

Signed at Washington, DC, March 21, 2012.

Joseph T. Reilly,

Associate Administrator.

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BILLING CODE 3410-20-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Business-Cooperative Service's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the program for the 1890 Land Grant Institutions Rural Entrepreneurial Outreach and Development Initiative Program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by June 25, 2012 to be considered.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Natalie Melton, Program Management Specialist, Rural Development, USDA, STOP 3250, Room 4217, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-3250. Telephone: (202) 690-1371, email: Natalie.melton@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 1890 Land Grant Institutions Rural Entrepreneurial Outreach and Development Initiative Program.

OMB Number: 0570-0041.

Expiration Date of Approval: July 31, 2012.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The collection of this information will allow the Agency to determine the eligibility of the applicants; determine the specific purpose for which the funds will be utilized; determine the timeframes or dates by which activities surrounding the use of funds will be accomplished; determine the feasibility of the project; and to evaluate applicants' experience in managing similar activities.

Without the collection of this information, there would be no basis on which to award funds.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated to average 2.5 hours per response.

Respondents: Only 1890 Land Grant Institutions of Higher Education and Tuskegee University.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 18.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 17.

Estimated Number of Responses: 297.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 728 hours.

Copies of this information collected can be obtained from Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch: (202) 692-0040.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of Rural Development, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of Rural Development's estimate of the burden to collect the required information, including the validity of the strategy 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 through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments on the paperwork burden may be sent to Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0742, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0742. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: April 18, 2012.

Judith A. Canales,

Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 2012-9975 Filed 4-24-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Announcement of Small, Socially-Disadvantaged Producer Grant (SSDPG) Application Deadlines in Fiscal Year 2012

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of funding availability.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service announces the availability of approximately \$3 million

in competitive grant funds for the FY 2012 SSDPG program. See the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012 (2012 Appropriations Act) (Pub. L. 112-55). We request proposals from applicants that will provide technical assistance to small, socially-disadvantaged agricultural producers in rural areas. Eligible applicants include Cooperatives, Groups of Cooperatives, and Cooperative Development Centers. The maximum award per grant is \$175,000.

DATES: Completed applications for grants must be submitted on paper or electronically according to the following deadlines:

Paper copies must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than July 24, 2012 to be eligible for FY 2012 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2012 grant funding.

Electronic copies must be received by April 25, 2012, to be eligible for FY 2012 grant funding. Late applications will not be eligible for FY 2012 grant funding.

ADDRESSES: Application materials for the SSDPG program may be obtained at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/BCP_SSDPG.html or by contacting your USDA Rural Development State Office. Contact information for State Offices can be found at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/recd_map.html

Paper applications must be submitted to the USDA Rural Development State Office in the State where your organization's main office is located. Electronic applications must be submitted through the Grants.gov Web site at <http://www.grants.gov>. Please read the instructions found on the Grants.gov Web site and follow them carefully.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Visit the program Web site at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/BCP_SSDPG.html for application assistance or contact your USDA Rural Development State Office. You are strongly encouraged to contact your State Office well in advance of the deadline to discuss your Project and ask any questions about the application process.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Overview

Federal Agency Name: USDA Rural Business Cooperative Service.

Funding Opportunity Title: Small, Socially-Disadvantaged Producer Grant.

Announcement Type: Initial announcement.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 10.77.1