meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The Constituent Update is available on the FSIS web page. Through the web page, FSIS can provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an email subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at: https://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe. Options range from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their accounts.

### **USDA Non-Discrimination Statement**

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, USDA, its Mission Areas, agencies, staff offices, employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language) should contact the responsible Mission Area, agency, or staff office; the USDA TARGET Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TTY); or the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877–8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which can be obtained online at https://www.usda.gov/forms/electronicforms, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632–9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights

violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

(1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–9410;

(2) Fax: (833) 256–1665 or (202) 690–7442: or

(3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

#### Paul Kiecker.

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2024-07127 Filed 4-3-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## **Food and Nutrition Service**

Agency Information Collection Activities, Proposed Collection: Request for Comments on Evaluating the Interview Requirement for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Certification Study

**AGENCY:** Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), 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. This is a new information collection for the contract of the study titled "Evaluating the Interview Requirement for SNAP Certification." The purpose of this collection is to help FNS describe the effects of waiving the interview requirement, including SNAP agency processes and staff experiences with implementing the no-interview demonstration, analyzing the differences in outcomes for SNAP applicants and recipients, and identifying key lessons to inform future policy or implementation.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before June 3, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to Amanda Wyant, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1320 Braddock Place, 5th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22314. Comments may also be submitted via email to Amanda.Wyant@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 collection should be directed to Amanda Wyant at 703–305–7537.

**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: Evaluating the Interview Requirement for SNAP Certification

Study.

Form Number: N/A.

OMB Number: 0584–NEW.

Expiration Date: Not yet determined.

Type of Request: New collection.

Abstract: The Supplemental Nutrition

Assistance Program (SNAP) is the

Assistance Program (SNAP) is the foundation of the nation's nutrition assistance safety net and is a core source of support to millions of Americans, particularly during economic downturns. To help States handle increased need and participation amid the health risks of the pandemic, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS offered States a range of flexibilities which provided support to States administering the program and clients in the application process, including the option to waive the certification and recertification interview requirement. This allowed States to continue administering SNAP during the public health emergency with minimal client contact. FNS required States that waived the interview requirement to document their experiences processing cases without the interview. However, more rigorous evidence is needed to confidently understand the effects of waiving the interview requirement.

The Evaluating the Interview Requirement for SNAP Certification study will collect information in five States to assess how eliminating interviews affects outcomes, including administrative efficiency, costs, benefit accuracy, and client access. The project will include a randomized control trial (RCT) to analyze the impacts of outcomes between those clients assigned to receive an interview (the regular interview process group) and those assigned to not receive an interview (the no-interview group). The project will also include collection of administrative and quality control data, as well as qualitative information. The qualitative data collection will include virtual site visits and observations, a workflow analysis, and a time-use study. During the site visits, the team will conduct interviews with staff involved with all stages of certification and recertification processes. Site visitors will observe verification calls between eligibility workers and nointerview SNAP applicants to collect information about whether staff carry out policies and procedures as intended. The workflow analysis will involve small group interviews with State and local staff and will support the assessment of the changes required when implementing the no-interview demonstration and the possible challenges. Finally, the study will include a staff time-use survey to determine whether application processing requires more or less time for workers when there is an interview compared to when there is not.

Affected public. Members of the public affected by the data collection include State and local government workers from SNAP agencies in five States, as well as staff at not-for-profit organizations, and individuals who apply for or participate in SNAP. Respondent groups identified include (1) State SNAP directors, (2) State SNAP policy directors, (3) State SNAP field operations managers, (4) State data systems staff, (5) State quality control (QC) staff, (6) local SNAP directors, (7) local SNAP office supervisors, (8) eligibility workers, (9) customer service staff, (10) community based organizations (CBOs) and advocates, and (11) SNAP applicants and participants.

Estimated number of respondents. The total estimated number of unique respondents—which includes everyone contacted for data collection regardless of whether they participate—is 494.

This includes up to 65 individuals/ households, 409 State and local government staff, and 20 community based organization staff or advocates. The study team will contact 65 individuals/households, out of which 50 SNAP applicants or participants will participate in an observation and 15 SNAP applicants or participants will be considered nonrespondents. The study team will contact 63 State SNAP agency staff, which includes SNAP directors, SNAP policy directors, State SNAP field operations managers, State data systems staff, and State QC staff. The study team will contact 67 local agency directors/ supervisors, out of which 20 will be considered nonrespondents. The study team will contact 279 local agency direct service staff, out of which 80 will be considered nonrespondents. Fifteen of the State directors will provide administrative data. The study team will contact 20 community based organizations or advocates for virtual interviews.

Respondents will participate in multiple activities as follows:

- 5 State SNAP directors (one from each State will participate in the interviews and workflow analysis)
- 5 State SNAP policy directors (one from each State will participate in the interviews, document review and workflow analysis)
- 20 State field operations managers (four from each State will participate in the interviews and workflow analysis)
- 15 State data systems staff (three from each State will participate in the interviews, workflow analysis, and administrative data collection)
- 15 Local SNAP directors (three from each State will participate in the interviews and work flow analysis)
- 30 Local SNAP office supervisors (6 from each State will participate in the time-use survey, workflow analysis, and/or the interviews)
- 135 Eligibility workers (27 from each State will participate in the time-use survey, observations, workflow analysis, and/or interviews. Eligibility workers could participate in one or multiple activities in the study. Amongst the 135 eligibility workers, 90 will have participated in the time-

- use survey, 50 will have participated in the observations, 45 will have participated in the interviews, and 30 will have participated in the workflow analysis)
- 60 customer service staff (12 from each State will participate in the time-use survey, workflow analysis, and/or the interviews. Customer service staff could participate in the time-use survey and the interviews or the interviews and observations or only one of these activities. Amongst the 60 customer service staff, 30 will have participated in the time-use survey, 30 will have participated in the workflow analysis, and 30 will have participated in the interviews)

The 15 State QC staff will participate in the interviews. Before the start of data collection in one non-study State, we will pretest the semi-structured interview guide with one State SNAP director, one State SNAP policy director, one State data system staff, one Local SNAP director, one eligibility worker, and one customer service staff member. We also will pretest the timeuse survey with one eligibility worker, one customer service staff, and one Local SNAP office supervisor.

Estimated number of responses per respondent. Across all 494 unique respondents (379 respondents and 115 non-respondents) and 3,159 annual responses, the average number of responses is 6.39.

Estimated total annual responses. 3,159.

Estimated time per response. The time per all respondent/non-respondent group was used to determine the annual frequency estimates. The estimated time per response varies from 0.0835 hours for activities related to reading email reminders for the time-use survey to 24 hours for State data systems staff to provide administrative data. The response time will vary depending on the respondent group, with an average estimated time of 105 minutes (1.75 hours).

Estimated total annual burden on respondents. The total estimated annual burden on respondents is 108,300 minutes (1,805 hours).

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

Grand

Total

Affected public State/Local Government	Type of respondents State Data Systems Staff	Instruments Administrative data	Sample size 15	Number of respon- dents 15	Frequency of response 1	Total annual respon- ses 15	Hours per respo- nse 24.00	Annual burden (hours) 360.00	Number of non- respon- dents	Frequency of response	Total annual respon -ses	Hours per respon- se 0.00	Annual burden (hours) 0.00	total annual burden estimate (hours) 360.00	Hourl y Wage rate* \$51.99	cost with fringe benefits (33%)	Total annualized cost of respondent burden \$18,716.40
State/Local Government	State SNAP Policy Director	Document review	5	5	1	5	0.50	2.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	2.50	83.18	-	\$207.95
State/Local Government	Eligibility Worker	Observations	50	50	1	50	0.58	29.17	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	29.17	26.08	-	\$760.67
State/Local Government	State SNAP Director	Semi-structured Interview	5	5	1	5	1.25	6.25	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	6.25	83.18	-	\$519.88
State/Local Government	State SNAP Policy Director	Semi-structured Interview	5	5	1	5	1.25	6.25	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	6.25	83.18	-	\$519.88
State/Local Government	State Field Operations Manager	Semi-structured Interview	20	20	1	20	1.25	25.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	25.00	52.14	-	\$1,303.50
State/Local Government	State Data Systems Staff	Semi-structured Interview	15	15	1	15	1.25	18.75	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	18.75	51.99	-	\$974.81
State/Local Government	State QC Staff	Semi-structured Interview	15	15	1	15	1.25	18.75	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	18.75	51.99	=	\$974.81
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Director	Semi-structured Interview	15	15	1	15	1.25	18.75	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	18.75	83.18	-	\$1,559.63
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Office	Semi-structured Interview	30	30	1	30	1.25	37.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	37.50	83.18	-	\$3,119.25
State/Local Government	Supervisor Eligibility Worker	Semi-structured Interview	45	45	1	45	1.25	56.25	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	56.25	26.08	-	\$1,467.00
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	Semi-structured Interview	30	30	1	30	1.25	37.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	37.50	19.80	-	\$742.50
State/Local Government	State SNAP Director	Semi-structured Interview pretest	1	1	1	1	1.75	1.75	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	1.75	83.18	-	\$145.57
State/Local Government	State SNAP Policy Director	Semi-structured Interview pretest	1	1	1	1	1.75	1.75	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	1.75	83.18	-	\$145.57
State/Local Government	State Data Systems Staff	Semi-structured Interview pretest	1	1	1	1	1.75	1.75	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	1.75	51.99	-	\$90.98
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Director	Semi-structured Interview pretest	1	1	1	1	1.75	1.75	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	1.75	83.18	-	\$145.57

																	. 723
State/Local Government	Eligibility Worker	Semi-structured Interview	1	1	1	1	1.75	1.75	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	1.75	26.08	-	S45.64
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	pretest Semi-structured Interview	1	1	1	1	1.75	1.75	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	1.75	19.80	-	S34.65
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Office	<i>pretest</i> Time-use survey	30	30	5	150	0.75	112.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	112.50	52.14	-	\$5,865.75
State/Local Government	Supervisor Eligibility Worker	Time-use survey	90	90	5	450	0.75	337.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	337.50	26.08	-	\$8,802.00
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	Time-use survey	30	30	5	150	0.75	112.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	112.50	19.80	=	\$2,227.50
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Office	Time-use survey daily	30	30	5	150	0.08	12.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	12.50	52.14	-	S651.75
	Supervisor	afternoon reminder email															
State/Local Government	Eligibility Worker	Time-use survey daily afternoon	90	90	5	450	0.08	37.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	37.50	26.08	-	S978.00
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	reminder email Time-use survey daily afternoon	30	30	5	150	0.08	12.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	12.50	19.80	-	S247.50
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Office	reminder email Time-use survey daily	30	30	5	150	0.08	12.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	12.50	52.14	-	S651.75
State/Local Government	Supervisor Eligibility Worker	morning email Time-use survey daily	90	90	5	450	0.08	37.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	37.50	26.08	-	\$978.00
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	morning email Time-use survey daily	30	30	5	150	0.08	12.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	12.50	19.80	-	S247.50
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Office	morning email Time-use survey	50	30	1	30	0.17	5.00	20	1	20	0.17	3.33	8.33	52.14	-	\$434.50
State/Local	Supervisor Eligibility	instructional email Time-use	150	90	1	90	0.17	15.00	60	1	60	0.17	10.00	25.00	26.08	-	\$652.00
Government	Worker	survey instructional email															
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	Time-use survey instructional	50	30	1	30	0.17	5.00	20	1	20	0.17	3.33	8.33	19.80	-	S165.00
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Office	email Time-use survey <i>pretest</i>	1	1	1	1	0.75	0.75	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.75	83.18	-	S62.39
State/Local Government	Supervisor Eligibility Worker	Time-use survey pretest	1	1	5	5	0.75	3.75	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	3.75	26.08	-	\$97.80
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	Time-use survey pretest	1	1	5	5	0.75	3.75	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	3.75	19.80	-	S74.25

23543

State/Local	Local SNAP	Time-use	1	1	1	1	0.08	0.08	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.08	83.18	-	\$6.93
Government	Office Supervisor	survey <i>pretest</i> afternoon reminder email															
State/Local Government	Eligibility Worker	Time-use survey pretest afternoon reminder email	1	1	1	1	0.08	80.0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.08	26.08	-	\$2.17
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	Time-use survey pretest afternoon reminder email	1	1	1	1	80.0	0.08	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.08	19.80	-	\$1.65
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Office Supervisor	Time-use survey pretest instructional email	1	1	1	1	0.17	0.17	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.17	83.18	-	\$13.86
State/Local Government	Eligibility Worker	Time-use survey pretest instructional email	1	1	1	1	0.17	0.17	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.17	26.08	-	\$4.35
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	Time-use survey pretest instructional email	1	1	1	1	0.17	0.17	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.17	19.80	-	\$3.30
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Office Supervisor	Time-use survey <i>pretest</i> morning email	1	1	1	1	0.08	80.0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.08	83.18	-	\$6.93
State/Local Government	Eligibility Worker	Time-use survey pretest morning email	1	1	1	1	0.08	0.08	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.08	26.08	-	\$2.17
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	Time-use survey <i>pretest</i>	1	1	1	1	0.08	0.08	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.08	19.80	-	\$1.65
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Office Supervisor	morning email Time-use survey pretest staff questionnaire	1	1	1	1	0.17	0.17	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.17	83.18	-	\$13.86
State/Local Government	Eligibility Worker	Time-use survey pretest staff questionnaire	1	1	1	1	0.17	0.17	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.17	26.08	-	\$4.35
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	Time-use survey pretest staff questionnaire	1	1	1	1	0.17	0.17	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.17	19.80	-	\$3.30
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Office Supervisor	Time-use survey staff questionnaire	30	30	1	30	0.17	5.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	5.00	52.14	-	\$260.70
State/Local Government	Eligibility Worker	Time-use survey staff questionnaire	90	90	1	90	0.17	15.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	15.00	26.08	-	\$391.20
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	Time-use survey staff questionnaire	30	30	1	30	0.17	5.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	5.00	19.80	-	\$99.00

Government	Policy Director	analysis group interview Worldlow	15	15	4	15	2.50	27.50	0	٥	٥	0.00	0.00	27.50	E2 14		¢1 055 05
State/Local Government	State SNAP Field Operations Manager	Workflow analysis group interview	15	15	1	15	2.50	37.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	37.50	52.14		\$1,955.25
State/Local	State Data	Workflow	15	15	1	15	2.50	37.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	37.50	51.99		\$1,949.63
Government	Systems Staff	analysis group interview															
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Director	Workflow analysis group interview	15	15	1	15	2.50	37.50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	37.50	83.18	-	\$3,119.25
State/Local Government	Local SNAP Office Supervisor	Workflow analysis group interview	30	30	1	30	2.50	75.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	75.00	83.18	-	\$6,238.50
State/Local Government	Eligibility Worker	Workflow analysis group interview	30	30	1	30	2.50	75.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	75.00	26.08	-	\$1,956.00
State/Local Government	Customer Service Staff	Workflow analysis group interview	30	30	1	30	2.50	75.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	75.00	19.80	-	\$1,485.00
Not-for-Profit Organizations	Community based organizations (CBOs) and advocates	Semi-structured Interview	20	20	1	20	1.25	25.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	25.00	46.83	-	\$1,170.75
Individuals/Hou sehold	SNAP applicants and participants	Observations	65	50	1	50	0.50	25.00	15	1	15	0.08	1.25	26.25	7.25	-	\$190.31
Subtotal of	unique State agen	cy SNAP Staff														-	
Subtotal of	unique Local agen	cy SNAP staff	63	63	13	118	44	530.25	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	530.25	n/a	-	\$37,340
ountotal of			346	246	87	2856	31	1206.67	100	3	100	0.50	16.67	1223.33	n/a		\$35,868
	of unique CBOs and	d advocates														-	
Subtotal o	·		20	20	1	20	1.25	25.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	25.00	n/a	-	\$1,171
Subtotal o	of unique CBOs and of unique SNAP ap participants		20 65	20 50	1	20 50	1.25 0.50	25.00 25.00	0 15	<b>0</b> 1	0 15	0.00	0.00 1.25	25.00 26.25	n/a n/a	-	\$1,171 \$ 190
Subtotal o	·		20	20	1	20	1.25	25.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	25.00	n/a	-	

#### Tameka Owens.

Assistant Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–07164 Filed 4–3–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-C

# **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

#### **Food and Nutrition Service**

Agency Information Collection Activities: Assessment of Administrative Costs of Electronic Healthy Incentives Projects (eHIP)

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service

(FNS), 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. This is a new collection for the study "Assessment of Administrative Costs of Electronic Healthy Incentives Projects (eHIP)." This study will calculate costs incurred by eHIP, which will provide incentives through EBT integration to increase purchase of healthy foods (e.g., fruits and vegetables) by Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before June 3, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be sent to: Kathleen Patton, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1320 Braddock Place, 5th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22314. Comments may also be submitted via email to Kathleen.Patton@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 collection should be directed Kathleen Patton at *Kathleen.Patton@usda.gov* or 703–305–2813.

**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: Assessment of Administrative Costs of Electronic Healthy Incentives

Projects (eHIP). *Form Number:* Not Applicable.

OMB Number: 0584-NEW. Expiration Date: Not Yet Determined. Type of Request: New Collection. Abstract: The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), administered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), distributes benefits to eligible lowincome households through Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card technology. In fiscal year 2023 FNS awarded grants to three States, Colorado, Louisianna, and Washington for implementing Electronic Healthy Incentives Projects (eHIP) to leverage EBT integration to deliver financial incentives at point of purchase to SNAP households when they purchase qualifying foods (e.g., fruits and vegetables). The aim of this study is to calculate the costs of eHIP in the three States to determine the startup and ongoing costs of administering incentives to SNAP households through EBT integration and to estimate the cost of administering eHIP at scale. The study will quantify startup and ongoing administrative costs to State grantees, retailers, and other eHIP stakeholders. It will also compare administrative costs

Data will be collected from the three project States and multiple entities working with these States, including retailers, EBT processors, third-party processors (TPPs). These data will include both cost data, collected through cost data templates submitted to the States/entities, as well as interviews with State and other project representatives to contextualize the cost data. In addition, existing national data (such as SNAP caseloads and SNAP authorized retailers) and State data from non-project States (such as State wage rates) will be examined in order to estimate the cost of nationwide expansion of eHIP. Lastly, data from select Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP) grantees that do not use EBT integration for

to the amount of funding distributed as

incentives.

delivering incentives to SNAP households for purchasing fruits and vegetables will be examined to estimate the costs and return on investment (ROI) of GusNIP and compare these to the eHIP costs and ROI, in order to provide information on how these two incentive delivery modalities differ in costs and economic impact.

Data collection is expected to occur beginning in March 2025 with an approximate end date of May 2026. Data collection activities will be designed to address the three main objectives for the study.

1. Quantify, to the extent possible, the cost of administering eHIP;

2. Estimate the cost of nationwide expansion of eHIP; and

3. Compare the cost of administering eHIP with other incentive programs for SNAP households that do not use EBT integration.

Design consists of building and populating a central cost model for estimating the costs of implementing and administering eHIP. This model will then be expanded, through the use of publicly available State and national data, to estimate the nationwide costs of implementation and administration. Finally, existing data on GusNIP programs will be used to compare costs between eHIP and GusNIP.

Affected Public: State respondents are eHIP project staff. For-profit and not-for-profit business respondents are eHIP-participating EBT vendor staff, TPP staff, and retailer staff.

Estimated Number of Respondents: The estimated number of respondents is 38. Within each State, the study expects responses from 4 State staff (4 staff × 3 States = 12 State staff). In addition, the study expects to have responses from 6 retailer staff for each eHIP State (6 staff × 3 States = 18 retailer staff), as well as 2 TPP staff for each eHIP State (2 staff × 3 States = 6 TPP staff). Finally, the study expects responses from 2 EBT processor staff, 1 each from the two EBT processor firms working with the three eHIP States.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: Across all respondents, the average number of responses is 7.3 (277 responses across 38 respondent). The number of responses will vary by respondent group and the specific data collection activity.

For the State SNAP agency staff:

• One staffer within each State will be asked to respond once to the pre-test of the cost templates and three times to the cost data templates data collection.

■ Two staffers in each State will be asked to respond twice to the phone interview data collection. Staff will receive an electronic letter (i.e., email)