individual project. For a multiple-project preapplication, the average of the individual project scores will be the score for that preapplication.

All eligible preapplications, along with tentative scoring sheets and the Rural Development State Director's recommendation, will be referred to the National Office no later than July 15, 1998, for final scoring and selection for award.

The National Office will score preapplications based on the grant selection criteria and weights contained in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, and Administrator's points, and will select an awardee subject to the awardee's satisfactory submission of a formal application and related materials in the manner and time frame established by RBS in accordance with 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G. It is anticipated that the grant awardee will be selected by August 28, 1998. All applicants will be notified by RBS of the Agency decision on the award.

The information collection requirements within this Notice are covered under OMB No. 0570-0022 and 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G.

Dated: April 20, 1998.

Wilbur F. Hagy III,

Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 98-11182 Filed 4-27-98; 8:45 am]

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