

accommodations for a disability or other assistance, please submit your request at least seven (7) working days prior to the meeting, to give EPA sufficient time to process your request. All requests should be sent to the email, listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

**Matthew Tejada,**

*Director for the Office of Environmental Justice.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–HQ–ORD–2015–0765; FRL–9120–01–ORD]

### Request for Nominations of Experts to the EPA Office of Research and Development's Board of Scientific Counselors

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking nominations for technical experts to serve on its Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC), a federal advisory committee to the Office of Research and Development (ORD). Submission of nominations will be made via the BOSC website at: <https://www.epa.gov/bosc>.

**DATES:** Nominations should be submitted by November 12, 2021, per instructions below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Any member of the public needing additional information regarding this Notice and Request for Nominations may contact Mr. Tom Tracy, Office of Science Policy, Office of Research and Development, Mail Code B343–01, 109 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711; via phone/voice mail at: (919) 541–4334; or via email at: [tracy.tom@epa.gov](mailto:tracy.tom@epa.gov). General information concerning the BOSC can be found at the following website: <https://www.epa.gov/bosc>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The BOSC is a chartered Federal Advisory Committee established by the EPA to provide independent scientific and technical peer review, advice, consultation, and recommendations about ORD. As a Federal Advisory Committee, the BOSC conducts business in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App. 2) and related regulations.

The BOSC is comprised of an Executive Committee and one or more supporting subcommittee(s). Potential subcommittee focuses are: Social and Community Science, and Climate Change. Please visit <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-office-research-and-development-ord> to learn more about ORD's research programs.

Members of the BOSC constitute a distinguished body of non-EPA scientists, engineers, and economists who are experts in their respective fields. EPA will consider nominees from industry, business, public and private research institutes or organizations, academia, government (federal, state, local, and tribal) and non-government organizations, and other relevant interest areas. Members are appointed by the EPA Administrator to serve as Special Government Employees and provide independent expert advice to the agency for a term of up to six years. EPA values and welcomes diversity. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply regardless of gender, race, disability, or ethnicity.

#### Expertise Sought

The chartered BOSC provides scientific advice to the EPA Administrator on a variety of EPA science and research topics. All the work of BOSC standing committees and ad-hoc panels is conducted under the auspices of the chartered BOSC. The chartered BOSC members review all BOSC standing committee and ad-hoc panel draft reports and determine whether each meets the BOSC's criteria and high-quality standards required to deliver them to the EPA Administrator. The BOSC Staff Office invites nominations of individuals to serve on the chartered BOSC with expertise or extensive experience in the following scientific disciplines and topic areas as they relate to human health and the environment:

Agronomy, Soil Science  
Air Quality  
Atmospheric Sciences  
Biology and Microbiology  
Chemistry (including Environmental Chemistry)  
Climate Science and Change  
Community and Citizen Science  
Community Engagement  
Contaminated Site Remediation  
Ecology  
Ecosystem Services  
Emergency Management  
Energy and the Environment  
Environmental Economics  
Environmental Engineering  
Environmental Justice  
Environmental Life Cycle Assessment  
Environmental Modeling  
Epidemiology

Exposure Science and Assessment  
Forestry and Natural Resource Management  
Information and Data Science  
Materials/Waste Management Disaster Science  
New Approach Methods  
Novel Analytical Methods  
Physiologically based Pharmacokinetic (PBPK) Modeling  
Public Health  
Research Program Evaluation  
Risk Assessment (including Human Health, Ecological, Environmental)  
Science Policy/Public Policy  
Social, Behavioral and Decision Sciences  
Sustainability  
Systems Science  
Toxicology  
Water Quality (including Drinking Water, Surface Water, Groundwater)  
Water Quantity and Reuse  
Watershed Management

#### Selection Criteria

The BOSC is a balanced and diverse expert committee. The committee and each of its subcommittees strives to possess necessary domains of expertise, depth and breadth of knowledge, and diverse and balanced scientific perspectives. Nominations will be evaluated on the basis of several criteria including: (a) Demonstrated scientific and/or technical credentials and disciplinary expertise, knowledge, and experience in relevant fields; (b) availability to serve and willingness to commit time to the committee (approximately one to three meetings per year both by teleconferences and possibly face-to-face meetings); (c) absence of financial conflicts of interest; (d) absence of an appearance of a lack of impartiality; (e) demonstrated ability to work constructively and effectively on committees; and (f) background and experiences that would contribute to the diversity of viewpoints on the Executive Committee or Subcommittee, *e.g.*, workforce sector, geographical location, social, cultural, and educational backgrounds, and professional affiliations.

#### Process and Deadline for Submitting Nominations

Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified persons to be considered for appointment to the advisory committee. Nominations should be submitted via the BOSC website at: <https://www.epa.gov/bosc>. Nominations should be submitted no later than November 12, 2021. To receive full consideration, nominations should include all the information requested. EPA's nomination form requests: Contact information about the person making the nomination; contact information about the nominee; the disciplinary and specific areas of

expertise of the nominee; committee preference; the nominee's curriculum vita and/or resume; and additional information that would be useful for considering the nomination such as background and qualifications (e.g., current position, educational background, expertise, research areas), experience relevant to one or more of ORD's research programs, service on other advisory committees and professional societies, and availability to participate as a member of the Executive Committee and/or Subcommittee. Persons having questions about the nomination procedures, or who are unable to submit nominations through the BOSC website, should contact Mr. Tom Tracy, as indicated above under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

**Mary Ross,**

*Director, Office of Science Advisor, Policy and Engagement.*

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[FR ID: 53394]

### Privacy Act of 1974; Matching Program.

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of a new matching program.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended ("Privacy Act"), this document announces the modification of a computer matching program the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC" or "Commission" or "Agency") and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) will conduct with the Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services (DHS) ("Agency"). The purpose of this matching program is to verify the eligibility of applicants to and subscribers of Lifeline (existing purpose) and the new Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, both of which are administered by USAC under the direction of the FCC. More information about these programs is provided in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below.

**DATES:** Written comments are due on or before November 17, 2021. This computer matching program will commence on November 17, 2021, and

will conclude 18 months after the effective date.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Margaret Drake, FCC, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554, or to [Privacy@fcc.gov](mailto:Privacy@fcc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Margaret Drake at 202-418-1707 or [Privacy@fcc.gov](mailto:Privacy@fcc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Lifeline program provides support for discounted broadband and voice services to low-income consumers. Lifeline is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) under FCC direction. Consumers qualify for Lifeline through proof of income or participation in a qualifying program, such as Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), Federal Public Housing Assistance, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit, or various Tribal-specific federal assistance programs.

The Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBBP) was established by Congress in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, Public Law 116-260, 134 Stat. 1182. EBBP is a program that helps low-income Americans obtain discounted broadband service and one-time co-pay for a connected device (laptop, desktop computer or tablet). This program was created specifically to assist American families' access to broadband, which has proven to be essential for work, school, and healthcare during the public health emergency that exists as a result of COVID-19. A household may qualify for the EBBP benefit under various criteria, including an individual qualifying for the FCC's Lifeline program.

In a Report and Order adopted on March 31, 2016, (81 FR 33026, May 24, 2016) (*2016 Lifeline Modernization Order*), the Commission ordered USAC to create a National Lifeline Eligibility Verifier ("National Verifier"), including the National Lifeline Eligibility Database (LED), that would match data about Lifeline applicants and subscribers with other data sources to verify the eligibility of an applicant or subscriber. The Commission found that the National Verifier would reduce compliance costs for Lifeline service providers, improve service for Lifeline subscribers, and reduce waste, fraud, and abuse in the program.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 directs the FCC to leverage the National Verifier to verify applicants' eligibility for EBBP. The purpose of this matching program is to verify the eligibility of Lifeline and EBBP

applicants and subscribers by determining whether they receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits administered by the Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services.

### Participating Agencies

Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services.

### Authority for Conducting the Matching Program

The authority for the FCC's EBBP is Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, Public Law 116-260, 134 Stat. 1182; 47 CFR part 54. The authority for the FCC's Lifeline program is 47 U.S.C. 254; 47 CFR 54.400 through 54.423; Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization, *et al.*, Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, 31 FCC Rcd 3962, 4006-21, paras. 126-66 (2016) (*2016 Lifeline Modernization Order*).

### Purpose(s)

In the 2016 Lifeline Modernization Order, the FCC required USAC to develop and operate the National Verifier to improve efficiency and reduce waste, fraud, and abuse in the Lifeline program. The stated purpose of the National Verifier is "to increase the integrity and improve the performance of the Lifeline program for the benefit of a variety of Lifeline participants, including Lifeline providers, subscribers, states, community-based organizations, USAC, and the Commission." 31 FCC Rcd 3962, 4006, para. 126. To help determine whether Lifeline applicants and subscribers are eligible for Lifeline benefits, the Order contemplates that the USAC-operated LED will communicate with information systems and databases operated by other Federal and State agencies. *Id.* at 4011-2, paras. 135-7. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 directs the FCC to leverage the National Verifier to verify applicants' eligibility for EBBP.

The purpose of this modified matching agreement is to verify the eligibility of applicants and subscribers to Lifeline (existing purpose), as well as to the new EBBP and to other Federal programs that use qualification for Lifeline as an eligibility criterion. This new agreement would replace the existing agreement with Georgia, which permits matching only for the Lifeline program by checking an applicant's/subscriber's participation in SNAP. Under FCC rules, consumers receiving these benefits qualify for Lifeline discounts and also for EBBP benefits.