

is to determine the qualifications, suitability, and availability of a candidates to serve on advisory committees, research and promotion boards, and now marketing boards. The primary objective is to determine the qualifications, suitability, and availability of a candidate to serve on advisory committees, research and promotion, and marketing boards. Lastly, the AD-755 Form and supplemental questionnaire are being digitized for the receipt of applications to allow applicants to access and complete the form electronically and more securely safeguard data and information collection.

*Title:* Advisory Committee and Research and Promotion Background Information.

*OMB Number:* 0505-0001.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* December 31, 2025.

*Type of Request:* Revision of a currently approved information collection form document and with a revised research and promotion board supplemental list and add the marketing supplemental list with digitization to the receipt of applications.

*Abstract:* The primary objective is to determine the qualifications, suitability and availability of a candidate to serve on advisory committees and/or research and promotion boards. The information will be used to both conduct background clearances on the candidates and to compile annual reports regarding membership.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response.

*Respondents:* Individuals.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 5,500.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* One (1).

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 5,500.

Comments are invited on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments may be sent to Ms. Cikena Reid, Committee Management Officer, the White House Liaison Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, the Whitten Building, Room 536-A, Washington, DC 20250; fax: 202-720-9286; or by email: [cikena.reid@usda.gov](mailto:cikena.reid@usda.gov). Comments must be postmarked 10 business days prior to the deadline to ensure timely receipt.

All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

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: May 8, 2024.

**Cikena Reid,**

*USDA Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2024-10484 Filed 5-13-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Notice of Request for Extension or Renewal of a Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (OASCR) to request a renewal to a currently approved information collection. OASCR will use the information collected to process Respondent's program discrimination complaints conducted or assisted by USDA.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by July 15, 2024 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* This website provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on this web page or attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions on the eRulemaking Portal submitting comments.

*U.S. Mail, including CD-ROMs, etc.:* Send to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for

Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410.

*Hand or courier-delivered submittals:* Deliver to 1400 Independence Avenue, Washington, DC 20250-9410.

*Instructions:* All items submitted by U.S. mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights. Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without changes, including any personal information, to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

*Docket:* For access to background documents or comments received, please contact the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at 1400 Independence Avenue SW, DC 20250, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Contact Winona Massie, Executive Director, Center for Civil Rights Operations, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250, (202) 720-3808.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), this notice announces the intention of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights to request approval for an existing collection in use without an Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

*Title:* USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form.

*OMB Number:* OMB No. 0508-0002.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* May 31, 2024.

*Type of Request:* Extension and renewal of a currently approved information collection.

*Abstract:* Under 7 CFR 15.6, "Any person who believes himself/herself or any specific class of individuals to be subjected to discrimination [in any USDA assisted program or activity] may by himself/herself or by an authorized representative file a written complaint." Under 7 CFR 15d.5(a), "Any person who believes that he or she (or any specific class of individuals) has been, or is being, subjected to [discrimination in any USDA conducted program or activity] \* \* \* may file [on his or her own,] (or file through an authorized representative) a written complaint alleging such discrimination." The collection of this information is an avenue by which the individual or his representative may file such a program discrimination complaint.

The requested information, which can be submitted by filling out a form or by

submitting a letter, is necessary for USDA OASCR to address the alleged discriminatory action. The Respondent is asked to state his/her name, mailing address, property address (if different from mailing address), telephone number, email address (if any) and to provide a name and contact information for the Respondent's representative (if any). A brief description of who was involved with the alleged discriminatory action, what occurred and when, is requested. In the event that the Respondent is filing the program discrimination complaint more than 180 days after the alleged discrimination occurred, the Respondent is asked to provide the reason for the delay.

Finally, the Respondent is asked to identify which bases are alleged to have motivated the discriminatory action. The form explains that laws and regulations prohibit on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), disability, religion, sexual orientation, marital or familial status, or because all or part of the individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, but that not all bases apply to all programs.

The program discrimination complaint filing information, which is voluntarily provided by the Respondent, will be used by the staff of USDA OASCR to intake, investigate, resolve, and/or adjudicate the Respondent's complaint. The program discrimination complaint form will enable OASCR to better collect information from complainants in a timely manner, therefore, reducing delays and errors in determining USDA jurisdiction.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response.

*Respondents:* Producers, applicants.  
*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 280.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 280 hours.

Comments are invited on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including

the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* Send comments to: [OASCR.CCRO@USDA.Gov](mailto:OASCR.CCRO@USDA.Gov).
- *U.S. Mail:* Winona Massie, Executive Director, Center for Civil Rights Operations, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410.

All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

**Penny Brown Reynolds,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights,  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.*

[FR Doc. 2024-10536 Filed 5-13-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-18-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Rural Housing Service**

[Docket No. RHS-24-CF-0014]

**Announcement of the Availability of Puerto Rico Rural Partners Network Rural Community Development Initiative**

**AGENCY:** Rural Housing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of funding of availability (NOFA).

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Housing Service (RHS or the Agency), a Rural Development (RD) agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), announces the acceptance of applications under the Puerto Rico Rural Partners Network (RPN) Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) program to provide authorized activities in Puerto Rico areas affected by a disaster declared by the President or the Secretary of Agriculture. These grants will be made to qualified intermediary organizations that will provide financial and technical assistance to recipients to develop their capacity and ability to undertake projects related to housing, community facilities, or community and economic development that will support the community. The maximum grant award amount available to an intermediary is \$250,000. The Consolidated Security,

Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009, created the Disaster Assistance Fund (DAF) and the Secretary of Agriculture has authorized \$1,000,000 of DAF funds to be utilized in Puerto Rico for the RCDI program for the purposes described in this NOFA.

**DATES:** Completed applications must be submitted using one of the following methods:

- *Paper submissions:* Paper applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. local time by the Puerto Rico Rural Development State Office July 3, 2024.

- *Electronic submissions:* Electronic applications must be submitted via [Grants.gov](https://www.Grants.gov) by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 28, 2024.

Prior to official submission of applications, applicants may request technical assistance or other application guidance from the Agency, as long as such requests are made prior to June 24, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Application information for electronic submissions may be found at <https://www.Grants.gov/>. Applicants may also request paper application packages from the Puerto Rico Rural Development State Office at (787) 766-5095.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Danna Quiles, Community Programs Director, Puerto Rico Rural Development State Office, United States Department of Agriculture, 654 Muñoz Rivera Ave., Suite 601, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918, Phone: (787) 766-5346, Email: [danna.quiles@usda.gov](mailto:danna.quiles@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Overview**

*Federal Awarding Agency Name:* Rural Housing Service, (RHS).

*Funding Opportunity Title:* Puerto Rico RPN RCDI.

*Announcement Type:* Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).

*Funding Opportunity Number:* USDA-RD-HCFP-PR-RPN-RCDI-2024.  
*Assistance Listing:* 10.446.

*Dates:* Applications must be submitted using one of the following methods:

- *Paper submissions:* The deadline for receipt of a paper application is 4 p.m. local time, to the Puerto Rico Rural Development State Office, 654 Muñoz Rivera Ave., Suite 601, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918. July 3, 2024. Applicants intending to mail applications must provide sufficient time to permit delivery on or before the closing deadline date and time. Acceptance by the United States Postal Service or private mailer does not constitute delivery. Facsimile (FAX), electronic mail, and postage due applications will