

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS–SC–26–0232]

Christmas Tree Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Continuance Referendum

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notification of referendum.

SUMMARY: This notice directs that a referendum be conducted among eligible producers and importers of Christmas trees to determine whether they favor continuance of the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) regulations regarding the National Christmas tree research and promotion program.

DATES: This referendum will be conducted by mail and electronic ballot from May 22, 2026 through June 2, 2026. Ballots delivered to AMS via express mail or electronic ballot must show proof of delivery by no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 2, 2026. Eligible persons will receive a ballot through the mail and may cast it either through mail or electronic ballot. To be eligible to vote, domestic producers and importers must have produced or imported 500 or more Christmas trees from September 1, 2025, through March 15, 2026, and must be subject to assessment under the Christmas Tree Promotion, Research, and Information Order (Order).

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Order may be obtained from: Referendum Agent, Market Development Division, Specialty Crops Program, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 1406–S, Stop 0244, Washington, DC 20250–0244; via telephone: (202) 720–8085; or by contacting George Webster via electronic mail: George.Webster@usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

George Webster, Marketing Specialist, or Alexandra Caryl, Branch Chief, Mid-Atlantic Region Branch, Market Development Division, Specialty Crops Program; telephone: (202) 720–8085; email: George.Webster@usda.gov or Alexandra.Caryl@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7411–7425) (Act), it is hereby directed that a referendum be conducted to ascertain whether continuance of the Christmas Tree Promotion, Research, and Information Order (Order) (7 CFR part 1214) is favored by a majority of eligible domestic producers and importers covered under the program.

The representative period for establishing voter eligibility is September 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026. Producers who domestically produced 500 or more Christmas trees and importers who imported 500 or more Christmas trees into the United States during the representative period are eligible to vote. Persons who received an exemption from assessments pursuant to § 1214.53 for the entire representative period are ineligible to vote. The referendum will be conducted by express mail and electronic ballot from May 22, 2026 through June 2, 2026. Further details will be provided in the ballot instructions.

Section 518 of the Act (7 U.S.C. 7417) authorizes continuance referenda. Under § 1214.81(b) of the Order, USDA must conduct a referendum every seven years, at the request of the Board established in the Order, 10 percent or more of the number of persons eligible to vote in a referendum, or at any time as determined by the Secretary. The program's last continuance referendum was conducted in 2019; therefore, a referendum must be held in 2026 to comply with the Order.

USDA would continue the Order if it is favored by a majority of eligible domestic producers and importers voting in the referendum. If not favored, USDA would comply with the suspension and termination procedures at § 1214.82 and conduct appropriate rulemaking in accordance with the Order.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the referendum ballot has

been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and assigned OMB No. 0581–0268. Approximately 1,200 persons will be eligible to vote in the referendum. It will take an average of 15 minutes for each voter to read the voting instructions and complete the referendum ballot.

Referendum Order

George Webster, Marketing Specialist, and Alexandra Caryl, Branch Chief, Mid-Atlantic Region Branch, Market Development Division, SCP, AMS, USDA, Stop 0244, Room 1406–S, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–0244, are designated as the referendum agents to conduct this referendum. The referendum procedures at §§ 1214.100 through 1214.108 of the Order, which were issued pursuant to the Act, shall be used to conduct the referendum.

The referendum agents will mail ballots and voting instructions, including how to vote electronically, to all known, eligible domestic producers and importers prior to the first day of the voting period. Any eligible domestic producer or importer who does not receive a ballot should contact a referendum agent no later than three days before the end of the voting period. Ballots delivered to AMS via express mail or electronic ballot must show proof of delivery by no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 2, 2026 to be included in the vote tabulation.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 7411–7425; 7 U.S.C. 7401.

Erin Morris,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–07828 Filed 4–21–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children Program; 2026 Benefit Levels

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of the annual adjustments to the levels of monthly benefits in the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children

(Summer EBT) Program. These adjustments reflect changes in the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP), as required under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act.

DATES: These benefit levels are in effect January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anne Fiala, Director, Summer EBT Program Division, Child Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, United States Department of Agriculture, 1320 Braddock Place, Suite 401, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, (703) 305-2590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Summer EBT Program is listed in the Assistance Listings under Number 10.646. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3501-3520, no new recordkeeping or reporting requirements have been included that are subject to approval from the Office of Management and Budget.

This notice is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601-612, and thus is exempt from the provisions of that Act. Additionally, this notice has been determined to be exempt from formal review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866.

Summary

Section 13A of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1762, established the value of Summer EBT benefits in 2024 at \$40 per child for each month of the summer and requires the Secretary to annually adjust the Summer EBT benefit amounts beginning in calendar year 2025, to reflect changes in the cost of food as measured by the TFP rounded down to the nearest dollar increment.

USDA adjusted the Summer EBT benefit levels to reflect the differences between the costs of providing meals

and supplements in the outlying areas (Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) and the 48 states, the District of Columbia, and Indian Tribal Organizations administering the Program within the contiguous states, as consistent with law and other nutrition assistance programs. The benefit levels for the outlying areas were established in 2024 and are also annually adjusted.

This notice provides the 2026 Summer EBT monthly and total summer benefit levels. The law requires the adjusted level to be rounded down to the nearest dollar amount. The total summer benefit level is the rounded down monthly level multiplied by three.

Calculation of Benefit Levels

Contiguous States and Indian Tribal Organizations: The adjustment is based on the monthly TFP cost for a reference family of four. The change for the 12-month period ending on November 30th of the preceding calendar year is used to adjust the benefit level from the previous year. The November 2024 to November 2025 percent change is .49 percent, which results in no change in monthly benefit levels for 2026. The benefits for 2026 remain at \$40 (rounded down from \$40.82) monthly and \$120 total.

Alaska: The adjustments are based on the Alaska monthly TFP cost for a reference family of four. The change for the 12-month period ending on November 30th of the preceding calendar year is used to adjust the benefit levels from the previous year for the three Alaska geographic areas. The November 2024 to November 2025 percent change is 3.30 percent. This percentage change is applied to the Urban, Rural I, and Rural II benefit levels from the prior year and rounded down to the nearest dollar increment.

The adjusted 2026 monthly benefit for Urban Alaska is \$54 (rounded down from \$54.24), for Rural 1 Alaska is \$69 (rounded down from \$69.17), and for Rural 2 Alaska is \$84 (rounded down from \$84.18). The 2026 total summer benefits for Urban Alaska increase to \$162, for Rural I increase to \$207, and for Rural II increase to \$252.

Hawaii: The adjustment is based on the Hawaii monthly TFP cost for a reference family of four. The change for the 12-month period ending on November 30th of the preceding calendar year is used to adjust the benefit level from the previous year. The November 2024 to November 2025 percent change is 6.20 percent. The 2026 monthly benefit of \$63 (rounded down from \$63.41) and 2026 total summer benefits of \$189 have increased from 2025.

U.S. Territories (Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands): Monthly TFP costs for Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands are not currently produced and Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands do not participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Therefore, the benefit amount is based on the percent difference between maximum SNAP allotment in the contiguous States and Guam. This results in annual changes that are the same as the contiguous States for a reference family of four, which is .49 percent in 2026. This results in a final Territorial adjustment factor of 1.47 for 2026. The 2026 monthly benefit increased by one dollar to \$60 (rounded down from \$60.16) and 2026 total summer benefits of \$180 have increased from 2025.

The 2026 benefit levels are presented below, along with the 2025 benefit levels.

TABLE OF 2026 BENEFIT LEVELS

	2025 Monthly	2026 Monthly	2025 Summer	2026 Summer
48 States and the District of Columbia	\$40	\$40	\$120	\$120
Alaska:				
Urban	52	54	156	162
Rural 1	66	69	198	207
Rural 2	81	84	243	252
Hawaii	59	63	177	189
Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	59	60	177	180

Patrick A. Penn,

Deputy Under Secretary, Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services.

[FR Doc. 2026-07843 Filed 4-21-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

[Docket No. RBS-26-BUSINESS-0166]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection; Comments Request; Rural Development Loan Servicing

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Business-Cooperative Service's (RBCS) intention to request a revision of a currently approved information collection in support of Rural Development Loan Servicing for the Intermediary Relending Program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by June 22, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Crystal Pemberton, Management Analyst, Rural Development Innovation Center—Regulations Management Division, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522; email: Crystal.Pemberton@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulation (5 CFR 1320) implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) requires that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see, 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies an information collection that RUS is submitting to OMB for revision.

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 will 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 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 may be sent by the Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and, in the "Search" box, type in the "RBS-26-BUSINESS-0166." A link to the Notice will appear. You may submit a comment here by selecting the "Comment" button or you can access the "Docket" tab, select the "Notice," and go to the "Browse & Comment on Documents" Tab. Here you may view comments that have been submitted as well as submit a comment. Information on using *Regulations.gov*, including instructions for accessing documents, submitting comments, and viewing the docket after the close of the comment period, is available through the site's "FAQ" link at the bottom. Comments on this information collection must be received by June 22, 2026.

Title: Rural Development Loan Servicing.

OMB Number: 0570-0015.

Expiration Date of Approval: October 31, 2026.

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

Abstract: Subpart R of 7 CFR part 1951 contains regulations for servicing and liquidating loans made by Rural Development under the Intermediary Relending Program (IRP) and the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP) to eligible intermediaries and applies to ultimate recipients and other involved parties. The information requested is vital to RBS for prudent loan servicing, credit decisions, and reasonable program monitoring.

Rural Development has determined that the financial reporting requirements are necessary to provide the Agency with current information in order to monitor the program, to make various reporting requirements to Congress, and for program innovation and expansion under the Government's Performance Review.

Servicing of the IRP is administered by RBCS in Washington, DC, which will be the primary user of the information collected. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the general public can request the majority of the data by the Agency from the intermediaries, except for information that is classified as confidential.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information

is estimated to average 4 hours per response.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 500.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 4.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 8,000 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Crystal Pemberton, Innovation Center—Regulations Management Division, at (202) 260-8621.

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

Jeremy Claeys,

Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 2026-07842 Filed 4-21-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Sunshine Act Meeting Notice

AGENCY: United States Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Notice of Commission public business meeting.

DATES: Friday, April 24, 2026, 10:00 a.m. EST.

ADDRESSES: Meeting to take place in person and is open to the public.

U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 1331 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 1150, Washington, DC 20425.

It will also be livestreamed on the Commission's YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/user/USCCR/videos>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joe Kim: 202-499-0263; publicaffairs@usccr.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Government in Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b), the Commission on Civil Rights is holding a meeting to discuss the Commission's business for the month of April. This business meeting is open to the public. Computer assisted real-time transcription (CART) will be provided. The web link to access CART (in English) on Friday, April 24, 2026, is <https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=USCCR>. Please note that CART is text-only translation that occurs in real time during the meeting and is not an exact transcript.

Meeting Agenda

- I. Approval of Agenda
- II. Business Meeting
 - A. Presentations from State Advisory Committees