

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE****Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement****Notice of Request for Approval of an Information Collection; National Scholars Program; Withdrawal**

**AGENCY:** Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE), USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice; withdrawal.

**SUMMARY:** OPPE is withdrawing a Notice of the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program published in the **Federal Register** on January 3, 2022.

**DATES:** This withdrawal is effective January 10, 2022.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Kenya Nicholas, Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement, USDA/1890 National Scholars Program, 1400 Independence Avenue, Washington, DC 20250-3700; or call (202) 720-6350 or send a fax to: (202) 720-7704. You may also send an email to: [1890init@usda.gov](mailto:1890init@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In the **Federal Register** of January 3, 2022, withdraw FR Doc 2021-28389. We will submit an updated Notice regarding the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program at a later date.

*Authority:* 87 FR 68.

Dated: January 10, 2022.

**Kenya Nicholas,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement.*

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**BILLING CODE 3412-88-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE****Rural Business-Cooperative Service**

[Docket Number: RBS-21-BUSINESS-0031]

**Notice of Solicitation of Applications for the Rural Business Development Grant Program To Provide Technical Assistance for Rural Transportation Systems**

**AGENCY:** Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is to invite applications for grants to provide Technical Assistance for passenger Rural Transportation (RT) systems under the Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) program and the terms for such funding. Grant funds will provide Technical Assistance for RT systems including designated funds to provide Technical Assistance to RT systems operating within tribal lands of

Federally Recognized Native American Tribes (FRNAT) (collectively "Programs"). This notice is being issued in order to allow applicants sufficient time to leverage financing, prepare and submit their applications and give the Agency time to process applications within fiscal year (FY) 2022. Successful applications will be selected by the Agency for funding and subsequently awarded to the extent that funding may ultimately be made available through appropriations. An announcement on the website at: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/newsroom/notices-solicitation-applications-nosas> will identify the amount received in the appropriations. All applicants are responsible for any expenses incurred in developing their applications.

**DATES:** The deadline for completed applications to be received in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development State Office is no later than 4:30 p.m. (local time) on April 14, 2022, to be eligible for FY 2022 grant funding. Applications received after the deadline will be ineligible for funding.

**ADDRESSES:** This funding announcement will also be announced on [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov). Applications must be submitted to the USDA Rural Development State Office where the Project is located. A list of the USDA Rural Development State Office contacts can be found at: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Cindy Mason, Business Loan and Grant Analyst, Specialty Programs Division at (202) 690-1433 or [cindy.mason@usda.gov](mailto:cindy.mason@usda.gov), Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-3226. For further information in this notice, please contact the Rural Development office for the State in which the applicant is located. A list of Rural Development State Office contacts is provided at the following link: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Priority Language for Funding Opportunities**

The Agency encourages applicants to consider projects that will advance the following key priorities (more details available at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/priority-points>):

- Assisting Rural communities recover economically from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly disadvantaged communities;

- Ensuring all rural residents have equitable access to RD programs and benefits from RD funded projects; and
- Reducing climate pollution and increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change through economic support to rural communities.

**Overview**

*Solicitation Opportunity Title:* Rural Business Development Grants.

*Announcement Type:* Initial Announcement.

*Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:* 10.351.

*Dates:* The deadline for completed applications must be received in the USDA Rural Development State Office no later than 4:30 p.m. (local time) on April 14, 2022, to be eligible for FY 2022 grant funding.

**A. Program Description**

1. *Purpose of the Program.* The purpose of this program is to improve the economic conditions of Rural Areas by providing technical assistance that will enhance the operation of rural transportation systems.

2. *Statutory Authority.* This program is authorized under section 310B(c) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(c)). Regulations are contained in 7 CFR part 4280, subpart E. The program is administered on behalf of Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBCS) at the State level by the USDA Rural Development State Offices. Assistance provided to Rural Areas under the program has historically included the provision of on-site Technical Assistance to tribal, 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 RBDG passenger transportation program will be made on a competitive basis using specific selection criteria contained in 7 CFR part 4280, subpart E, and in accordance with section 310B(c) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(c)). Information required to be in the application package includes Standard Form (SF) 424, "Application for Federal Assistance;" environmental documentation in accordance with 7 CFR part 1970, "Environmental Policies and Procedures;" Scope of Work Narrative; Income Statement; Balance Sheet or Audit for previous 3 years; SF LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities;" RD 400-1, "Equal Opportunity Agreement;" RD 400-4,