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Rules and Regulations

Federal Register

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains regulatory documents having general applicability and legal effect, most of which are keyed to and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations, which is published under 50 titles pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 1510.

The Code of Federal Regulations is sold by the Superintendent of Documents.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket Number USCG–2026–0222]

RIN 1625–AA00

Safety Zone; T/V DENISE FOSS (O.N. 1254223), Honolulu, HI

AGENCY: Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary safety zone for navigable waters within a 500-yard radius of the T/V DENISE FOSS (O.N. 1254223) and its tow, FOSS 3612 (O.N. 1255436). The moving safety zone is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment from potential hazards associated with the transportation of two ship-to-shore cranes. Entry of vessels or persons into this zone is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Captain of the Port, Sector Honolulu, or their designated representative.

DATES: This rule is effective without actual notice from October 21, 2026 through 8 a.m. October 24, 2026. For the purposes of enforcement, actual notice will be used from 6 a.m. October 19, 2026, until October 21, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To view available documents go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for USCG–2026–0222.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this rule, contact BMC Sarah Molli, Sector Honolulu Waterways Management Division, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 808–291–2923, or email Sarah.R.Molli@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

COTP Captain of the Port
DHS Department of Homeland Security
FR Federal Register
NPRM Notice of proposed rulemaking
§ Section
U.S.C. United States Code

II. Background and Authority

The Coast Guard received notification on October 13, 2026, that Pasha Hawaii will ship two ship-to-shore cranes from Los Angeles, CA to Honolulu, HI, via tug and barge, with a scheduled arrival date of October 19, 2026. The day and time of this safety zone enforcement will depend on the arrival, but enforcement may start as soon as 6 a.m. on October 19, 2026. Hazards from this shipment include, but are not limited to, the tug and barge being restricted in its ability to maneuver, which creates hazards for the public on the water. The Captain of the Port (COTP) Honolulu has determined that potential hazards associated with the shipment of the three ship-to-shore cranes are a safety concern for anyone in the vicinity while the tug and barge are transiting in Mamala Bay on its approach to Honolulu Harbor. Therefore, the COTP is issuing this rule under the authority in 46 U.S.C. 70034, which is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment in the navigable waters within the safety zone.

Because of these potential hazards, the Coast Guard is issuing this rule without prior notice and comment. As is authorized by 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule because it is impracticable. The Coast Guard was notified of this event on October 13, 2026, but we must establish this safety zone by October 19, 2026, to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment. Therefore, we do not have enough time to solicit and respond to comments.

For the same reason, the Coast Guard finds that under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**.

III. Discussion of the Rule

This rule establishes a safety zone from October 19, 2026, through October 24, 2026. The day and time of enforcement will depend on the arrival of T/V DENISE FOSS (O.N. 1254223) and its tow, FOSS 3612 (O.N. 1255436),

entering Mamala Bay in the vicinity of Honolulu Harbor and will be announced to the public in advance. The safety zone will cover all navigable waters within a 500-yard radius of the T/V DENISE FOSS (O.N. 1254223) and its tow, FOSS 3612 (O.N. 1255436). Vessels and persons will not be allowed to enter the zone during this time, unless authorized by the Captain of the Port.

IV. Regulatory Analyses

We developed this rule after considering numerous statutes and Executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on a number of these statutes and Executive orders.

A. Impact on Small Entities

The regulatory flexibility analysis provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980, 5 U.S.C. 601–612, do not apply to rules that are not subject to notice and comment. Because the Coast Guard has, for good cause, waived the notice and comment requirement that would otherwise apply to this rulemaking, the Regulatory Flexibility Act's flexibility analysis provisions do not apply here.

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), if this rule will affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions, contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Small businesses may send comments to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards by calling 1–888–REG–FAIR (1–888–734–3247). The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this rule or any policy or action of the Coast Guard.

B. Collection of Information

This rule will not call for a new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520).

C. Federalism and Indian Tribal Governments

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, and have determined that it is consistent with the fundamental federalism

principles and preemption requirements described in that Order.

Also, this rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

D. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

As required by The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538), the Coast Guard certifies that this rule will not result in an annual expenditure of \$100,000,000 or more (adjusted for inflation) by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector.

E. Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Directive 023–01, Rev. 1, associated implementing instructions, and Environmental Planning COMDTINST 5090.1 (series), which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), and have determined that this action is one of a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment.

This rule is a safety zone. It is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph L60(a) of Appendix A, Table 1 of DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Rev. 1. A Record of Environmental Consideration supporting this determination is available in the docket.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 46 U.S.C. 70034, 70051, 70124; 33 CFR 1.05–1, 6.04–1, 6.04–6, and 160.5; DHS Delegation No. 00170.1, Revision No. 01.4.

■ 2. Add § 165.T14–0222 to read as follows:

§ 165.T14–0222 Safety Zone; T/V DENISE FOSS (O.N. 1254223), Honolulu, HI.

(a) *Location.* The following area is a safety zone: All navigable waters within a 500-yard radius around the T/V DENISE FOSS (O.N. 1254223) and its tow, FOSS 3612 (O.N. 1255436), in Mamala Bay on its approach to Honolulu Harbor.

(b) *Definitions.* As used in this section, *designated representative* means a Coast Guard Patrol Commander, including a Coast Guard coxswain, petty officer, or other officer operating a Coast Guard vessel and a Federal, State, and local officer designated by or assisting the Captain of the Port Honolulu (COTP) in the enforcement of the safety zone.

(c) *Regulations.* (1) Under the general safety zone regulations in subpart C of this part, you may not enter the safety zone described in paragraph (a) of this section unless authorized by the COTP or the COTP's designated representative.

(2) To seek permission to enter, contact the COTP or the COTP's representative on VHF–FM channel 16 or by telephone at (800) 552–6458. Those in the safety zone must comply with all lawful orders or directions given to them by the COTP or the COTP's designated representative.

(d) *Enforcement period.* This section will be subject to enforcement from 6 a.m. on October 19, 2026, through 8 a.m. on October 24, 2026. The section will be enforced until the T/V DENISE FOSS (O.N. 1254223) and its tow, FOSS 3612 (O.N. 1255436), enter the Honolulu Harbor Security Zone.

N.S. Worst,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port Sector Honolulu.

[FR Doc. 2026–21498 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket No. USCG–2026–1349]

Security Zones; Protection of Military Cargo, Captain of the Port Zone Puget Sound, WA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notification of enforcement of regulation.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard will enforce security zones for the Protection of Military Cargo from October 30 through November 1, 2026, to provide for the

security of life and vessels on navigable waterways during this event. Our regulation for Protection of Military Cargo within the Captain of the Port Zone Puget Sound, WA identifies the security zones for this event in the Blair Waterway and Sitcum Waterway, Commencement Bay, WA. During the enforcement periods, the operator of any vessel in the regulated area must comply with directions from the Captain of the Port or a designated representative.

DATES: The regulations in 33 CFR 165.1321 will be enforced for the security zones identified in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below for the dates and times specified.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this notification of enforcement, call or email LT Anthony Pinto, Sector Puget Sound Waterways Management Division, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 206–217–6051, email sectorpugetsoundWWM@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Coast Guard will enforce security zones in 33 CFR 165.1321(c)(1), the Blair Waterway Security Zone, and 165.1321(c)(2), the Sitcum Waterway Security Zone, for the Military Outloads security zones from 12:01 a.m. on October 30, 2026, to 11:59 p.m. on November 01, 2026. This action is being taken to provide for the security of life and vessels on navigable waterways during this 3-day event. Our regulation for Protection of Military Cargo within the Captain of the Port Zone Puget Sound, WA, § 165.1321, specifies the location of the regulated area for the Military Outloads which encompasses portions of the Blair Waterway and Sitcum Waterway, Commencement Bay, WA. During the enforcement periods, as reflected in § 165.1321(d) if you are the operator of a vessel in the regulated area you must comply with directions from the Captain of the Port or any Designated Representative to enter, move within, or exit the security zones. Vessels 20 meters or greater in length should seek permission from the Captain of the Port or a Designated Representative at least four hours in advance. Vessels less than 20 meters in length should seek permission at least one hour in advance. VTS Puget Sound may be reached on VHF channel 14.

In addition to this notification of enforcement in the **Federal Register**, the Coast Guard plans to provide

notification of this enforcement period via the Local Notice to Mariners.

Michael J. Hunt,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port, Sector Puget Sound.

[FR Doc. 2026–21478 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 260305–0067; RTID 0648–XG140]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Temporary rule; reallocation.

SUMMARY: NMFS is reallocating the projected unused amounts of Pacific cod from catcher vessels using trawl gear to catcher vessels using pot gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to allow the 2026 total allowable catch (TAC) of Pacific cod to be harvested in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA.

DATES: Effective 1200 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), October 21, 2026, through 2400 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), December 31, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Adam Zaleski, 907–586–7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the GOA according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the

GOA (FMP) prepared and recommended by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). Regulations governing fishing by U.S. vessels in accordance with the FMP appear at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The 2026 Pacific cod TAC allocated to catcher vessels using trawl gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA is 1,956 metric tons (mt), as established by the final 2026 and 2027 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (91 FR 11902, March 11, 2026) and reallocation (91 FR 64807, October 13, 2026).

The 2026 Pacific cod TAC allocated to vessels using pot gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA is 2,880 mt, as established by the final 2026 and 2027 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (91 FR 11902, March 11, 2026) and reallocation (91 FR 64807, October 13, 2026).

The Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator) has determined that catcher vessels using trawl gear will not be able to harvest 200 mt of the 2026 Pacific cod TAC allocated to those vessels under § 679.20(a)(12)(i)(A)(3). The Regional Administrator has also determined that catcher vessels using pot gear have the capability to harvest an additional 200 mt of Pacific cod TAC.

Therefore, in accordance with § 679.20(a)(12)(ii)(B), NMFS apportions 200 mt of Pacific cod from catcher vessels using trawl gear to the annual amount specified for catcher vessels using pot gear.

The harvest specifications for 2026 Pacific cod TAC allocated to vessels in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA included in the final 2026 and 2027 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (91 FR 11902, March 11, 2026)

and reallocation (91 FR 64807, October 13, 2026) are revised as follows: 1,756 mt to catcher vessels using trawl gear and 3,080 mt to vessels using pot gear.

Classification

NMFS issues this action pursuant to section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This action is required by 50 CFR part 679, which was issued pursuant to section 304(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), there is good cause to waive prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on this action, as notice and comment would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest, as it would prevent NMFS from responding to the most recent fisheries data on Pacific cod catch in a timely fashion and would not allow for the full harvest of the Pacific cod TACs by the sectors with harvesting capability. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data on the harvest of Pacific cod by sectors operating in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA and the capability of certain sectors to harvest additional TAC only became available as of October 19, 2026.

There is good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) to waive the 30-day delay in the effective date of this action. This finding is based upon the reasons provided above for waiver of prior notice and opportunity for public comment.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 19, 2026.

Shannon Bettridge,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–21556 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

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Proposed Rules

Federal Register

Vol. 91, No. 202

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

12 CFR Parts 702, 703, and 741

RIN 3133-AG21

Nonconforming Investment Special Reserve

AGENCY: National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The NCUA Board (Board) is proposing to amend its regulations governing the requirements for federal share insurance. This action would remove the requirement for federally insured, state-chartered credit unions to establish a special reserve for certain investments that are beyond those authorized for federally chartered credit unions. The intended effect is to reduce unnecessary compliance and administrative burdens for state-chartered insured credit unions without diminishing the agency's ability to protect the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund.

DATES: Comments must be received by December 21, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted in one of the following ways. (*Please send comments by one method only*):

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <https://www.regulations.gov>. The docket number for this proposed rule is NCUA-2026-1886. Follow the "Submit a comment" instructions. If you are reading this document on [federalregister.gov](https://www.federalregister.gov), you may use the green "SUBMIT A PUBLIC COMMENT" button beneath this rulemaking's title to submit a comment to the [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) docket. A plain language summary of the proposed rule is also available on the docket website.

- **Mail:** Address to Melane Conyers-Ausbrooks, Secretary of the Board, National Credit Union Administration, 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3428.

- **Hand Delivery/Courier:** Same as mailing address.

Mailed and hand-delivered comments must be received by the close of the comment period.

Public Inspection: Please follow the search instructions on <https://www.regulations.gov> to view the public comments. Do not include any personally identifiable information (such as name, address, or other contact information) or confidential business information that you do not want publicly disclosed. All comments are public records; they are publicly displayed exactly as received and will not be deleted, modified, or redacted. Comments may be submitted anonymously. If you are unable to access public comments on the internet, you may contact the NCUA for alternative access by calling (703) 518-6540 or emailing OGCMail@ncua.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rachel Ackmann, Senior Attorney, Office of General Counsel, at (703) 548-2601 or at 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

A. Background

Part 741 generally applies to federal credit unions (FCUs), federally insured, state-chartered credit unions (FISCUs), and credit unions applying for insurance of accounts pursuant to Title II of the Federal Credit Union Act (FCU Act). This part prescribes various requirements for obtaining and maintaining federal share insurance and the payment of insurance premiums and capitalization deposit. Subpart A of part 741 contains substantive requirements that are not codified elsewhere in the NCUA's regulations. Subpart B lists additional regulations that are codified elsewhere in the NCUA's regulations as applying to FCUs, which also apply to FISCUs.

As discussed later in this preamble, the Board is proposing to amend a regulatory requirement in subpart A of part 741 to provide more flexibility and reduce regulatory burden for FISCUs. Section 741.3 requires a FISCO to establish a special reserve for nonconforming investments.¹ The

proposed rule would remove the special reserve requirement.

The Board last amended FISCO special reserve requirements in 1999 when the Board amended the terminology to refer to the special reserve account.² The final rule renamed the accounts "Investment Valuation Reserve Account" and "Investment Valuation Reserve" to "Appropriation for Non-conforming Investments." The change more appropriately reflected the function and composition of the account under generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

B. Legal Authority

The Board is issuing this proposal pursuant to its authority under the FCU Act. Under the FCU Act, the NCUA is the chartering and supervisory authority for FCUs and the federal supervisory authority for FISCUs.³ The FCU Act grants the NCUA a broad mandate to issue regulations governing both FCUs and all FISCUs. Section 120 of the FCU Act is a general grant of regulatory authority and authorizes the Board to prescribe rules and regulations for the administration of the FCU Act.⁴ Section 207 of the FCU Act is a specific grant of authority over share insurance coverage, conservatorships, and liquidations.⁵ Section 209 of the FCU Act is a plenary grant of regulatory authority to issue rules and regulations necessary or appropriate to carry out its role as share insurer for all FISCUs.⁶ Accordingly, the FCU Act grants the Board broad rulemaking authority to ensure that the credit union industry and the Share Insurance Fund remain safe and sound.

Additionally, the FCU Act expressly provides that applications for insurance must contain an agreement by the applicant to maintain such special reserves as the Board, by regulation or in special cases, may require for protecting the interest of members.⁷ The Board has exercised its general authority to issue regulations on safe and sound

investment grade and the investment is otherwise permissible for FCUs, that investment is not considered to be beyond those authorized by the FCU Act or implementing regulations in part 703.

² 64 FR 41029 (July 29, 1999).

³ 12 U.S.C. 1752-1775.

⁴ 12 U.S.C. 1766(a).

⁵ 12 U.S.C. 1787.

⁶ 12 U.S.C. 1789.

⁷ 12 U.S.C. 1781(b)(6).

¹ For purposes of the special reserve requirement, if a FISCO conducts and documents an analysis that reasonably concludes an investment is at least

banking practices and its authority under the FCU Act to require special reserves under part 741. Part 741 requires a FISCUs to establish a special reserve for investments if those credit unions make investments beyond those authorized in the FCU Act or NCUA's rules, and the book value of the investment is over the investment's market value or the market value cannot be determined (nonconforming investments).

II. Proposed Rule

The NCUA has required a special reserve for nonconforming investments since the 1980s.⁸ The NCUA imposes this requirement as some FISCUs are permitted to make investments beyond those authorized in the FCU Act or NCUA regulations for FCUs. As FCU investments generally are limited to relatively conservative instruments, investments outside of those limited investments may carry additional risk and raise safety and soundness concerns.

The Board is now proposing to rescind the requirement for a special reserve related to nonconforming investments. The Board finds the special reserve no longer necessary for safety and soundness because subsequent changes to GAAP have limited the applicability of the reserve requirement. As a practical matter, the special reserve does not provide additional loss absorbing capacity. Also, since the reserve was adopted in the 1980s, GAAP has been amended to require more investments to be carried at fair value instead of book value.

Currently, only seven FISCUs report a special reserve due to a nonconforming investment. Given the current limited applicability, and the fact the special reserve does not actually increase a credit union's loss absorbing capacity, the Board does not believe this provision is necessary for safety and soundness.

The proposed rule would also rescind the cross reference included in § 741.3(a). Section 741.3(a) states that, in determining the insurability of a credit union which makes application for insurance and in continuing the insurability of its accounts pursuant to title II of the FCU Act, FISCUs are subject to statutory prompt corrective action provisions,⁹ its implementing regulation, and subpart L of part 747 of

this chapter. These are cross references, and each referenced statute and regulation also states its applicability to FISCUs. Therefore, these references can be removed as duplicative, and the Board proposes to do so.

The proposed rule would also amend a reference to the nonconforming reserve in part 703 of NCUA's regulations (part 703). Section 703.1 sets forth what is included and excluded from part 703. Paragraph (b)(6) excludes FISCUs investment activity provided in § 741.3 related to non-conforming investments. The proposed rule would strike this reference.

Additionally, the proposed rule would remove a reference to appropriations for non-conforming investments in the risk-based capital rule. Section 702.104(b) states which elements are included in the definition of risk-based capital. One of the included elements is an appropriation for non-conforming investments.¹⁰ The proposed rule would remove this reference. The Board notes that under GAAP the special reserve is already considered part of undivided earnings. In removing the special reserve requirement, there should be no prompt corrective action implications from removing the appropriation account. The Board invites comment on this aspect of the proposal.

The Board solicits comments on all aspects of this proposal, but specifically solicits comment on the following:

Question 1. Should the Board consider alternatives to addressing nonconforming investments? For example, instead of a reserve, or addressing safety and soundness risks through the supervisory process, should the Board consider assigning a higher risk weight under part 702 for FISCUs subject to risk-based capital requirements?

Question 2: Do commenters believe that the limited number of FISCUs holding nonconforming reserves is due to the disincentive to hold nonconforming investments resulting from the special reserve requirement in part 741? Do commenters expect FISCUs investment activity to materially change if the proposed rule is adopted as final?

III. Regulatory Procedures

A. Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023

The Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023 (5 U.S.C. 553(b)(4)) requires that a notice of proposed rulemaking include the internet address of a summary of not

more than 100 words in length of a proposed rule, in plain language, that shall be posted on the internet website under section 206(d) of the E-Government Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. 3501 note) (commonly known as *regulations.gov*).

The Board is proposing to amend its regulations governing the requirements for federal share insurance. This action would remove the requirement for FISCUs to establish a special reserve for certain investments that are beyond those authorized for FCUs. The intended effect is to reduce unnecessary compliance and administrative burdens for FISCUs without diminishing the agency's ability to protect the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund.

The proposal and the required summary can be found at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

B. Executive Orders 12866, 13563, and 14192

Pursuant to Executive Order 12866 ("Regulatory Planning and Review"), a determination must be made whether a regulatory action is significant and therefore subject to review by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), within the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in accordance with the requirements of the Executive Order.¹¹ Executive Order 13563 ("Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review") supplements and reaffirms the principles, structures, and definitions governing contemporary regulatory review established in Executive Order 12866.¹² This proposed rule was drafted and reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 12866 and Executive Order 13563. OIRA has determined that this proposed rule is not a "significant regulatory action" as defined by section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866.

Executive Order 14192 ("Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation") requires that any new incremental costs associated with new regulations shall, to the extent permitted by law, be offset by the elimination of existing costs associated with at least 10 prior regulations.¹³ This proposed rule is not an Executive Order 14192 regulatory action because this rule is not significant under Executive Order 12866.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act¹⁴ generally requires an agency to conduct

⁸ 51 FR 37549 (Oct. 23, 1986) (describing the nonconforming investment reserve as a basic and longstanding safety and soundness standard established as a condition of NCUA insurance and designed to control risk to the Share Insurance Fund).

⁹ 12 U.S.C. 1790d.

¹⁰ 12 CFR 702.104(b)(1)(iii).

¹¹ 58 FR 51735 (Oct. 4, 1993).

¹² 76 FR 3821 (Jan. 21, 2011).

¹³ 90 FR 9065 (Feb. 6, 2025).

¹⁴ 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*

a regulatory flexibility analysis of any rule subject to notice and comment rulemaking requirements, unless the agency certifies that the rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. If the agency makes such a certification, it shall publish the certification at the time of publication of either the proposed rule or the final rule, along with a statement providing the factual basis for such certification.¹⁵ For purposes of this analysis, the NCUA considers small credit unions to be those having under \$100 million in assets.¹⁶ The Board fully considered the potential economic impacts of the regulatory amendments on small credit unions.

The proposed rule would remove a requirement for a separate reserve account. FISCUs would no longer need to account for the reserve or hold capital related to certain nonconforming investments. As described previously, the Board believes that the current requirement has a limited impact. Thus, it does not believe its removal would have a significant effect. Accordingly, the Board certifies the proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small credit unions.

D. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) generally provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and not withstanding any other provision of law, a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number. The PRA applies to rulemakings in which an agency creates a new or amends existing information collection requirements. For purposes of the PRA, an information-collection requirement may take the form of a reporting, recordkeeping, or a third-party disclosure requirement. The NCUA has determined that the change in the proposed rule does not create a new information collection or revise an existing information collection as defined by the PRA.

E. Executive Order 13132 on Federalism

Executive Order 13132 encourages certain agencies to consider the impact of their actions on state and local interests. The NCUA, an agency as defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(5), voluntarily complies with the executive order to adhere to fundamental federalism principles. This proposed rule would

apply to all FISCUs and would remove a separate requirement imposed only on FISCUs. There would be no effect on states or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. To the extent that the proposed rule would affect FISCUs uniquely, it would tend to remove a requirement that applies solely to FISCUs and would eliminate a burden that may apply based on their status and activity as state-chartered credit unions. The NCUA welcomes comments on ways to eliminate, or at least minimize, any potential impact in this area.

F. Assessment of Federal Regulations and Policies on Families

The NCUA has determined that this proposed rule would not affect family well-being within the meaning of section 654 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 1999.¹⁷ The proposed rule relates to special reserves held by FISCUs for certain investments, and any effect on family well-being is expected to be indirect.

List of Subjects

12 CFR Part 702

Banks, Banking, Credit unions, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements

12 CFR Part 703

Credit unions, Investments, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements

12 CFR Part 741

Bank deposit insurance, Credit, Credit unions, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

By the National Credit Union Administration Board, this 19th day of October, 2026.

Melane Conyers-Ausbrooks,
Secretary of the Board.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the NCUA Board proposes to amend 12 CFR parts 702, 703, and 741 as follows:

PART 702—CAPITAL ADEQUACY

- 1. The authority citation for part 702 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 1757(9), 1766(a), 1784(a), 1786(e), 1790d.

§ 702.104 [Amended]

- 2. Amend § 702.104 by:
 - a. Removing paragraph (b)(1)(ii); and
 - b. Redesignating paragraphs (b)(1)(iii) to (viii) as paragraphs (b)(1)(ii) to (vii).

PART 703—INVESTMENT AND DEPOSIT ACTIVITIES

- 3. The authority citation for part 703 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 1757(7), 1757(8), 1757(14) and 1757(15).

- 4. Revise § 703.1(b)(6) to read as follows:

§ 703.1 Purpose and scope.

(b) * * *

(6) Investment activity by State-chartered credit unions, except as provided in § 741.219 of this chapter; or
* * * * *

PART 741—REQUIREMENTS FOR INSURANCE

- 5. The authority citation for part 741 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 1757, 1766(a), 1781–1790, 1790d; 3331 *et seq.*; 31 U.S.C. 3717.

§ 741.3 [Amended]

- 6. Amend § 741.3 by:
 - a. Removing paragraph (a); and
 - b. Redesignating paragraphs (b) through (g) as paragraphs (a) through (f).

[FR Doc. 2026–21509 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7535–01–P

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

12 CFR Part 741

RIN 3133–AG26

Conversion to State-Chartered Credit Union

AGENCY: National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The NCUA Board (Board) solicits public comment on a proposal to remove a regulatory provision regarding the process for maintaining federal share insurance following the conversion of a federal credit union (FCU) to a state charter. The provision is unnecessarily duplicative of a similar provision contained in NCUA's Chartering and Field of Membership Manual (Manual), and is outdated, having been superseded by amendments to the Manual.

DATES: Comments must be received by December 21, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted in one of the following ways. (*Please send comments by one method only*):

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:*
<https://www.regulations.gov>. The docket number for this proposed rule is NCUA–

¹⁵ 5 U.S.C. 605(b).

¹⁶ 80 FR 57512 (Sept. 24, 2015).

¹⁷ Public Law 105–277, 112 Stat. 2681 (1998).

2026–1887. Follow the “Submit a comment” instructions. If you are reading this document on *federalregister.gov*, you may use the green “SUBMIT A PUBLIC COMMENT” button beneath this rulemaking’s title to submit a comment to the *regulations.gov* docket. A plain language summary of the proposed rule is also available on the docket website.

- **Mail:** Address to Melane Conyers-Ausbrooks, Secretary of the Board, National Credit Union Administration, 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314–3428.

- **Hand Delivery/Courier:** Same as mailing address.

Mailed and hand-delivered comments must be received by the close of the comment period.

Public inspection: Please follow the search instructions on <https://www.regulations.gov> to view the public comments. Do not include any personally identifiable information (such as name, address, or other contact information) or confidential business information that you do not want publicly disclosed. All comments are public records; they are publicly displayed exactly as received and will not be deleted, modified, or redacted. Comments may be submitted anonymously. If you are unable to access public comments on the internet, you may contact NCUA for alternative access by calling (703) 518–6540 or emailing OGCMail@ncua.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ariel Pereira, Senior Attorney, Office of General Counsel, at (703) 518–6540, or at 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

A. Background

On October 23, 1986, NCUA published a final rule amending its regulations in 12 CFR part 741, setting forth the requirements for obtaining and maintaining federal share insurance by credit unions.¹ Among other amendments, the October 23, 1986, final rule established regulations governing the maintenance of share insurance by an FCU converting to a state charter. This regulation, currently located in § 741.7, provides that an FCU “that petitions to convert to a state-chartered federally insured credit union is required to apply to the NCUA Regional Director for continued insurance of its accounts.”²

On December 2, 2008, NCUA published a final rule to codify the Manual as Appendix B to the regulations in 12 CFR part 701 (captioned—“Organization and Operation of Federal Credit Unions”).³ Chapter 4 of the Manual governs charter conversions generally, and section III of that chapter specifically addresses the conversion of an FCU to a state charter. As originally enacted, chapter 4, section III of the Manual tracked the wording of § 741.7 by providing that regional director approval was required for the continuation of federal share insurance subsequent to such conversion. Specifically, former chapter 4, section III.B. of the Manual provided that if “the [FCU] intends to continue federal share insurance after the conversion to a state credit union, it must submit an Application for Insurance of Accounts (NCUA 9600) to the regional director at the time it requests approval of the conversion proposal.”⁴

NCUA has twice amended chapter 4, section III.B. of the Manual since its regulatory codification in 2008. These amendments have been prompted by NCUA organizational changes in how the agency carries out its functions and responsibilities. On December 7, 2016, NCUA published a final rule that, among other changes, transferred responsibility for approving continued share insurance following an FCU conversion to the NCUA Office of Consumer Financial Protection and Access.⁵ Another final rule was published on December 20, 2017, to reflect further NCUA reorganization.⁶ This final rule transferred approval authority to NCUA’s Office of Credit Union Resources and Expansion (CURE).

NCUA inadvertently failed to make conforming changes to § 741.7 as part of the 2016 and 2017 final rules. As a result, § 741.7 has been effectively superseded by these amendments to the Manual. The regulation is outdated, referring to a process for the approval of continued share insurance following an FCU’s conversion that is no longer applicable. To address these concerns, NCUA proposes to remove § 741.7.

B. Legal Authority

The Board is issuing this proposed rule pursuant to its authority under the

redesignated several times, most recently through a 1995 final rule, where it was designated as 12 CFR 741.7. 60 FR 58502 (Nov. 28, 1995).

³ 73 FR 73392 (Dec. 2, 2008).

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ 81 FR 88412 (Dec. 7, 2016). The office was subsequently renamed the Office of Consumer Financial Protection.

⁶ 82 FR 60290 (Dec. 20, 2017).

FCU Act.⁷ Under the FCU Act, NCUA is the chartering and supervisory authority for FCUs and the federal supervisory authority for federally insured credit unions (FICUs). The FCU Act grants NCUA a broad mandate to issue regulations governing both FCUs and FICUs. Section 120 of the FCU Act is a general grant of regulatory authority and authorizes the Board to prescribe regulations for the administration of the FCU Act.⁸ Section 209 of the FCU Act is a plenary grant of regulatory authority to NCUA to issue regulations necessary or appropriate to carry out its role as share insurer for all FICUs.⁹

II. Proposed Rule

The proposed removal of § 741.7 would address several concerns. As discussed, the provision is outdated, having been superseded by the changes made to the Manual. An FCU wishing to retain federal share insurance after converting to a state charter is no longer required to seek approval from the regional director, as provided in § 741.7, but must instead submit its request to CURE. The removal of § 741.7 would help ensure that NCUA’s regulations are up-to-date and eliminate potential confusion regarding the approval process for continued share insurance following an FCU’s conversion.

In addition, the fact that the Manual and § 741.7 address the same issue is reflective of the fact that, prior to 2008, the Manual was not codified in the Code of Federal Regulations. However, upon the regulatory codification of the Manual, the two provisions became unnecessarily duplicative. As exemplified by § 741.7, such duplication runs the risk of an inadvertent inconsistency being introduced when one of the provisions is amended and a conforming change is not made to the other. The removal of § 741.7 would eliminate this redundancy and the possibility of additional inconsistencies being created in the regulations.

NCUA emphasizes the technical, non-substantive nature of the proposed regulatory change. The proposed rule would not amend the existing process for an FCU seeking to maintain share insurance following its conversion to a state charter. Such process will continue to be governed by chapter 4 of the Manual.

⁷ 12 U.S.C. 1751 *et seq.*

⁸ 12 U.S.C. 1766(a).

⁹ 12 U.S.C. 1789.

¹ 51 FR 37549 (Oct. 23, 1986).

² The regulatory provision was originally designated as § 741.8 but was subsequently

III. Regulatory Procedures

A. Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023

The Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023 (5 U.S.C. 553(b)(4)) (Act) requires that a notice of proposed rulemaking include the internet address of a summary of not more than 100 words in length of a proposed rule, in plain language, that shall be posted on the internet website under section 206(d) of the E-Government Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. 3501 note) (commonly known as *regulations.gov*).

In summary, the Board solicits public comment on a proposal to remove a regulatory provision regarding the process for maintaining federal share insurance following the conversion of an FCU to a state charter. The provision is unnecessarily duplicative of a similar provision contained in the Manual, and is outdated, having been superseded by amendments to the Manual.

The proposal and the required summary can be found at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

B. Executive Orders 12866, 13563, and 14192

Pursuant to Executive Order 12866 (“Regulatory Planning and Review”), a determination must be made whether a regulatory action is significant and therefore subject to review by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), within the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in accordance with the requirements of the Executive Order.¹⁰ Executive Order 13563 (“Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review”) supplements and reaffirms the principles, structures, and definitions governing contemporary regulatory review established in Executive Order 12866.¹¹ This proposed rule was drafted and reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 12866 and Executive Order 13563. OIRA has determined that this proposed rule is not a “significant regulatory action” as defined by section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866.

Executive Order 14192 (“Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation”) requires that any new incremental costs associated with new regulations shall, to the extent permitted by law, be offset by the elimination of existing costs associated with at least 10 prior regulations.¹² This proposed rule is not an Executive Order 14192 regulatory action because this rule is not

significant under Executive Order 12866. This proposed rule is expected to be an Executive Order 14912 deregulatory action.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act¹³ generally requires an agency to conduct a regulatory flexibility analysis of any rule subject to notice and comment rulemaking requirements, unless the agency certifies that the rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. If the agency makes such a certification, it shall publish the certification at the time of publication of either the proposed rule or the final rule, along with a statement providing the factual basis for such certification.¹⁴ For purposes of this analysis, NCUA considers small credit unions to be those having under \$100 million in assets.¹⁵ The Board fully considered the potential economic impacts of the regulatory amendments on small credit unions.

The proposed rule is exclusively concerned with the removal of the obsolete § 741.7, which has been superseded by amendments made to the Manual. The proposal would not make any substantive changes to existing regulatory requirements. To the extent the proposed rule has any economic effect, it would be to relieve credit unions of the costs borne in attempting to reconcile apparently contradictory regulatory provisions. Any such costs are likely minimal. Accordingly, NCUA certifies the proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small credit unions.

D. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) generally provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and not withstanding any other provision of law, a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number. The PRA applies to rulemakings in which an agency creates a new or amends existing information collection requirements. For purposes of the PRA, an information-collection requirement may take the form of a reporting, recordkeeping, or a third-party disclosure requirement. NCUA has determined that the changes in the proposed rule do not create a new information collection or revise an

existing information collection as defined by the PRA.

E. Executive Order 13132 on Federalism

Executive Order 13132 encourages certain agencies to consider the impact of their actions on state and local interests.¹⁶ NCUA, an agency as defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(5), complies with the executive order to adhere to fundamental federalism principles. While the scope of the proposal involves FCUs converting to a state charter, the proposed rule would not alter existing requirements governing such conversions. As noted, the proposed rule is exclusively concerned with the removal of an obsolete regulatory provision. Therefore, to the extent the proposed would have any impact on credit unions, it would be to provide greater clarity regarding the applicable requirements governing conversion to a state charter. The proposed rule would not have a substantial direct effect on the states, the relationship between the national government and the states, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. NCUA welcomes comments on ways to eliminate, or at least minimize, any potential impact in this area.

F. Assessment of Federal Regulations and Policies on Families

NCUA has determined that this proposed rule would not affect family well-being within the meaning of section 654 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 1999.¹⁷ As noted, the proposed rule removes an outdated regulatory provision that has been superseded by subsequent amendments to other codified provisions. The potential positive effect on family well-being, including financial well-being is, at most, indirect.

List of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 741

Bank deposit insurance, Credit, Credit unions, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

By the National Credit Union Administration Board, this 19th day of October, 2026.

Melane Conyers-Ausbrooks,
Secretary of the Board.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Board proposes to amend 12 CFR part 741, as follows:

¹⁰ 58 FR 51735 (Oct. 4, 1993).

¹¹ 76 FR 3821 (Jan. 21, 2011).

¹² 90 FR 9065 (Feb. 6, 2025).

¹³ 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*

¹⁴ 5 U.S.C. 605(b).

¹⁵ 80 FR 57512 (Sept. 24, 2015).

¹⁶ 64 FR 43255 (Aug. 10, 1999).

¹⁷ Public Law 105–277, 112 Stat. 2681 (1998).

PART 741—REQUIREMENTS FOR INSURANCE

■ 1. The authority citation for part 741 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 1757, 1766(a), 1781–1790, 1790d, 3331 *et seq.*; 31 U.S.C. 3717.

§ 741.7 [Removed and reserved]

■ 2. Remove and reserve § 741.7.

[FR Doc. 2026–21508 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7535–01–P

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

12 CFR Part 745

RIN 3133–AG24

Notification to Members/Shareholders

AGENCY: National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The NCUA Board (Board) solicits public comment on a proposal to streamline the methods a federally insured credit union (FICU) may use to provide its members with notice of share insurance coverage. The current regulation is overly prescriptive, mandating that a FICU make available hard copies of certain prescribed materials. While a FICU would still be required to provide notice to members, the proposed rule would defer to the FICU on the method used for such notification. Among other methods, a FICU may elect to provide members with a link to updated online resources that will be maintained on the NCUA website. The Board believes the proposed rule will provide greater flexibility, reduce compliance costs for both NCUA and FICUs, and ensure that members are provided with up-to-date information regarding share insurance coverage.

DATES: Comments must be received by December 21, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted in one of the following ways. (*Please send comments by one method only*):

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <https://www.regulations.gov>. The docket number for this proposed rule is NCUA–2026–1888. Follow the “Submit a comment” instructions. If you are reading this document on [federalregister.gov](https://www.federalregister.gov), you may use the green “SUBMIT A PUBLIC COMMENT” button beneath this rulemaking’s title to submit a comment to the [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) docket. A plain language summary of the proposed rule is also available on the docket website.

- **Mail:** Address to Melane Conyers-Ausbrooks, Secretary of the Board, National Credit Union Administration, 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314–3428.

- **Hand Delivery/Courier:** Same as mailing address.

Mailed and hand-delivered comments must be received by the close of the comment period.

Public inspection: Please follow the search instructions on <https://www.regulations.gov> to view the public comments. Do not include any personally identifiable information (such as name, address, or other contact information) or confidential business information that you do not want publicly disclosed. All comments are public records; they are publicly displayed exactly as received and will not be deleted, modified, or redacted. Comments may be submitted anonymously. If you are unable to access public comments on the internet, you may contact the NCUA for alternative access by calling (703) 518–6540 or emailing OGCMail@ncua.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ariel Pereira or Thomas Zells, Senior Attorneys, Office of General Counsel, at (703) 518–6540, or by mail at National Credit Union Administration, at 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

NCUA insures funds maintained in accounts of members or those otherwise eligible to maintain insured accounts (member accounts) at FICUs, protects the members who own FICUs, and charters and regulates federal credit unions (FCUs).¹ NCUA administers the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund (Share Insurance Fund). Backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, the Share Insurance Fund provides Federal share insurance to millions of account holders in FICUs.

Under the FCU Act, NCUA is responsible for paying share insurance to any member, or to any person with funds lawfully held in a member account, in the event of a FICU’s failure, up to the standard maximum share insurance amount, which is currently set at \$250,000.² The FCU Act states the determination of the net amount of share insurance paid “shall be in

accordance with such regulations as the Board may prescribe.”³ The Board’s share insurance regulations are codified in 12 CFR part 745. Section 745.13 currently requires each FICU to “provide notice to its members concerning NCUA insurance coverage of member accounts” and lists several ways a FICU may comply with this requirement. This section also requires FICUs to make copies of the relevant materials available to their members on request.

B. Legal Authority

The Board is issuing this proposed rule pursuant to its authority under the FCU Act. As noted, the FCU Act grants NCUA specific authority to draft share insurance regulations.⁴ Further, under the FCU Act, NCUA is the chartering and supervisory authority for FCUs and the federal supervisory authority for FICUs.⁵ The FCU Act grants NCUA a broad mandate to issue regulations governing both FCUs and all FICUs. Section 120 of the FCU Act is a general grant of regulatory authority and authorizes the Board to prescribe rules and regulations for the administration of the FCU Act.⁶ Section 207 of the FCU Act is a specific grant of authority over share insurance coverage, conservatorships, and liquidations.⁷ Section 209 of the FCU Act is a plenary grant of regulatory authority to issue rules and regulations necessary or appropriate to carry out its role as share insurer for all FICUs.⁸ Accordingly, the FCU Act grants the Board broad rulemaking authority to ensure that the credit union industry and the Share Insurance Fund remain safe and sound.

II. Proposed Rule

The Board’s share insurance regulation at § 745.13 requires that each FICU “provide notice to its members concerning NCUA insurance coverage of member accounts.” Moreover, the regulation specifies the methods a FICU may use to comply with the notification requirement. Specifically, § 745.13 provides that a FICU may comply with the notification requirement by placing “either a copy of part 745 of these rules, the appendix [to part 745], or one or more copies of the NCUA brochure ‘Your Insured Funds’ in each branch office and main office of the credit

¹ The Board’s share insurance regulation at § 745.1 defines the term “member” to include both those persons enumerated in the credit union’s field of membership who have become members and those nonmembers permitted under the FCU Act to maintain accounts in a FICU. For simplicity, this preamble’s use of the word “member” also includes authorized nonmembers.

² 12 U.S.C. 1787(k)(1)(A).

³ 12 U.S.C. 1787(k)(1)(C).

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ 12 U.S.C. 1752–1775.

⁶ 12 U.S.C. 1766(a).

⁷ 12 U.S.C. 1787.

⁸ 12 U.S.C. 1789.

union.”⁹ Copies of these materials must also be made available to members upon request. Thus, while the regulation lists options and does not make them exclusive, it ultimately does require FICUs to provide physical copies of materials, which necessarily leads to costs for those FICUs.

Upon reconsideration, the Board has determined that the regulation imposes an unnecessary cost on both NCUA and FICUs. For NCUA, § 745.13 requires that the agency assume the administrative and staff costs associated with periodically reviewing and updating the “Your Insurance Funds” brochure, which is currently 64 pages long, and arranging and paying for the production and distribution of some brochures. FICUs must incur the costs of purchasing or printing and making the hard copy materials readily available to members. The regulation is also unnecessarily prescriptive in requiring such hard copies, given the ready availability of the part 745 regulations online at the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (eCFR) website.¹⁰ Further, the eCFR is updated on a daily basis, thereby ensuring it always contains the most up-to-date version of the regulations.¹¹ To the contrary, a FICU must dispose of existing hard copies and print a new version of 12 CFR part 745 each time the regulation is amended. In addition, the NCUA’s website contains up-to-date information about share insurance coverage.

For the above reasons, the Board has decided to issue this proposed rule, which would amend § 745.13 to simply provide that each FICU “shall provide notice to its members concerning NCUA insurance coverage of member accounts.”¹²

As part of this rulemaking, NCUA intends to discontinue the “Your Insurance Funds” brochure and will undertake an update of its share insurance coverage website to ensure its comprehensiveness, clarity, and ease of

navigation.¹³ The updated website will provide FICUs and their members with a dynamic and up-to-date resource for information regarding share insurance requirements. At the same time, this resource will be freely available to FICUs and their members.

As is true under the existing regulation, revised § 745.13 would not prescribe the timing for providing the required notice. However, NCUA’s expectation is that notice will be provided at a logical point in time that is beneficial to members, which would include upon request by a member. For example, a FICU could, if it chose, provide the notice at account opening or other logical time. In addition, revised § 745.13 would defer to the FICU on the method used for providing the required notification. NCUA’s expectation is that a FICU will elect a reasonable method that provides members with authoritative information about share insurance coverage. For example, a FICU could, if it chose, continue to make hard copies available or elect to provide members with a link to NCUA’s website or the eCFR. In updating its share insurance coverage website, NCUA will consider ease of printing to facilitate the provision of hard copies for those FICUs that elect to do so.

The Board believes the proposed rule would provide greater flexibility, reduce compliance costs for both NCUA and FICUs, ensure that members and others are provided with up-to-date information regarding share insurance coverage, and allow FICUs to provide the information through digital means. The Board welcomes public comment on all aspects of the proposal.

III. Regulatory Procedures

A. Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023

The Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023 (5 U.S.C. 553(b)(4)) (Act) requires that a notice of proposed rulemaking include the internet address of a summary of not more than 100 words in length of a proposed rule, in plain language, that shall be posted on the internet website under section 206(d) of the E-Government Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. 3501 note) (commonly known as *regulations.gov*). The Act, under its terms, applies to notices of proposed rulemaking and does not expressly include other types of documents that the Board publishes voluntarily for public comment, such as notices and interim-final rules that request comment despite invoking “good cause” to forgo

such notice and public procedure. The Board, however, has elected to address the Act’s requirement in these types of documents in the interests of administrative consistency and transparency.

In summary, the Board solicits public comment on a proposal to streamline the methods a FICU may use to provide its members with notice of share insurance coverage. The current regulation is overly prescriptive, mandating that a FICU make available hard copies of certain prescribed materials. While a FICU would still be required to provide notice to members, the proposed rule would defer to the FICU on the method used for such notification.

The proposal and the required summary can be found at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

B. Executive Orders 12866, 13563, and 14192

Pursuant to Executive Order 12866 (“Regulatory Planning and Review”), a determination must be made whether a regulatory action is significant and therefore subject to review by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), within the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in accordance with the requirements of the Executive Order.¹⁴ Executive Order 13563 (“Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review”) supplements and reaffirms the principles, structures, and definitions governing contemporary regulatory review established in Executive Order 12866.¹⁵ This proposed rule was drafted and reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 12866 and Executive Order 13563. OIRA has determined that this proposed rule is not a “significant regulatory action” as defined by section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866.

Executive Order 14192 (“Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation”) requires that any new incremental costs associated with new regulations shall, to the extent permitted by law, be offset by the elimination of existing costs associated with at least 10 prior regulations.¹⁶ This proposed rule is not an Executive Order 14192 regulatory action because this rule is not significant under Executive Order 12866. This proposed rule is expected to be an Executive Order 14192 deregulatory action.

⁹ Through final rule published on September 24, 2024, at 89 FR 79397, the appendix to part 745 will be removed. The final rule will take effect on December 1, 2026. The quoted text reflects the regulatory language currently in effect, which includes a reference to the soon-to-be removed appendix.

¹⁰ <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-12/chapter-VII/subchapter-A/part-745>.

¹¹ <https://www.ecfr.gov/issues/current>.

¹² The Board notes that the notice requirement in § 745.13 supplements the requirement related to federal insurance coverage in § 740.4 for insured credit unions to “continuously display the official sign . . . at each station or window where insured account funds or deposits are normally received in its principal place of business and in all its branches” and to “display the official sign on its internet page, if any, where it accepts deposits or open accounts.”

¹³ <https://ncua.gov/consumers/share-insurance-coverage>.

¹⁴ 58 FR 51735 (Oct. 4, 1993).

¹⁵ 76 FR 3821 (Jan. 21, 2011).

¹⁶ 90 FR 9065 (Feb. 6, 2025).

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act¹⁷ generally requires an agency to conduct a regulatory flexibility analysis of any rule subject to notice and comment rulemaking requirements, unless the agency certifies that the rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. If the agency makes such a certification, it shall publish the certification at the time of publication of either the proposed rule or the final rule, along with a statement providing the factual basis for such certification.¹⁸ For purposes of this analysis, NCUA considers small credit unions to be those having under \$100 million in assets.¹⁹ The Board fully considered the potential economic impacts of the regulatory amendments on small credit unions.

The proposed rule would streamline the method a FICU may use to provide its members with notice of share insurance coverage. Under the proposal, a FICU would no longer be required to make available hard copies of certain prescribed materials. FICUs would instead have the flexibility to satisfy the notice requirements by providing members with a link to online resources. Accordingly, to the extent that the proposed rule has any economic impacts on small FICUs, it would be to reduce the costs borne by such credit unions. Neither the current economic burden imposed by the current regulation nor the concomitant reduction resulting from the proposed rule is likely significant, being limited to the staff-time and costs of printing the materials. Accordingly, NCUA certifies the final rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small credit unions.

D. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) generally provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person is not required to respond to a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The PRA applies to rulemaking in which an agency creates new or amends existing information collection requirements. For purposes of the PRA, an information collection requirement may take the form of a reporting, recordkeeping, or a third-party disclosure requirement. NCUA has reviewed this proposed rule and determined that it does not create any

new or revise any existing collections of information. Accordingly, no PRA submissions to OMB will be made with respect to this rule.

E. Executive Order 13132 on Federalism

Executive Order 13132 encourages independent regulatory agencies to consider the impact of their actions on state and local interests.²⁰ NCUA, an agency as defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(5), complies with the executive order to adhere to fundamental federalism principles. This proposed rule would only impact NCUA's regulations related to federal share insurance coverage; it would not alter NCUA's relationship or division of responsibilities with state regulatory agencies or bodies. This proposal would not have a substantial direct effect on the states, on the connection between the national government and the states, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. NCUA has determined that this proposal does not constitute a policy that has federalism implications for the purposes of the executive order.

F. Assessment of Federal Regulations and Policies on Families

NCUA has determined that this proposed rule would not affect family well-being within the meaning of Section 654 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 1999.²¹ The regulatory requirements that are the subject of this proposed rule are exclusively concerned with notice requirements. To the extent the proposal has any impact on families, it would be beneficial by helping families make better informed financial decisions that implicate NCUA share insurance. However, the potential positive effect on family well-being, including financial well-being is, at most, indirect because the proposed rule would not materially change the information provided to the public about share insurance coverage.

List of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 745

Credit, Credit unions, Share insurance.

By the National Credit Union Administration Board, this 19th day of October, 2026.

Melane Conyers-Ausbrooks,
Secretary of the Board.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the NCUA Board proposes to amend 12 CFR part 745 as follows:

PART 745—SHARE INSURANCE AND APPENDIX

■ 1. The authority citation for part continues to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 1752(5), 1757, 1765, 1766, 1781, 1782, 1787, 1789; title V, Pub. L. 109–351; 120 Stat. 1966.

■ 2. Revise § 745.13 to read as follows:

§ 745.13 Notification to members/ shareholders.

Each insured credit union shall provide notice to its members concerning NCUA insurance coverage of member accounts.

[FR Doc. 2026–21512 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7535–01–P

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

16 CFR Part 1

[File No. R707000]

Petition for Rulemaking of Jason Plotzker

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Receipt of petition; request for comment.

SUMMARY: Please take notice that the Federal Trade Commission (“Commission”) received a petition for rulemaking from Jason Plotzker and has published that petition online at <https://www.regulations.gov>. The Commission invites written comments concerning the petition. Publication of this petition is pursuant to the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure and does not affect the legal status of the petition or its final disposition.

DATES: Comments must identify the petition docket number and be filed by November 20, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may view the petition, identified by docket number FTC–2026–1618, and submit written comments concerning its merits by using the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit sensitive or confidential information. You may read background documents or comments received at <https://www.regulations.gov> at any time.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Office of the Secretary (phone: 202–326–2514, email: ElectronicFilings@ftc.gov), Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. 57a(1)(B), and FTC Rule 1.31(f), 16 CFR

¹⁷ 5 U.S.C.601 *et seq.*

¹⁸ 5 U.S.C. 605(b).

¹⁹ 80 FR 57512 (Sept. 24, 2015).

²⁰ 64 FR 43255 (Aug. 4, 1999).

²¹ Public Law 105–277, 112 Stat. 2681 (1998).

1.31(f), notice is hereby given that the above-captioned petition has been filed with the Secretary of the Commission and placed on the public record for a period of 30 days. Any person may submit comments in support of or opposition to the petition. All timely and responsive comments submitted in connection with this petition will become part of the public record.

This petition requests the issuance of rules concerning deceptive or materially misleading price advertising by penny auction and pay-per-bid auction operators. The Commission will not consider the petition's merits until after the comment period closes. It may grant or deny the petition in whole or in part, and it may deem the petition insufficient to warrant commencement of a rulemaking proceeding. The purpose of this document is to facilitate public comment on the petition to aid the Commission in determining what, if any, action to take regarding the request contained in the petition. This document is not intended to start, stop, cancel, or otherwise affect rulemaking proceedings in any way.

Because your comment will be placed on the publicly accessible website at <https://www.regulations.gov>, you are solely responsible for making sure your comment does not include any sensitive or confidential information. In particular, your comment should not include any sensitive personal information, such as your or anyone else's Social Security number; date of birth; driver's license number or other State identification number, or foreign country equivalent; passport number; financial account number; or credit or debit card number. You are also solely responsible for making sure your comment does not include any sensitive health information, such as medical records or other individually identifiable health information. In addition, your comment should not include any "trade secret or any commercial or financial information which . . . is privileged or confidential"—as provided by section 6(f) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and FTC Rule 4.10(a)(2), 16 CFR 4.10(a)(2).

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 46; 15 U.S.C. 57a; 5 U.S.C. 601 note.

April J. Tabor,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–21510 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6750–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

26 CFR Part 1

[REG–134016–15]

RIN 1545–BN47

Guidance Under Section 355 Concerning Device and Active Trade or Business; Partial Withdrawal

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Partial withdrawal of notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This document partially withdraws a notice of proposed rulemaking containing proposed regulations regarding the application of the device prohibition and the active trade or business requirement for distributions of controlled corporation stock (or stock and securities) by a distributing corporation without income, gain, or loss. The proposed regulations would affect corporations and their shareholders and security holders.

DATES: The notice of proposed rulemaking published in the **Federal Register** on July 15, 2016 (81 FR 46004), is partially withdrawn as of October 21, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Commenters may submit public comments electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number IRS–2016–0030 or may send paper submissions to CC:PA:01:PR (REG–134016–15), Room 5503, Internal Revenue Service, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Aglaia Ovtchinnikova at (202) 317–6847 or Justin Du Mouchel at (202) 317–6975 (not toll-free numbers).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

If a distribution of stock (or stock and securities) of a controlled corporation (within the meaning of section 355(a)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code (Code)) satisfies the numerous requirements of section 355 and other relevant provisions of the Code and the Income Tax Regulations (26 CFR part 1),¹ the distribution may occur without recognition of any gain or loss to the distributing corporation (within the meaning of section 355(a)(1)(A)) and

without recognition of any gain or loss to, or the inclusion of any amount in the income of, the shareholders or security holders of the distributing corporation.

Among the numerous requirements to qualify for the Federal income tax treatment available under section 355, section 355(a)(1)(B) and § 1.355–2(b)(4) and (d) provide that a transaction must not be used principally as a device for the distribution of the earnings and profits of the distributing corporation, the controlled corporation, or both (device prohibition). Additionally, section 355(a)(1)(C) and (b) and §§ 1.355–2(h) and 1.355–3 require each of the distributing corporation and the controlled corporation to be engaged, immediately after the distribution, in the active conduct of a trade or business (active trade or business requirement).

On July 15, 2016, the Department of the Treasury (Treasury Department) and the IRS published a notice of proposed rulemaking (REG–134016–15) in the **Federal Register** (81 FR 46004) that would modify the regulations under section 355 with respect to the device prohibition and the active trade or business requirement. Among other proposed changes, those modifications would have included a “per se” test in proposed § 1.355–2(d)(5) to determine whether a distribution violated the device prohibition and two sets of anti-abuse rules.

Under the proposed “per se” device rule, if the distributing corporation's or the controlled corporation's “Nonbusiness Asset Percentage” (as defined in proposed § 1.355–2(d)(2)(iv)(B)(5)) exceeded certain designated percentages (both individually and in comparison to the other corporation's Nonbusiness Asset Percentage), the transaction would have been considered a device notwithstanding the presence of any other nondevice factors (such as a corporate business purpose), with limited exceptions.

Under the first set of anti-abuse rules in proposed § 1.355–2(d)(2)(iv)(E) and (d)(5)(iv), a transaction or series of transactions (such as a change in the form of ownership of an asset; an issuance, assumption or repayment of indebtedness; or an issuance or redemption of stock) would not have been given effect if undertaken with a principal purpose of affecting the Nonbusiness Asset Percentage of any corporation to avoid a determination that a distribution was a device.

The second anti-abuse rule (minimum active trade or business anti-abuse rule) was set forth in proposed § 1.355–9(d) and related to the minimum active trade or business requirement in proposed

¹ Unless otherwise specified, all “section” or “§” references are to sections of the Code or the Income Tax Regulations (26 CFR part 1).

§ 1.355–9, under which the “Five-Year-Active-Business Asset Percentage” (as defined in proposed § 1.355–9(a)(6)) of each of the distributing corporation and the controlled corporation would be required to be at least five percent. Under the minimum active trade or business anti-abuse rule, a transaction or series of transactions would not have been given effect if undertaken with a principal purpose of affecting the Five-Year-Active-Business Asset Percentage of any corporation to avoid a determination that a distribution does not meet the minimum active trade or business requirement in proposed § 1.355–9.

The device anti-abuse rules and the minimum active trade or business anti-abuse rule generally would not have applied to (i) non-transitory acquisitions or dispositions of assets, or (ii) non-transitory transfers of assets between the distributing corporation and the controlled corporation.

The Treasury Department and the IRS received feedback from stakeholders that generally was critical of the proposed “per se” device rule and the two anti-abuse rules. In response to the feedback received, the Treasury Department and the IRS are withdrawing proposed §§ 1.355–2(d)(2)(iv)(E) and (d)(5) and 1.355–9(d). The withdrawal of these proposed rules does not affect the potential application of other rules or judicial doctrines, such as the substance-over-form or step-transaction doctrines. The Treasury Department and the IRS continue to study the issues addressed in the 2016 proposed regulations.

Drafting Information

The principal author of this document is Aglaia Ovtchinnikova of the Office of Associate Chief Counsel (Corporate). However, other personnel from the Treasury Department and the IRS participated in its development.

List of Subjects in 26 CFR Part 1

Income Taxes, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Partial Withdrawal of Proposed Amendments to the Regulations

Under the authority of 26 U.S.C. 7805, proposed §§ 1.355–2(d)(2)(iv)(E) and (d)(5) and 1.355–9(d), contained in the notice of proposed rulemaking (REG–134016–15) that was published in the **Federal Register** on July 15, 2016 (81 FR 46004), are withdrawn.

Frank J. Bisignano,
Chief Executive Officer.

[FR Doc. 2026–21568 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4831–GV–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 261015–0010]

RIN 0648–BO22

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Modify Groundfish Season Timing in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fisheries

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Proposed rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS proposes two technical revisions to regulations for the opening and closing times of groundfish fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) and Gulf of Alaska (GOA) management areas. First, this proposed rule would authorize NMFS to determine the opening and closing times for the sablefish Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and Community Development Quota (CDQ) fishing season, taking into consideration the halibut IFQ/CDQ season set by the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC). Second, this proposed rule would allow NMFS flexibility to change the time of day for closing a groundfish fishery. This proposed rule is necessary to minimize regulatory discards, reduce uncertainty for fishery participants, and enable fuller utilization and more precise limitation of allowable harvest. This action is intended to promote the goals and objectives of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish of the BSAI Management Area (BSAI FMP) and the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fisheries of the GOA (GOA FMP), and other applicable laws.

DATES: Submit comments on or before November 20, 2026.

ADDRESSES: A plain language summary of this proposed rule is available at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NOAA-NMFS-2026-1948>. You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2026–1948, by either of the following methods:

- **Electronic Submission:** Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Visit <https://www.regulations.gov> and type

NOAA–NMFS–2026–1948 in the Search box. Click on the “Comment” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

- **Mail:** Submit written comments to Gretchen Harrington, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region NMFS, Mail comments to P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802–1668.

Instructions: Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on <https://www.regulations.gov> without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments. Enter “N/A” in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous.

Electronic copies of the draft Regulatory Impact Review (referred to as the “Analysis”) and Categorical Exclusion (CE) prepared for this action are available from <https://www.regulations.gov> with a search for 0648–BO22 or from the NMFS Rules and Regulation website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/rules-and-regulations/fisheries>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Molly Zaleski, 907–586–7228, molly.zaleski@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority for Action

NMFS manages the groundfish fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) under the BSAI FMP and GOA FMP. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) prepared and recommended these FMPs under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.* Regulations governing U.S. fisheries and implementing the BSAI and GOA FMPs appear at 50 CFR parts 600 and 679. This action is necessary to effectively carry out section 3.5.1 (Fishing Seasons) of both the BSAI FMP and GOA FMP, which defines when harvesting groundfish is permitted. That section of both FMPs states that the Secretary of Commerce will establish all fishing seasons by regulations that implement the FMPs to accomplish the goals and objectives of the FMPs, the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and other applicable laws.

Background

Section 3.5.1 (Fishing Seasons) of the BSAI and GOA FMPs defines the

periods when harvesting groundfish is permitted, the criteria the Council uses for recommending regulatory changes to fishing seasons, and the responsibility of the Secretary of Commerce for establishing fishing season by regulations to accomplish the goals and objectives of the FMPs. Groundfish seasons are specified at 50 CFR 679.23 and the authority to implement fishery closures is specified at § 679.20(d). A more detailed description of the background information and need for this proposed rule is provided in the Analysis prepared for this action (see ADDRESSES).

Sablefish and Halibut IFQ/CDQ Season Timing

Pacific halibut and sablefish fisheries off Alaska are managed under different statutory authorities, but harvest for both species often occurs at the same time. Pacific halibut fisheries in and off Alaska are managed under the authority of the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 (Halibut Act), which domestically implements an international agreement between the United States and Canada with annual allocations to each country set by the IPHC. The IPHC annually recommends management regulations that are subject to approval by the Secretary of State with the concurrence of the Secretary of Commerce, and NMFS then publishes the management measures as regulations on behalf of the IPHC. In contrast, sablefish fisheries in the EEZ off Alaska are managed under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Although implemented under different authorities, the directed fixed gear commercial sablefish and halibut fisheries in Alaska are managed under the Halibut and Sablefish IFQ Program and the CDQ Program codified at 50 CFR part 679. Because many fishery participants hold halibut IFQ and sablefish IFQ and fish both simultaneously, they have benefited from aligned season timing.

Historically, the IPHC has set the time of day for the opening and closing of the halibut commercial fishing period as 1200 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), which aligned with the time for the groundfish openings and closures, which includes the sablefish IFQ/CDQ fishing season, that is set in regulation. However, in 2024 the IPHC changed the opening of the halibut season to 0600 hours, A.l.t., and closing to 2359 hours, A.l.t., in response to requests from fishery participants (89 FR 19275, 18 March 2024). While the Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator) can set the sablefish IFQ/CDQ fishing season dates to align with the commercial halibut

IFQ/CDQ fishery for the purposes of reducing bycatch and regulatory discards between the two fisheries (§ 679.23(g)), current regulations direct that the opening and closing time for groundfish, including sablefish, must be 1200 hours, A.l.t. (§ 679.23(b)).

Vessel operators targeting halibut are frequently also targeting and catching sablefish as recognized in the language of § 679.23(g), such that the two fisheries can benefit from shared opening and closing times. A mismatch in opening and closing times for the sablefish and halibut IFQ/CDQ fisheries can lead to an increase in sablefish discards. Under current regulation at § 679.20(e), sablefish that are caught in the halibut fishery before 1200 hours, A.l.t., of the opening day or after 1200 hours, A.l.t., of the closing day cannot be retained over the maximum retainable amount (MRA) because they are counted as incidental catch. This requires sablefish and halibut IFQ/CDQ harvesters to either delay setting gear for halibut or discard sablefish caught in excess of the MRA for the first 6 hours of the halibut season and the last 12 hours of the halibut season.

Groundfish Closure Timing

Current regulations require the time for all openings and closures of groundfish fishing seasons, other than the beginning and end of the calendar fishing year, be set at 1200 hours, A.l.t. (§ 679.23(b)). If the Regional Administrator determines that a groundfish fishery opening or closure is warranted under § 679.20(d), NMFS announces the opening or closure in the **Federal Register**. Although NMFS specifies the time of these openings and closures, currently § 679.23(b) requires that the time specified always be 1200 hours, A.l.t. The fixed time of 1200 hours, A.l.t., sometimes results in NMFS closing a fishery under § 679.20(d) before the total allowable catch (TAC) is fully harvested. For example, if NMFS determines that the fishing fleet is catching 500 metric tons (mt) of groundfish every 24 hours and there is 750 mt remaining, NMFS must close the fishery at 1200 hours, A.l.t., the day before the TAC is reached, resulting in a 250 mt underage of TAC. Under this same scenario, given more flexibility on the closing time than is currently permitted, NMFS could close the fishery at 2400 hours, A.l.t., which would allow for more of the remaining 250 mt of groundfish to be harvested and could allow the TAC to be fully utilized while still avoiding a TAC overage.

Need for This Action

Current regulations at § 679.23(b) do not provide flexibility for NMFS to determine the best time of day to open or close a groundfish fishery.

In April 2025, the Council requested that NMFS revise regulations to allow NMFS to align the sablefish IFQ/CDQ season timing with the fishing period the IPHC sets for the commercial halibut IFQ/CDQ fishery. This action would minimize regulatory discards, improve harvest efficiency, and reduce uncertainty for fishery participants. Giving NMFS the flexibility to align the opening and closing times for sablefish and halibut IFQ/CDQ fishing seasons will ensure that sablefish IFQ/CDQ holders do not need to discard sablefish for the first 6 hours or the last 12 hours of the halibut IFQ/CDQ fishing season. In addition, should the IPHC revise the opening and closing time for the commercial halibut IFQ/CDQ fishery in the future, NMFS would have the ability to follow suit.

In October 2025, the Council expressed support for NMFS to modify the groundfish fishery closure timing to allow NMFS the flexibility to close the fishery at a different time if necessary for harvest to be closer to the TAC. This action would allow the Regional Administrator to close a groundfish fishery at a different time of the day, giving NMFS more flexibility and potentially allowing groundfish TACs to be more fully utilized and to avoid TAC overages. This would result in greater precision of management of some groundfish fisheries and reduce the probability of falling short of the TAC for the groundfish fleets. By allowing NMFS to specify the appropriate closure time instead of defaulting to 1200 hours, A.l.t., vessel operators may have additional opportunity to harvest and maximize the catch of valuable groundfish due to additional fishing hours. In addition, NMFS would have more flexibility in setting a closure time that ensures a TAC is not exceeded.

Proposed Rule

Through this action, NMFS is proposing to do the following: (1) modify regulations to allow the Regional Administrator to determine the opening and closing times of the sablefish IFQ/CDQ season based on dates and times for the halibut season, and (2) modify regulations to allow the Regional Administrator the flexibility to set the time of day for a groundfish closure when NMFS takes an inseason management action under § 679.20(d).

Sablefish IFQ/CDQ Season Timing

The first revision to address sablefish season timing alignment would apply exclusively to vessel operators fishing for sablefish under the IFQ and CDQ Programs with fixed gear in the BSAI and GOA management areas and would authorize the Regional Administrator to determine the opening and closing times for the sablefish IFQ/CDQ fishing season, taking into consideration the halibut IFQ/CDQ season set by the IPHC. To accomplish this, the proposed rule would revise § 679.23(g)(1) to allow the Regional Administrator to set the season opening and closing times by amending to state “opening and closing dates and times for sablefish” where originally the Regional Administrator only determined the opening date for sablefish. An exception from the 1200 hours, A.l.t., for sablefish IFQ/CDQ opening and closing time would also be added by new § 679.23(b)(1) because currently § 679.23(b) sets the opening and closing time of groundfish fisheries at 1200 hours, A.l.t., and sablefish is a groundfish (Table 2a to 50 CFR part 679.2).

Groundfish Season Closures

The second revision would allow NMFS flexibility in inseason closures to specify the time of day for closing groundfish fisheries, which is currently set at 1200 hours, A.l.t., and these inseason closures would apply to all vessel operators fishing groundfish in the BSAI and GOA management areas. To accomplish this, the proposed rule would add § 679.23(b)(2) to provide that the time of all groundfish closures of fishing seasons is 1200 hours, A.l.t., unless NMFS establishes a different fishery closure time in an action taken under § 679.20(d). Actions that NMFS may take under § 679.20(d), where NMFS may set a different time than 1200 hours A.l.t., include: (1) prohibiting directed fishing when a directed fishing allowance has been or will be reached (§ 679.20(d)(1)(iii)), (2) modifying any applicable side board limit once the sideboard directed fishing allowance is or will be reached (§ 679.20(d)(1)(iv), (v)), and (3) requiring that a groundfish species be treated in the same manner as prohibited species catch to avoid exceeding a TAC (*i.e.*, no retention allowed) (§ 679.20(d)(2)). The Regional Administrator may also establish area closures under § 679.25; however, these provisions are rarely used and there is no projected benefit to giving NMFS flexibility to set § 679.25 closures at a time other than 1200 hours, A.l.t. Therefore, NMFS is proposing

limiting this change to inseason actions taken under § 679.20(d) only.

Classification

NMFS is proposing this rule pursuant to section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This action is taken to effectively set season opening and closing timing pursuant to section 3.5.1 of both the BSAI and GOA FMPs. The NMFS Assistant Administrator has determined that this proposed rule is consistent with the BSAI and GOA FMPs and is consistent with other applicable law, subject to further consideration after public comment.

This proposed rule has been determined to be not significant for the purposes of Executive Order 12866.

Certification Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Senior Lead Counsel for Regulation of the Department of Commerce certified to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration that this proposed rule, if adopted, would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. NMFS requests comments on this certification for this proposed rule. The factual basis for this determination is as follows.

This proposed rule would minimize regulatory burden on vessel operators that participate in the sablefish IFQ/CDQ fisheries and allow for increased predictability of season timing. This proposed action would also allow groundfish closures based on inseason management actions that could reduce the probability of entities either exceeding or falling short of the TAC. As a result, this proposed action would not have any adverse economic impacts on the small directly regulated entities, and the beneficial economic impact would likely be modest and not significant.

In the BSAI area, there were 92 individual catcher vessels (CVs) and 1 catcher/processor (C/P) with gross revenues less than or equal to \$11 million, based on the most recent year of data (2024). The six CDQ groups are also considered small entities. This represents the potential suite of directly regulated small entities. The determination of entity size is based on vessel revenues and affiliated group revenues. This determination also includes an assessment of fisheries cooperative affiliations, although actual vessel ownership affiliations have not been completely established. However, the estimate of these 93 vessels may be an overstatement of the number of small entities because of the complexity of analyzing the links and affiliations

across these vessels, particularly since many of them conduct operations in both Federal and State fisheries. There are 3 American Fisheries Act (AFA) cooperative affiliated motherhips that appear to fall under the 750 worker threshold and are therefore small entities.

In the GOA area, there were 602 individual CV and C/P entities with gross revenues less than or equal to \$11 million, based on the most recent year of complete data (2024). This includes an estimated 601 small CV entities and one small C/P entity in the GOA groundfish sector. The determination of entity size is based on vessel revenues and affiliated group revenues. This determination also includes an assessment of fisheries cooperative affiliations, although actual vessel ownership affiliations have not been completely established. However, the estimate of these 602 CVs and C/Ps may be an overstatement of the number of small entities because of the complexity of analyzing the links and affiliations across these vessels, particularly since many of them conduct operations in both Federal and State fisheries.

For the reasons described above, this action is expected to be beneficial by reducing regulatory discards and uncertainty for sablefish IFQ/CDQ harvesters and reducing the probability of falling short of the TAC for the groundfish fleets. This action is administrative and will not negatively impact the amount or location of harvest under any of the fishery management programs affected by this action. Total economic impacts are not expected to be significant as it will simplify and clarify regulations on the time of the day that sablefish seasons may open and close and the time of day that groundfish seasons may close, allowing more predictability for sablefish IFQ/CDQ harvesters and more efficient utilization of TAC for actions under § 679.20(d).

This proposed action, therefore, is not expected to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. As a result, an initial regulatory flexibility analysis is not required, and none has been prepared.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

This proposed rule contains no information collection requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 679

Alaska, Fisheries, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: October 19, 2026.
Samuel D. Rauch III,
*Deputy Assistant Administrator for
Regulatory Programs, National Marine
Fisheries Service.*

For the reasons set out in the
preamble, NMFS proposes to amend 50
CFR part 679 as follows:

**PART 679—FISHERIES OF THE
EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE OFF
ALASKA**

■ 1. The authority citation for part 679
continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 773 *et seq.*; 1801 *et
seq.*; 3631 *et seq.*; Pub. L. 108–447; Pub. L.
111–281.

■ 2. Amend § 679.23 by adding
paragraphs (b)(1) and (2) and by revising
paragraph (g)(1) to read as follows:

§ 679.23 Seasons.
* * * * *
(b) *Time of groundfish openings and
closures.* The time of all openings and
closures of fishing seasons, other than
the beginning and end of the calendar
fishing year, is 1200 hours, A.l.t., except
as provided in paragraphs (b)(1) and (2)
of this section.
(1) Sablefish openings and closures
under paragraph (g) of this section.
(2) NMFS establishes a different
fishery closure time in an action taken
under § 679.20(d).
* * * * *

(g) * * *
(1) Directed fishing for sablefish using
fixed gear in any IFQ regulatory area
may be conducted in any fishing year
during the period specified by the
Regional Administrator and announced
by publication in the **Federal Register**.
The Regional Administrator will take
into account the opening and closing
dates and times of the halibut season
when determining the opening and
closing dates and times for sablefish for
the purposes of reducing bycatch and
regulatory discards between the two
fisheries.
* * * * *
[FR Doc. 2026–21507 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 91, No. 202

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

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.

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the West Virginia Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

AGENCY: U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, that the West Virginia Advisory Committee (Committee) to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a public business meeting via Zoom. The purpose of the meeting will be for the Committee to discuss and consider topics of study. No final vote on a topic will be taken at this meeting, but Committee members should be prepared to discuss their suggested topics.

DATES: Friday, November 13, 2026, from 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via Zoom Webinar.

Registration Link (Audio/Visual):
https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_NNNGxJxwQ8ekk51GuobyhQ.

Join by Phone (Audio Only): (833) 435-1820 USA Toll-Free; Meeting ID: #165 164 0781.

Agenda: (Note: a final meeting agenda will be available prior to the meeting date).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Barreras, Designated Federal Officer, at dbarreras@usccr.gov or (202) 656-8937.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This committee meeting is available to the public through the registration link above. Any interested members of the public may listen to the meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make oral comments as time allows. Per the

Federal Advisory Committee Act, public minutes of the meeting will include a list of persons who are present at the meeting. If joining via phone, callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Closed captioning will be available by selecting “CC” in the meeting platform. To request additional accommodations, please email csanders@usccr.gov at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public are entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received within 30 days following the meeting. Written comments may be emailed to David Barreras dbarreras@usccr.gov. Persons who desire additional information may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at (202) 656-8937.

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Coordination Unit, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meeting will be available via the file sharing website, <https://usccr.box.com/s/wo11giqd9vmw1if4ii933wjfvd.bizk6n>. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission’s website, www.usccr.gov, or may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at the above phone number.

Dated: October 19, 2026.

David Mussatt,
Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.
[FR Doc. 2026-21499 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-552-851]

Hardwood and Decorative Plywood From the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Final Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances

Correction

In notice document 2026-14614, appearing on pages 45782 through 45787 in the issue of Wednesday, September 30, 2026, make the following correction:

On page 45786, in the second column, starting on the fourteenth line from the bottom, “1219 x 1829 mm (48 x 72 inches), 1219 x 120 inches)” should read “1219 x 1829 mm (48 x 72 inches), 1219 x 2438 mm (48 x 96 inches), and 1219 x 3048 mm (48 x 120 inches)”.

[FR Doc. C1-2026-14614 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 0099-10-D

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; International Dolphin Conservation Program

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on May 18, 2026, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

Title: International Dolphin Conservation Program.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0387.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular submission [revision and extension of a current information collection].

Number of Respondents: 223 respondents.

Average Hours per Response: Transit Waiver: 30 minutes, Vessel Permit Application: 35 minutes, Vessel Operator Permit Application: 10 minutes, Vessel Departure Notification: 10 minutes, Permit Operator Notification Changes: 10 minutes, Modified Net Notification: 10 minutes, Experimental Fishing Permit Applications and Reports: 10 hours, Dolphin Mortality Limit Request: 30 minutes, Vessel Register Annual Notification: 33 minutes, Notification Prior to Transfer of Vessel to Foreign Registry and Flag: 5 minutes, Documentary Evidence Requests by Administrator: 30 minutes, Notification of Purse Seine Closure Period: 12 minutes, Force Majeure Exemption Request: 1 hour, Application for IMO number and Exemption Application: 30 minutes, Sunk Status Request: 5 minutes, and Aging Fleet Request: 10 minutes.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 111 hours.

Needs and Uses: This request is for the revision and extension of OMB Control Number: 0648–0387, sponsored by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region (WCR). This collection is being revised to remove five (5) of the twenty-one (21) information collections under OMB Control Number: 0648–0387 that were recently added to Control Number 0648–0335, which is sponsored by the NMFS Office of International Affairs, Trade, and Commerce (IATC). The purpose of this revision is to more accurately reflect how the information is being managed. The remaining sixteen (16) information collections are being renewed without modification.

The sixteen unmodified collections of information comply with the requirements of the International Dolphin Conservation Program Act (IDCPA), 16 U.S.C. 1414. The IDCPA amended the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), 16 U.S.C. Ch. 31, and the Dolphin Protection Consumer Information Act (DPCIA), 16 U.S.C. 1385. The IDCPA and the DPCIA authorize the Secretary of Commerce to promulgate regulations that, *inter alia*, implement the dolphin-safe labeling

standard in the United States by the collection of documents on the dolphin-safe status of tuna import shipments and domestic tuna product processing; by allowing documentary requests to allow for an effective tracking and verification program; and by verifying that tuna was not harvested by a nation under embargo or otherwise prohibited from exporting tuna to the United States.

The IDCPA allows entry of yellowfin tuna into the United States, under specific conditions, from nations in the International Dolphin Conservation Program that would otherwise be under embargo. The IDCPA also allows U.S. fishing vessels to participate in the yellowfin tuna fishery in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean (ETP) on terms equivalent with the vessels of other nations. NOAA collects information to verify these conditions are met and that allows tracking and verification of “dolphin-safe” and “non-dolphin safe” tuna products from catch through the U.S. market.

This collection of information also complies with the requirements of the Tuna Conventions Act (TCA), 16 U.S.C. 951 *et seq.*, which was amended by the “Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015” (Pub. L. 114–81). The TCA gives the Secretary of Commerce the authority to enact regulations to fulfill the requirement that all member States maintain and provide to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) a list of vessels flagged by the member State and (1) authorized by the member State to be used for fishing for tuna and tuna-like species in the IATTC Convention Area, or (2) authorized by other States to be used for fishing for tuna and tuna-like species in their areas of jurisdiction in the IATTC Area, and to maintain and provide for each vessel on that list certain information on its characteristics and its owner and operator. The TCA also gives the Secretary of Commerce authority to implement fishery management resolutions of the IATTC.

The information is used by NMFS, the United States Coast Guard (USGC), and the IATTC to monitor the size and composition of the vessel fleets in the IATTC Convention Area for compliance and scientific-related purposes. Knowing such information as the number of vessels, the details of the vessels and their ownership, and the types of gear employed enables effective monitoring of vessel activity for enforcement and assessment purposes. NMFS also uses this information for the purposes of managing the U.S. purse seine fleet capacity in the IATTC Convention Area.

This collection includes permit applications, notifications, reports, and certifications that provide information on vessel characteristics and operations in the ETP, documentary evidence requests, and certain other information necessary to implement the IDCPA.

The five information collections being removed from 0648–0387 that were added to 0648–0335 “Tuna Tracking and Verification Program” (90 FR 21752, May 21, 2025), also comply with requirements of the IDCPA and DPCIA. They include vessel arrival notifications, tuna tracking forms, tuna product receiving and processing reports, and documents/certifications that provide information on vessel characteristics and operations in the ETP, the origin of tuna and tuna products, and chain of custody recordkeeping requirements.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: The information collections under this OMB Control Number have a respondent obligation that can be voluntary or required to obtain benefits based on each individual action.

Legal Authority: The International Dolphin Conservation Program Act (IDCPA), 16 U.S.C. 1414 and The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), 16 U.S.C. Ch. 31.

This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0648–0387.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental PRA Compliance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2026–21485 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648–XG137]

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act Provisions; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Greater Atlantic Region, NMFS, has made a preliminary determination that

an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) application contains all of the required information and warrants further consideration. The EFP would allow federally permitted fishing vessels to fish outside fishery regulations in support of exempted fishing activities proposed by the Maine Department of Marine Resources (ME DMR). Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed EFPs.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before November 5, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments by email: nmfs.gar.efp@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line “ME DMR Ventless Trap EFP.” All comments received are a part of the public record and may be posted for

public viewing without change. All personal identifying information (*e.g.*, name, address), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter “anonymous” as the signature if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christine Ford, Fishery Management Specialist, christine.ford@noaa.gov, (978) 281–9185.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The applicant submitted a complete application for an EFP to conduct commercial fishing activities that the regulations would otherwise restrict. This EFP would exempt the participating vessels from the following Federal regulations:

TABLE 1—REQUESTED EXEMPTIONS

CFR citation	Regulation	Need for exemption
50 CFR 697.21(c)	Gear specification requirements	To allow for closed escape vents and smaller trap mesh and entrance heads.
\$ 697.19(a)–(e)	Trap limit requirements	To allow for 3 additional traps per fishing vessel, for a total of up to 60 additional traps.
\$ 697.19(j)	Trap tag requirements	To allow for the use of untagged traps (though each modified trap will have the participating fisherman’s identification attached).
§§ 697.20(a), 697.20(d), 697.20(g), and 697.20(h)(1) and (2).	Possession restrictions	To allow for onboard biological sampling of undersized, v-notched, and egg-bearing American lobsters and undersized and egg-bearing Jonah crabs.

TABLE 2—PROJECT SUMMARY

Project title	Maine lobster fishery-dependent offshore ventless and commercial trap research program.
Project start	1/01/2027.
Project end	12/31/2027.
Project objectives	To conduct a survey, in partnership with the Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation (CFRF), to provide distribution, abundance, and biological data on juvenile lobsters and Jonah crabs from times and areas in Federal waters of the Gulf of Maine with low coverage from traditional surveys.
Project location	Gulf of Maine: Statistical Areas 511, 512, and 513.
Number of vessels	Up to 20.
Number of trips	Up to 36 per vessel; up to 720 total.
Trip duration (days)	Up to 3 days.
Total number of days	Up to 108 per vessel; up to 2,160 total.
Gear type(s)	Trap.
Number of tows or sets	1 per trip; up to 720 total.
Duration of tows or sets	7–10 days.

Project Narrative

This EFP would contribute to the ongoing effort by the ME DMR and CFRF to collect data on juvenile lobster and Jonah crab abundance and distribution in areas and times of the year with low or no coverage by traditional surveys. The study is designed to inform management by addressing questions about changing reproduction and recruitment dynamics of lobster and to develop a foundation of knowledge for the data-deficient

Jonah crab fishery. This would be year 4 of an ongoing project.

The 2025 survey included 18 harvesters participating in the program; and in 2026, 16 harvesters participated in the program. There are currently 33 ventless traps deployed within Lobster Management Area 1, spanning Statistical Areas 511, 512, and 513. As of September 8, 2026, there have been 807 sampling events from ventless traps, with a total of 10,497 biological samples from lobsters and crabs recorded.

Year 4 of this project would continue the program using up to 20 federally permitted Maine lobster vessels. Each vessel would fish with 3 modified, ventless traps designed to catch juvenile lobsters, totaling up to 60 modified traps. The ventless trap configuration is as follows: 40-inch (101.6-centimeter) length x 21-inch (53.34-centimeter) width x 14-inch (35.56-centimeter) height, single parlor, 1-inch (2.54-centimeter) square rubber-coated 12-gauge (2.05-millimeter) wire, standard shrimp mesh netting, cement runners,

and 4-inch (10.16-centimeter) x 6-inch (15.24-centimeter) disabling door. The modified traps would adhere to the standard coastwide survey gear for lobster and Jonah crab set by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) and would be fished with standard Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan-compliant trawls.

The study would take place during regular fishing activity of the participating vessels but catch from the modified traps would remain separate from that of standard gear. Operators would collect data on size, sex, presence of eggs, and shell hardness for lobsters and Jonah crabs, and v-notch and shell disease for lobsters. Operators would return all specimens from modified gear to the ocean once sampling is complete.

All data collected by the participants using the CFRF data collection app would be sent to ME DMR for processing. ME DMR would then share final datasets with CFRF, to further share with the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program, the Northeast Fisheries Science Center, and the ASMFC.

If approved, the applicant may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the year. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impacts that do not change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request. Any fishing activity conducted outside the scope of the exempted fishing activity would be prohibited.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 19, 2026.

Shannon Bettridge,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2026-21522 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XG121]

Fisheries of the South Atlantic; South Atlantic Fishery Management Council—Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of a meeting.

SUMMARY: Meeting of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's (Council) Citizen Science Operations Advisory Panel (AP) via webinar November 19, 2026.

DATES: The Citizen Science Operations AP meeting will be held via webinar on Thursday, November 19, 2026, from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: *Meeting address:* The meeting will be held via webinar and is open to the public. Webinar registration is required. Webinar registration information and additional meeting details are available from the Council's website at: <https://safmc.net/events/nov-2026-citizen-science-operations-ap-meeting/>. There will be an opportunity for public comment at the beginning of the meeting. *Council address:* South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N Charleston, SC 29405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julia Byrd, Citizen Science Program Manager, SAFMC; phone (843) 302-8439 or toll free (866) SAFMC-10; FAX (843) 769-4520; email: julia.byrd@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Citizen Science Operations AP serves as advisors to the Council's Citizen Science Program. Advisory panel members include representatives from the Council's Citizen Science Advisory Panel Pool, NOAA Fisheries' Southeast Regional Office, NOAA Fisheries' Southeast Fisheries' Science Center, and the Council's Science and Statistical Committee. Their responsibilities include developing programmatic recommendations, reviewing policies, providing program direction/multi-partner support, identifying citizen science research needs, and providing general advice.

Agenda items for this meeting include: Citizen Science Program and Project updates; a discussion on Citizen Science Program growth and potentially broadening the scope of projects; 2026 update for the Citizen Science Program indicators; election of chair and vice chair; and other business.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the council office (see **ADDRESSES**) 5 days prior to the meeting.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 19, 2026.

Rey Israel Marquez,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2026-21521 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; The Ocean Enterprise: A Study of US Business Activity in Ocean Measurement, Observation and Forecasting

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on June 3, 2026, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

Title: The Ocean Enterprise: A study of US business activity in ocean measurement, observation and forecasting.

OMB Control Number: 0648-0712.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular submission. Extension of approved collection.

Number of Respondents: 250.

Average Hours per Response: 0.40 (24 minutes).

Total Annual Burden Hours: 100.

Needs and Uses: This is a request for extension of an approved information collection. NOAA's National Ocean Service's U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) Office is requesting approval to continue a web-based survey of employers who provide either services or infrastructure to IOOS or organizations that add value to the IOOS data and other outputs by tailoring them for specific end uses. The purpose of the survey and overall project is to gather information to

articulate the collective and derived value of the IOOS enterprise and to create a profile of businesses and organizations who are involved with providing services or utilizing IOOS data for other specific end uses. This survey was conducted in FY2015, FY2020, and FY2025 and is intended to be repeated on a regular basis in order to track the growth of the U.S. Ocean Enterprise. The survey provides critical assessment data and is necessary in order to collect demographic, financial, and functional information for each organization with regard to their involvement with IOOS. Data from this web survey will be analyzed and used to produce a final report. The results will demonstrate the size and economic impact of IOOS data to the United States marine ocean sector.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations and Not-for-profit institutions.

Frequency: Once every 5 years.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Section 12304 of the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act, part of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111–11), and reauthorized under the Coordinated Ocean Observations and Research Act of 2020 (Pub. L. 116–271).

This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website: www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0648–0712.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental PRA Compliance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2026–21529 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–JE–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XG108]

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a public meeting, jointly with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (Commission's) Policy Board.

DATES: The meeting will be held Thursday, November 12, 2026, from 8 a.m.–9:45 a.m. ET. For agenda details, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: This meeting will take place as part of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Annual Meeting. This will be a hybrid meeting with in-person and virtual attendance options. Council members, other meeting participants, and members of the public will have the option to participate in person at Hotel Viking, One Bellevue Avenue, Newport, RI or virtually via webinar. Webinar connection instructions and briefing materials will be available at: <https://asmfc.org/events/2026-annual-meeting/>.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N State St., Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674–2331; <https://www.mafmc.org>. The Council's website, <https://www.mafmc.org>, also has details on the meeting location, proposed agenda, webinar listen-in access, and briefing materials.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D. Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: (302) 526–5255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Policy Board will meet jointly during the Commission's Annual Meeting. The joint session will take place during the Policy Board agenda item from 8 a.m.–9:45 a.m. E.T. on November 12, 2026. The purpose of the joint meeting is to discuss the Recreational Sector Separation Amendment for summer flounder, scup, black sea bass, and bluefish, which considers potential changes to the

recreational management program for these species, including options for managing for-hire fisheries separately from other recreational fishing modes, as well as possible changes to permit and reporting requirements for the for-hire sector.

The Council and Commission held a stakeholder workshop in September 2026 to facilitate a focused discussion on alternatives currently under development for this amendment. At the November 12 meeting, the Council and Policy Board will review workshop outcomes and provide additional guidance to the Fishery Management Action Team/Plan Development Team for further development of the action. Additional information on this amendment can be found at: <https://www.mafmc.org/actions/recreational-sector-separation-amendment>.

Other Business and General Public Comment

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under Section 305(c).

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to Shelley Spedden, (302) 526–5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 19, 2026.

Rey Israel Marquez,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–21520 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (“PRA”), this notice announces that the

Information Collection Request (“ICR”) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (“OIRA”), of the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”), for review and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected costs and burden.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 20, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of this notice’s publication to OIRA, at <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>. Please find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the website’s search function. Comments can be entered electronically by clicking on the “comment” button next to the information collection on the “OIRA Information Collections Under Review” page, or the “View ICR—Agency Submission” page. A copy of the supporting statement for the collection of information discussed herein may be obtained by visiting <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

In addition to the submission of comments to <https://Reginfo.gov> as indicated above, a copy of all comments submitted to OIRA may also be submitted to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the “Commission” or “CFTC”) by any of the following methods:

- **Regulations.gov:** Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and press the “Search” button, then proceed as follows:

1. Under Refine Documents Results—check the box to “Only show documents open for comment”;
2. Under Agency—select “See More” and check the box for “Commodity Futures Trading Commission,” then press the Apply button;
3. Identify this proposal in the list of CFTC documents open for comment, press the “Comment” button to open the submission form, and follow the instructions on the form.

Alternatively, if you are viewing this proposal on www.federalregister.gov, click the “Submit A Public Comment” button at the top of the page to open the comment form. Follow the instructions on the form to submit your comment to Regulations.gov.

- **Mail:** Send to—Christopher Kirkpatrick, Secretary of the Commission, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581.

- **Hand Delivery/Courier:** Address to—CFTC Comment Submission, Attn: Christopher Kirkpatrick, Secretary of the Commission, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581.

Please submit your comments using only one of these methods. To avoid possible delays with mail or in-person deliveries, submissions through Regulations.gov are encouraged.

All comments must be submitted in English or, if not, accompanied by an English translation. Do not include in your comment text or attachments any personal identifying information or business information that you do not want published online. Comments (regardless of submission method) will be published without review for, and without removal of, any personal identifying information or information your business may consider confidential.

If you wish to submit confidential information for the Commission’s consideration, please contact the CFTC personnel listed in this Notice under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** before making any submission. Please also carefully review the Commission’s procedures in 17 CFR 145.9 for requesting confidential treatment under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) of information submitted to the Commission.

The CFTC reserves the right, but shall have no obligation, to review, pre-screen, filter, or redact all or any part of your comment submission. The CFTC also reserves the right, without further notification, to refuse to publish or to remove from public view all or any part of your submission to the extent it contains content inappropriate for publication in a comment file, such as—without limitation—obscene language, threats of violence, solicitations for commercial sales or illegal activity, or obvious spam. If a submission that is refused for or withdrawn from publication because of inappropriate content also contains comments on the merits of this proposal, such submission will be retained in the record for the matter and will be considered as required under the Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws, and may be accessible under the FOIA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Narvaez, Attorney Advisor, Market Participants Division, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, (202) 418–5152, jnarvaez@cftc.gov, and refer to OMB Control No. 3038–0091.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Disclosure and Retention of Certain Information Relating to Cleared Swaps Customer Collateral (OMB Control No. 3038–0091). This is a request for extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Section 724(a) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, Public Law 111–023, 124 stat. 1376, amended the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”), 7 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*, to add, as section 4d(f) thereof, provisions concerning the protection of collateral provided by a Cleared Swaps Customer to margin, guaranty, or secure a swap cleared by or through a derivatives clearing organization (“DCO”). Broadly speaking, in cleared swaps transactions customers provide collateral to futures commission merchants (“FCMs”) through whom they clear their transactions. FCMs, in turn, may provide customer collateral to DCOs, through which FCMs clear transactions for their customers. 17 CFR part 22 is intended to implement CEA section 4d(f). Several of the sections of part 22 require collections of information.

Section 22.2(g) requires each FCM with Cleared Swaps Customer Accounts to compute daily the amount of Cleared Swaps Customer Collateral on deposit in Cleared Swaps Customer Accounts, the amount of such collateral required to be on deposit in such accounts and the amount of the FCM’s residual financial interest in such accounts. The purpose of this collection of information is to help ensure that FCMs’ Cleared Swaps Customer Accounts are in compliance at all times with statutory and regulatory requirements for such accounts.

Section 22.5(a) requires an FCM or DCO to obtain, from each depository with which it deposits cleared swaps customer funds, a letter acknowledging that such funds belong to the Cleared Swaps Customers of the FCM, and not the FCM itself or any other person. The purpose of this collection of information is to confirm that the depository understands its responsibilities with respect to protection of cleared swaps customer funds.

Section 22.11 requires each FCM that intermediates cleared swaps for customers on or subject to the rules of a DCO, whether directly as a clearing member or indirectly through a Collecting FCM, to provide the DCO with information sufficient to identify each customer of the FCM whose swaps are cleared by the FCM. Section 22.11 also requires the FCM, at least once daily, to provide the DCO with information sufficient to identify each

customer's portfolio of rights and obligations arising out of cleared swaps intermediated by the FCM. The purpose of this collection of information is to facilitate risk management by DCOs in the event of default by the FCM, to enable DCOs to perform their duty, pursuant to section 22.15, to treat the collateral attributed to each customer of the FCM on an individual basis.

Section 22.12 requires that each DCO and FCM, on a daily basis, calculate, based on information received pursuant to section 22.11 and on information generated and used in the ordinary course of business by the DCO or FCM, and record certain information about the amount of collateral required for each Cleared Swaps Customer and the sum of these amounts. As with section 22.11, the purpose of this collection of information is to facilitate risk management by DCOs and in the event of default by the FCM, to enable DCOs to perform their duty, pursuant to section 22.15, to treat the collateral attributed to each customer of the FCM on an individual basis.

Section 22.16 requires that each FCM who has Cleared Swaps Customers disclose to each of such customers the governing provisions, as established by DCO rules or customer agreements between collecting and depositing FCMs, relating to use of customer collateral, transfer, neutralization of the risks, or liquidation of cleared swaps in the event of a default by a Depositing FCM relating to a Cleared Swaps Customer Account. The purpose of this collection of information is to ensure that Cleared Swaps Customers are informed of the procedures to which accounts containing their swaps collateral may be subject in the event of a default by their FCM.

Section 22.17 requires that each FCM produce a written notice of the reasons and the details concerning withdrawals from a Cleared Swaps Customers Account not for the benefit of Cleared Swap Customers if such withdrawal will exceed 25% of the FCMs residual interest in such account.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. On August 6, 2026, the Commission published in the **Federal Register** notice of the proposed extension of this information collection and provided 60 days for public comment on the proposed extension, 91 FR 50817 ("60-Day Notice"). The Commission received two relevant

comments on the 60-Day Notice.¹ One commenter argued that the current reporting framework is outdated and structurally deficient, and suggested the Commission modernize its information collection requirements.² While revisions to the reporting framework for Part 22 would ultimately revise the burden estimates in this notice, revising the current reporting framework is beyond the scope of this renewal. Another commenter supported renewing this collection because daily collateral calculations, customer-level records, and depository acknowledgments are essential to safeguarding customer assets and to performing orderly default management.³ The commenter urged the Commission to provide standardized, non-identifying public summaries of collateral sufficiency and compliance issues, strengthen disclosure and reporting practices, and ensure burden estimates are transparent and validated. The Commission acknowledges the commenter's recommendation for additional public disclosures. The Commission notes, however, that it publishes extensive information regarding firms' financial condition and the amount of customer funds held in segregation. In determining the scope of publicly available information, the Commission has balanced the benefits of disclosure with the potential risk that the publication may undermine market integrity and/or compromise customer confidentiality. Based on these considerations, the Commission has determined not to further expand the content of the publicly available information at this time.

Burden Statement: The Commission is revising its estimate of the burden for this collection for 95 respondents (71 FCMs and 24 DCOs). The respondent burden for this collection is estimated to be as follows:

Estimated Number of Respondents: 95.

Estimated Average Burden Hours per Respondent: 314.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 29,830.

Frequency of Collection: Section 22.2(g)—Daily. Section 22.5(a)—Once. Section 22.11—Daily. Section 22.12—Daily. Section 22.16—Once. Section 22.17—On occasion.

¹ Comments are available for public review at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

² Comment Letter from Mak Conan, CFTC-2026-1684-0003, available at: <https://www.regulations.gov/comment/CFTC-2026-1684-0003>.

³ Comment Letter from Michelle Maher, CFTC-2026-1684-0004, available at: <https://www.regulations.gov/comment/CFTC-2026-1684-0004>.

There are no capital costs or operating and maintenance costs associated with this collection.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*)

Dated: October 19, 2026.

Robert Sidman,

Deputy Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2026-21492 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-P

CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

[Docket No: CFPB-2026-0023]

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

ACTION: Notice of a modified system of records.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB or Bureau) proposes to modify a current Privacy Act System of Records Notice (SORN) titled, "CFPB.001—Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act System." This modification clarifies the purpose of the SORN, the categories of records and individuals, the legal authorities, the system manager, the system location address, and the records retention schedule, and introduces a new routine use to permit the disclosure of records to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) or other Federal agencies for records inspection purposes.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than November 20, 2026. The new system of records will be effective November 20, 2026 unless the comments received result in a contrary determination.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by the title and docket number (*see above*), by any of the following methods:

- **Electronic:** <http://www.regulations.gov>: Follow the instructions for soliciting comments. A brief summary of this document will be available at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/CFPB-2026-0023>.

- **Email:** privacy@cfpb.gov. Include Docket No. CFPB-2026-0023 in the subject line of the email.

- **Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier:** Kathryn Fong, Chief Privacy Officer, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20024; (202) 435-7058. Because paper mail in the Washington, DC area and at

CFPB is subject to delay, commenters are encouraged to submit comments electronically.

All submissions must include the agency name and docket number for this notice. In general, all comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments, including attachments and other supporting materials, will become part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. Sensitive personal information, such as account numbers or Social Security numbers, should not be included.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kathryn Fong, Chief Privacy Officer, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20024; (202) 435-7058. If you require this document in an alternative electronic format, please contact *CFPB_Accessibility@cfpb.gov*. Please do not submit comments to this email box.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Privacy Act), 5 U.S.C. 552a, the CFPB is modifying a system of records titled, "CFPB.001—Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act System." The modified system of records described in this notice includes the following changes.

First, the CFPB is clarifying that the Chief Privacy Officer is the system manager for records related to requests for amendment of records pursuant to the Privacy Act and the Bureau's Privacy Act implementation regulation, 12 CFR 1070.56.

Second, the authority for maintaining the system is broadened to include the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552; the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a; and the Federal Records Act, 44 U.S.C. 3101.

Third, the system's purpose is updated to specify that records will be used to process Privacy Act requests to amend records and related subsequent actions, if any.

Fourth, the categories of individuals is modified to clearly include individuals requesting amendment of their records under the Privacy Act.

Fifth, the categories of records is updated to include records pertaining to the processing of requests for amendment of records pursuant to the Privacy Act, and related initial appeals and statements of disagreement, if any.

Sixth, a new routine use is introduced to enable disclosure to the NARA or other Federal agencies conducting records inspections pursuant to the Federal Records Act, 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906.

Seventh, the policies and practices for retention and disposal of records are updated to reflect the NARA-approved records retention schedule.

Eighth, the system location is updated to include the new CFPB address.

Lastly, the CFPB is also making non-substantive revisions to the system of records notice to align with the Office of Management and Budget's template in Circular A-108, "Federal Agency Responsibilities for Review, Reporting, and Publication under the Privacy Act," appendix II (Dec. 2016).

The report of the revised system of records has been submitted to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs of the U.S. Senate, and the Office of Management and Budget, pursuant to Circular A-108, "Federal Agency Responsibilities for Review, Reporting, and Publication under the Privacy Act" (Dec. 2016) and the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a(r). The modified SORN titled, "CFPB.001—Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act System" is published in its entirety below.

SYSTEM NAME AND NUMBER:

CFPB.001—Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act System.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

Unclassified.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20024.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S):

Chief FOIA Officer and Chief Privacy Officer, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20024; (855) 444-3642.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

5 U.S.C. 552; 5 U.S.C. 552a; 12 U.S.C. 5492, 5493; 44 U.S.C. 3101.

PURPOSE(S) OF THE SYSTEM:

The information in the system is collected to enable the CFPB to carry out certain specific responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act of 1974 (Privacy Act). It allows CFPB staff to receive, track, and respond to access requests and initial administrative appeals under the FOIA as well as access and amendment requests and initial appeals under the Privacy Act, including statements of disagreement regarding a request for amendment. The information is also used to gather data to meet statutory FOIA reporting requirements, outlined in 5 U.S.C. 552(e), mandating

that all Federal agencies compile and submit detailed data to the Attorney General regarding their administration of the law and to manage FOIA-related fees and calculations. The information will also be used for administrative purposes to ensure quality control, performance, and improving management processes.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Records are maintained on persons requesting access to records pursuant to the FOIA; individuals who have submitted a request for access to or amendment of records pursuant to the Privacy Act; persons or individuals whose information requests are treated as FOIA and/or Privacy Act requests; and persons or individuals filing an administrative appeal of a denial, in whole or part, of any such request. Other individuals covered include Bureau staff assigned to process such requests and related actions to ensure compliance with the FOIA and/or Privacy Act; individuals submitting on the requester's behalf; and personnel of Federal agencies processing consultations and referrals.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

Records in the system may contain: (1) correspondence (e.g., agency acknowledgment letter, access request) from or with the requester or individual submitting on the requester's behalf about the FOIA access requests; Privacy Act access or amendment requests; initial FOIA and/or Privacy Act appeals; and Privacy Act statements of disagreement; (2) documents generated or compiled during the search and processing of the access request for records; (3) fee schedules, cost calculations, and assessed cost for disclosed FOIA and/or PA records; (4) documents and memoranda supporting the decision made in response to the FOIA or PA access request, referral, or consultation, and copies of records provided or withheld; (5) documents and memoranda supporting the decision made in response to the PA amendment requests; (6) documents and memoranda supporting the decision made in response to initial appeals and related actions; (7) identifying information of Bureau staff processing requests and, where a request has been referred to another agency with equities in a responsive document, information about the individual handling the request on behalf of that agency; (8) information identifying the entity that is subject to the requests or appeals; (9) for FOIA access requests, the requester's information, including name, address,

phone number, email address, FOIA tracking number, phone number, financial payment information, or some combination thereof; (10) for Privacy Act access or amendment requests, information verifying the identity of the individual who is making the written request or appeal, and/or the individual on whose behalf such written requests are made, including name, a photocopy of a single or two forms of identification that bears the requester's photograph and/or signature (e.g., driver's license, or Social Security card and identification with photograph), address, phone number, email address, Bureau-generated record number, phone number, financial payment information (for Privacy Act access requests only), or some combination thereof; (11) records related to inquiries or communications submitted to other Federal agencies (e.g., Department of Justice; National Archives and Records Administration, Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)) regarding agency reporting and compliance, and all records related to the resolution of such inquiries.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

Information in this system covers individuals about whom records are maintained; agency staff assigned to help process, consider, and respond to the request, including any appeals; entities filing requests or appeals on behalf of the requestor; other governmental authorities; and entities that are the subjects of the request or appeals.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

In addition to those disclosures generally permitted under 5 U.S.C. 552a(b) of the Privacy Act, and consistent with the CFPB's Disclosure of Records and Information Rules, promulgated at 12 CFR part 1070, all or a portion of the records or information contained in this system may be disclosed outside the CFPB as a routine use to:

(1) Appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (a) the Bureau suspects or has confirmed that there has been a breach of the system of records; (b) the Bureau has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed breach there is a risk of harm to individuals, the Bureau (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security; and (c) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with the Bureau's efforts to

respond to the suspected or confirmed breach or to prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

(2) Another Federal agency or entity, when the Bureau determines that information from this system of records is reasonably necessary to assist the recipient agency or entity in (a) responding to a suspected or confirmed breach or (b) preventing, minimizing, or remedying the risk of harm to individuals, the recipient agency or entity (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security, resulting from a suspected or confirmed breach.

(3) Another Federal or State agency to (a) permit a decision as to access, amendment, or correction of records to be made in consultation with or by that agency, or (b) verify the identity of an individual or the accuracy of information submitted by an individual who has requested access to or amendment or correction of records.

(4) The Executive Office of the President in response to an inquiry from that office made at the request of the subject of a record or a third party on that person's behalf.

(5) Congressional offices in response to an inquiry made at the request of the individual to whom the record pertains.

(6) Contractors, agents, or other authorized individuals performing work on a contract, service, cooperative agreement, job, or other activity on behalf of the Bureau or the Federal Government and who have a need to access the information in the performance of their mission, including duties or activities.

(7) The Department of Justice (DOJ) for its use in providing legal advice to the Bureau or in representing the Bureau in a proceeding before a court, adjudicative body, or other administrative body, where the use of such information by the DOJ is deemed by the Bureau to be relevant and necessary to the advice or proceeding, and such proceeding names as a party in interest:

(a) The Bureau;

(b) Any employee of the Bureau in their official capacity;

(c) Any employee of the Bureau in their individual capacity where DOJ has agreed to represent the employee; or

(d) The United States, where the Bureau determines that litigation is likely to affect the Bureau or any of its components.

(8) A court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal in the course of an administrative proceeding or judicial proceeding, including disclosures to opposing counsel or witnesses

(including expert witnesses) in the course of discovery or other pre-hearing exchanges of information, litigation, or settlement negotiations, where relevant or potentially relevant to a proceeding, or in connection with criminal law proceedings.

(9) Appropriate agencies, entities, and persons, including but not limited to potential expert witnesses or witnesses in the course of investigations, to the extent necessary to secure information relevant to the investigation.

(10) Appropriate Federal, State, local, foreign, Tribal, or self-regulatory organizations or agencies responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing, implementing, issuing, or carrying out a statute, rule, regulation, order, policy, or license if the information may be relevant to a potential violation of civil or criminal law, rule, regulation, order, policy, or license.

(11) National Archives and Records Administration, Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), to the extent necessary to fulfill its responsibilities in 5 U.S.C. 552(h), to review administrative agency policies, procedures, and compliance with FOIA, and to facilitate OGIS' offering of mediation services to resolve disputes between persons making FOIA requests and administrative agencies.

(12) National Archives and Records Administration or other Federal Government agencies pursuant to records management inspections being conducted under the authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORAGE OF RECORDS:

Paper and electronic records.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETRIEVAL OF RECORDS:

Records are retrievable by a variety of fields including, but not limited to, the requester's name, the subject matter of request, requestor's organization, FOIA or Bureau-generated tracking number, and staff member assigned to process the request. Records may also be searched by the address, phone number, email address of the requesting party, and subject matter of the request, or by some combination thereof.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETENTION AND DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

The Bureau will manage these Federal records in accordance with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) General Records Schedule (GRS) 4.2.

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL, AND PHYSICAL SAFEGUARDS:

Access to electronic records is restricted to authorized personnel who have been issued non-transferable access codes and passwords. Other records are maintained in locked file cabinets or rooms with access limited to those personnel whose official duties require access.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

An individual seeking access to any record pertaining to them contained in this system of records may inquire in writing in accordance with instructions in 12 CFR 1070.50 *et seq.* Address such requests to: Chief Privacy Officer, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20024. Instructions are also provided on the Bureau website: <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/foia-requests/submit-request/>.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

See "Access Procedures" above.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:

See "Access Procedures" above.

EXEMPTIONS PROMULGATED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None.

HISTORY:

85 FR 3655; 83 FR 23435; 79 FR 78837; 78 FR 47306; 76 FR 45768.

Kathryn Fong,

Chief Privacy Officer, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

[FR Doc. 2026-21511 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-AM-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2026-SCC-3136]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Annual State Application Under Part C of the Individuals With Disabilities Act as Amended in 2004

AGENCY: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Department is proposing an extension without change of a currently approved information collection request (ICR).

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 21, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To access and review all the documents related to the information

collection listed in this notice, please use <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number ED-2026-SCC-3136. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting the Docket ID number or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. If the [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) site is not available to the public for any reason, the Department will temporarily accept comments at ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. Please include the docket ID number and the title of the information collection request when requesting documents or submitting comments. Please note that comments submitted after the comment period will not be accepted. Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services—LBJ 4C294, 400 Maryland Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Jennifer Simpson, 202-245-6348.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. The Department is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: Annual State Application Under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Act as Amended in 2004.

OMB Control Number: 1820-0550.

Type of Review: An extension without change of a currently approved ICR.

Respondents/Affected Public: State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 56.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 560.

Abstract: This is a request for renewal—as is of the Annual State Application under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act as Amended in 2004 for Federal fiscal year 2027. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, when signed on December 3, 2004, became Public Law 108-446. In order to be eligible for a grant under 20 U.S.C. 1433, a State must provide assurance to the Secretary that the State has adopted a policy that appropriate early intervention services are available to all infants and toddlers with disabilities in the State and their families, including Indian infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families residing on a reservation geographically located in the State, infants and toddlers with disabilities who are homeless children and their families, and has in effect a statewide system that meets the requirements of 20 U.S.C. 1435. Some policies, procedures, methods, and descriptions must be submitted to the Secretary.

Ross Santy,

Chief Data Officer, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development.

[FR Doc. 2026-21493 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings

Take notice that the Commission received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

Filings Instituting Proceedings

Docket Numbers: RP26-1147-000.

Applicants: Stingray Pipeline Company, L.L.C.

Description: Motion of Stingray Pipeline Company, LLC to Withdraw Tariff Filing.

Filed Date: 10/15/26.

Accession Number: 20261015-5160.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 10/27/26.

Docket Numbers: RP27-45-000.

Applicants: Gas Transmission Northwest LLC.

Description: Compliance filing: Petition for Approval and Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement to be effective N/A.

Filed Date: 10/15/26.

Accession Number: 20261015–5161.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 10/27/26.

Docket Numbers: RP27–46–000.

Applicants: Florida Gas Transmission Company, LLC.

Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: Amendment No. 5—NRA with Clarke-Mobile to be effective 11/1/2026.

Filed Date: 10/16/26.

Accession Number: 20261016–5026.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 10/28/26.

Docket Numbers: RP27–47–000.

Applicants: Centra Pipelines Minnesota Inc.

Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: Updated Index Of Shippers Dec 2026 to be effective 12/1/2026.

Filed Date: 10/16/26.

Accession Number: 20261016–5042.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 10/28/26.

Any person desiring to intervene, to protest, or to answer a complaint in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211, 214, or 206 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214, or 385.206) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

Filings in Existing Proceedings

Docket Numbers: RP26–1178–001.

Applicants: Stagecoach Pipeline & Storage Company LLC.

Description: Compliance filing: NAESB Order No. 587–AB Compliance Filing—Amendment to be effective 1/1/2027.

Filed Date: 10/15/26.

Accession Number: 20261015–5116.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 10/27/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–1179–001.

Applicants: Kinder Morgan Louisiana Pipeline LLC.

Description: Compliance filing: NAESB Order No. 587–AB Compliance Filing—Amendment to be effective 1/1/2027.

Filed Date: 10/15/26.

Accession Number: 20261015–5119.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 10/27/26.

Any person desiring to protest in any the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rule 211 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system ([https://](https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp)

elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp) by querying the docket number.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502–6595 or OPP@ferc.gov.

Dated: October 16, 2026.

Carlos D. Clay,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–21490 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #1

Take notice that the Commission received the following Electric Corporate filings:

Docket Numbers: EC26–131–000.

Applicants: NextEra Energy, Inc., Dominion Energy, Inc.

Description: NextEra Energy, Inc., et al. submit response to FERC's 09/23/2026 deficiency letter re the Joint Application for Authorization under Section 203 of the Federal Power Act.

Filed Date: 10/15/26.

Accession Number: 20261015–5185.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/5/26.

Take notice that the Commission received the following Exempt Wholesale Generator filings:

Docket Numbers: EG27–13–000.

Applicants: Appomattox VA BESS 1 LLC.

Description: Appomattox VA BESS 1 LLC submits Notice of Self-Certification of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status.

Filed Date: 10/13/26.

Accession Number: 20261013–5513.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/3/26.

Take notice that the Commission received the following Electric Rate filings:

Docket Numbers: ER22–2303–003.

Applicants: Black Hills Power, Inc.

Description: Compliance filing: Second Amended Order No. 881 Compliance Filing to be effective 4/1/2027.

Filed Date: 10/16/26.

Accession Number: 20261016–5070.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.

Docket Numbers: ER22–2306–003.

Applicants: Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC.

Description: Compliance filing: Second Amended Order No. 881 Compliance Filing to be effective 4/1/2027.

Filed Date: 10/16/26.

Accession Number: 20261016–5076.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.

Docket Numbers: ER22–2307–003.

Applicants: Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company.

Description: Compliance filing: Second Amended Order No. 881 Compliance Filing to be effective 4/1/2027.

Filed Date: 10/16/26.

Accession Number: 20261016–5078.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–2337–002.

Applicants: Bee Hollow Solar, LLC.

Description: Tariff Amendment:

Response to Second Information

Request to be effective 5/2/2026.

Filed Date: 10/16/26.

Accession Number: 20261016–5049.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–3663–001.

Applicants: ALLETE, Inc.

Description: Tariff Amendment:

Corrected 2nd Amended & Restated

CMA—Northland Reliability Proj.

(ER26–3663–) to be effective 7/31/2026.

Filed Date: 10/16/26.

Accession Number: 20261016–5126.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.

Docket Numbers: ER27–89–001.

Applicants: California Grid Holdings LLC.

Description: Tariff Amendment:

Amendment to Request to Recover

Regulatory Asset to be effective 12/7/2026.

Filed Date: 10/16/26.

Accession Number: 20261016–5114.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.

Docket Numbers: ER27–166–000.

Applicants: ISO New England Inc.

Description: ISO New England Inc. submits Capital Budget Quarterly Report for the Third Quarter of 2026.

Filed Date: 10/15/26.

Accession Number: 20261015–5141.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/5/26.

Docket Numbers: ER27–167–000.

Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Proposal for Form Reliability Must Run Service Agreement to be effective 12/15/2026.

Filed Date: 10/15/26.

Accession Number: 20261015–5143.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/5/26.

Docket Numbers: ER27–168–000.

Applicants: Aron Energy Prepay 55 LLC.
Description: Initial Rate Filing: Baseline new to be effective 10/16/2026.
Filed Date: 10/15/26.
Accession Number: 20261015–5147.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/5/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–169–000.
Applicants: Aron Energy Prepay 61 LLC.
Description: Initial Rate Filing: Baseline new to be effective 10/16/2026.
Filed Date: 10/15/26.
Accession Number: 20261015–5150.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/5/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–170–000.
Applicants: Beacom Energy, Inc.
Description: Tariff Amendment: Cancellation entire tariff to be effective 10/15/2026.
Filed Date: 10/15/26.
Accession Number: 20261015–5162.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/5/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–171–000.
Applicants: Tucson Electric Power Company.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: OATT Revisions to Reflect SPP Markets Plus Participation to be effective 3/31/2027.
Filed Date: 10/15/26.
Accession Number: 20261015–5169.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/5/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–172–000.
Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Amendment to ISA, Service Agreement No. 7041; Queue No. AE2–092 to be effective 12/16/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5014.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–173–000.
Applicants: PacifiCorp.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Surplus LGIA (Prineville Storage SI–30) (RS No. 1230) to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5018.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–174–000.
Applicants: Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: 2026–10–16_SA 4885 Entergy Arkansas-Forgeview Surplus GIA (S1100) to be effective 10/9/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5030.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–175–000.
Applicants: Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: 2026–10–16_SA 4884 Entergy-Arkansas-

Flat Fork Energy GIA (S1101) to be effective 10/9/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5036.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–176–000.
Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Amended GIA, Service Agreement No. 7630; AD2–067/AG1–024/AG1–034 to be effective 12/16/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5045.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–177–000.
Applicants: Southern California Edison Company.
Description: Tariff Amendment: Termination of GIA & DSA, EF Oxnard Generation (WDT1673/SA Nos. 1102–1103) to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5046.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–178–000.
Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Amendment to ISA, SA No. 4323; Queue Position No. AA1–067 to be effective 12/16/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5051.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–179–000.
Applicants: Crimson Orchard Solar LLC.
Description: Initial Rate Filing: Application for Market-Based Rates to be effective 12/16/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5065.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–180–000.
Applicants: Alabama Power Company, Georgia Power Company, Mississippi Power Company.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Alabama Power Company submits tariff filing per 35.13(a)(2)(iii): Granceil Solar LGIA Amendment Filing to be effective 10/9/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5072.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–181–000.
Applicants: ISO New England Inc., Green Mountain Power Corporation.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Green Mountain Power Corporation submits tariff filing per 35.13(a)(2)(iii): GMP; Request for Approval of Updated Depreciation Rates to be effective 12/1/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5082.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp>) by querying the docket number.

Any person desiring to intervene, to protest, or to answer a complaint in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211, 214, or 206 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214, or 385.206) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502–6595 or OPP@ferc.gov.

Dated: October 16, 2026.

Carlos D. Clay,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–21489 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #2

Take notice that the Commission received the following Electric Rate filings:

Docket Numbers: ER27–182–000.

Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Amendment to NUCRA, SA No. 7827; Network Upgrade(s) n8492 to be effective 12/16/2026.

Filed Date: 10/16/26.

Accession Number: 20261016–5085.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.

Docket Numbers: ER27–183–000.

Applicants: Apple River Solar, LLC.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.

Filed Date: 10/16/26.

Accession Number: 20261016–5086.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.

Docket Numbers: ER27–184–000.

Applicants: Crocker Wind Farm, LLC.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5089.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–185–000.
Applicants: Dodson Creek Solar, LLC.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5090.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–186–000.
Applicants: Fayette Solar, LLC.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5093.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–187–000.
Applicants: Fillmore County Solar Project, LLC.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5094.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–188–000.
Applicants: Geronimo Power Marketing, LLC.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5096.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–189–000.
Applicants: Jackson County Solar, LLC.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5097.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–190–000.
Applicants: Louise Solar Project, LLC.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5099.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–191–000.
Applicants: Prairie Wolf Solar, LLC.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5100.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–192–000.
Applicants: Ross County Solar, LLC.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5101.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–193–000.
Applicants: Sycamore Creek Solar, LLC.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5104.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–194–000.
Applicants: Unbridled Solar, LLC.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5105.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–195–000.
Applicants: Wild Springs Solar, LLC.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5108.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–196–000.
Applicants: Yellowbud Solar, LLC.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revised Market-Based Rate Tariff to be effective 10/17/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5109.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–197–000.
Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
Revisions to OA, Schedule 12 & RAA, Schedule 17 RE: 3Q 2026 Member Lists to be effective 10/1/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5110.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–198–000.
Applicants: Generac Grid Services LLC.
Description: Tariff Amendment: GGS MBR Tariff Cancellation to be effective 12/18/2026.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5120.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.
Docket Numbers: ER27–199–000.
Applicants: Virginia Electric and Power Company.
Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing:
VEPCO and DEP submit Amended Interconnection Agreement, SA No. 3453 to be effective 1/1/2027.
Filed Date: 10/16/26.
Accession Number: 20261016–5133.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/6/26.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp>) by querying the docket number.

Any person desiring to intervene, to protest, or to answer a complaint in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211, 214, or 206 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214, or 385.206) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502–6595 or OPP@ferc.gov.

Dated: October 16, 2026.

Carlos D. Clay,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–21487 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

FEDERAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ADVISORY BOARD

Notice of Appointments Panel Meetings

AGENCY: Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Appointments Panel, a subcommittee of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB), will hold meetings on October 23 and October 28, 2026. The Appointments Panel makes recommendations regarding appointments for nonfederal member positions and the executive director.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Monica R. Valentine, Executive Director, 441 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20548, or call (202) 512–7350.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meetings are closed to the public. The reason for the closure is that matters covered by 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2) and (6) will be discussed. Any such discussions will involve matters that relate solely to

internal personnel rules and practices of the sponsor agencies and the disclosure of information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. 1009(d), portions of advisory committee meetings may be closed to the public where the head of the agency to which the advisory committee reports determines that such portion of such meeting may be closed to the public in accordance with subsection (c) of section 552b of title 5, United States Code. The determination shall be in writing and shall contain the reasons for the determination. A determination has been made in writing by the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and the Office of Management and Budget, as required by section 10(d) of FACA, that such portions of the meetings may be closed to the public in accordance with subsection (c) of section 552b of title 5, United States Code.

Authority: 31 U.S.C. 3511(d); Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. 1001–1014)

Dated: October 15, 2026.

Monica R. Valentine,
Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 2026–21506 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1610–02–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[DA 26–1041; FR ID 373285]

Establishment of the 4.9 GHz Band Manager Selection Federal Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice of intent to establish a Federal Advisory Committee.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) is publishing this notice to announce the intent to establish of 4.9 GHz Band Manager Selection Federal Advisory Committee (FAC). The Commission has determined that establishing the Committee is necessary and in the public interest.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Marenco, Designated Federal Officer, Federal Communications Commission, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, (202) 418–0838, or email: Brian.Marenco@fcc.gov; or Logan Bennett, Deputy Designated

Federal Officer, Federal Communications Commission, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, (202) 418–7790 or email: Logan.Bennett@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. 1008, and 41 CFR 102–3.60(a), 102–3.65, and 102–3.35, the Commission is announcing the intent to establish the 4.9 GHz Band Manager Selection Committee (4.9 GHz Committee) and providing herein the Commission-approved public interest determination. The 4.9 GHz Committee's objectives and scope of activities are to provide the Commission with advice and recommendations on the selection of a 4.9 GHz Band Manager to coordinate operations in the 4.9 GHz band (4940–4990 MHz) through optimizing public safety use, facilitating the integration of the latest commercially available technologies and benefitting public safety users. The 4.9 GHz Committee will receive and review proposals from persons or entities seeking to serve as Band Manager and to hold the Band Manager overlay license. The 4.9 GHz Committee will operate for no more than one year from the date of establishment unless the Commission directs that it terminate on an earlier date. A copy of the charter will be posted on the Agency's website at www.fcc.gov.

Public Interest Determination

Pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.60(a), to establish, renew, reestablish, or merge a discretionary (agency discretion) advisory committee, an agency must first consult with the General Services Administration's Committee Management Secretariat (the Secretariat) and, as part of the consultation, provide a written public interest determination approved by the head of the agency to the Secretariat with a copy to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). In addition, pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.35, an agency shall follow the same consultation process and document in writing the same determination of need before creating a subcommittee under a discretionary committee that is not made up entirely of members of a parent advisory committee. The Commission provides the following information to demonstrate that establishing the 4.9 GHz Committee is in the public interest:

1. *Annual budget:* The estimated annual operating cost for supporting the 4.9 GHz Band Manager Selection Committee is \$406,822.44.

a. *Federal personnel on a full-time equivalent (FTE) basis:* \$350,709

(annual salary of two full-time employees).

b. *Other Federal internal costs:* Additional 16% (\$56,113.44).

c. *Proposed payments to members:* Members will not be compensated.

d. *Proposed number of members:* A minimum of seven members.

e. *Reimbursable costs:* \$0.

2. *If applicable, the total dollar value of grants expected to be recommended during the fiscal year:* N/A.

3. *Criteria for selecting members to ensure the 4.9 GHz Committee has the necessary expertise and fairly balanced membership:* The FCC envisioned in the Seventh R&O in WP Docket No. 07–100 (38 FCC Rcd at 712, para. 21) that the Band Manager would be recommended by a selection committee “that represents and ensures the involvement of the relevant stakeholders, in particular the public safety community.” The Commission in the Eighth R&O in WP Docket No. 07–100 (39 FCC Rcd at 12066, para. 52) also delegated “broad authority” to the Public Safety and Homeland Security and Wireless Telecommunications Bureaus “to establish the procedures by which a selection committee will be chosen, identify representatives to sit on the selection committee, determine the requisite number of selection committee members, identify the applicable selection criteria, and establish the appropriate procedures and appropriate oversight for the selection process as part of choosing the Band Manager.”

4. *List of all other Federal advisory committees of the Agency:*

In addition to the proposed 4.9 GHz Band Manager Selection Committee, the FCC has four FACA Committees:

- a. Communications Security, Reliability and Interoperability Council
- b. Consumer Protection and Accessibility Advisory Committee
- c. Technological Advisory Council
- d. World Radiocommunication Conference Advisory Committee

5. *Justification that the information or advice provided by the committee or subcommittee is not available from another Federal advisory committee, another Federal Government source, or any other more cost-effective and less burdensome source:* The FCC regulates interstate and international communications by radio, television, wire, satellite, and cable in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories. The Commission is a U.S. government agency overseen by Congress and is the federal agency responsible for implementing and enforcing America's communications law and regulations. Specifically, in its

work facing economic opportunities and challenges associated with rapidly evolving advances in global communications, the agency capitalizes on its competencies in: promoting competition, innovation and investment in broadband services and facilities, supporting the nation's economy by ensuring an appropriate competitive framework for the unfolding of the communications revolution, encouraging the highest and best use of spectrum domestically and internationally, revising media regulations so that new technologies flourish alongside diversity and localism, and providing leadership in strengthening the defense of the nation's communications infrastructure. The Band Manager selection requires a committee whose sole focus is for carrying out the selection process. The 4.9 GHz Committee will receive and review proposals, select proposals, and make recommendations in line with particular functions appropriate for a Band Manager. The 4.9 GHz Committee is the most cost-effective way to complete this task, particularly since the Commission does not compensate members and does not provide for members' travel expenses and accommodation for meetings. Additionally, the FAC will use minimal employees and only account for a small portion of those employees' overall responsibilities.

6. *If this is a renewal or reestablishment, summarize the committee's previous accomplishments and the reasons it needs to continue:* N/A. This is to establish a new FAC.

7. *Explanation of why the committee/subcommittee is essential to the conduct of Agency business:* The 4.9 GHz Committee shall support the mission of the Commission to make available for all people of the U.S. a rapid, efficient, nationwide, and worldwide wire and radio communication service at reasonable charges through the advisement on the selection of a Band Manager for the 4.9 GHz band by ensuring the person[s] or entity it believes is best suited to perform the Band Manager role is recommended to the Commission through particular criteria and oversight. The 4.9 GHz Committee's responsibility to receive and review proposals for persons or entities to serve as the Band Manager is essential since, once selected, the Band Manager will be eligible to apply for a nationwide overlay license and authorized to enter into a sharing agreement with the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). This 4.9 GHz Committee will focus on the following functions: facilitating

frequency coordination and interference protection for 4.9 GHz band incumbent public safety operations, including working with incumbent licensees to optimize their spectrum use; developing a spectrum plan for, among other things, incentivizing the use of the latest commercially available technologies, including 5G; entering into and managing a sharing agreement with FirstNet, or similar network, pursuant to §§ 90.1207(h) and 2.103(b) of the Commission's rules; mediating disputes between 4.9 GHz licensees or between licensees and FirstNet, developing and maintaining a plan to maintain the financial viability of the Band Manager; and filing an annual report with the Commission.

In conclusion, this public interest determination documents that establishing the 4.9 GHz Committee is in the public interest, essential to the conduct of FCC business, and that the information to be obtained is not already available through another advisory committee or source within the Federal Government.

Federal Communications Commission.

David Furth,

Deputy Bureau Chief, Policy Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau.

[FR Doc. 2026–21484 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Notice of Agreements Filed

The Commission hereby gives notice of filing of the following agreement under the Shipping Act of 1984. Interested parties may submit comments, relevant information, or documents regarding the agreement to the Secretary by email at Secretary@fmc.gov, or by mail, Federal Maritime Commission, 800 North Capitol Street, Washington, DC 20573. Comments will be most helpful to the Commission if received within 12 days of the date this notice appears in the **Federal Register**, and the Commission requests that comments be submitted within 7 days on agreements that request expedited review. Copies of agreements are available through the Commission's website (www.fmc.gov) or by contacting the Office of General Counsel at (202) 523–5740 or GeneralCounsel@fmc.gov.
Agreement No.: 201315–003.
Agreement Name: NYSA–ILA Assessment Agreement.

Parties: International Longshoremen's Association, AFL–CIO; and New York Shipping Association, Inc.

Filing Party: Richard Ciampi, The Lambos Firm, LLP.

Synopsis: The Amendment simplifies reporting and auditing by eliminating the measurement ton concept and moving to a weight ton basis. The Amendment also clarifies assessments on certain new from the manufacturer vehicles under 15,000 pounds (autos, trucks and RVs) which are to be assessed on a unit rate versus used vehicles and other machinery which are to be assessed on a weight ton basis. Loaded Mafis are to be assessed on a unit basis.

Proposed Effective Date: 10/14/2026.

Location: <https://www2.fmc.gov/eAgreementsSP/Public/AgreementHistory/22427>.

Dated: October 16, 2026.

Jennifer Everling,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–21471 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6730–02–P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The public portions of the applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, if any, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank(s) indicated below and at the offices of the Board of Governors. This information may also be obtained on an expedited basis, upon request, by contacting the appropriate Federal Reserve Bank and from the Board's Freedom of Information Office at <https://www.federalreserve.gov/foia/request.htm>. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)).

Comments received are subject to public disclosure. In general, comments received will be made available without change and will not be modified to remove personal or business information including confidential, contact, or other identifying information. Comments should not

include any information such as confidential information that would not be appropriate for public disclosure.

Comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors, Benjamin W. McDonough, Secretary of the Board, 20th Street and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20551–0001, not later than November 20, 2026.

A. *Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco* (Keith Dudley, Vice President) 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105–1579. Comments can also be sent electronically to *SF.Supervision.Comments.Applications@sf.frb.org*:

1. *Chime Financial, Inc., San Francisco, California*; to become a bank holding company by acquiring Central Service Corporation, and thereby indirectly acquiring Stride Bank, both of Enid, Oklahoma.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Michele Taylor Fennell,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 2026–21513 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Privacy Act of 1974; Matching Program

AGENCY: The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

ACTION: Notice of a new matching program.

SUMMARY: In accordance with subsection (e)(12) of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), is providing notice of a computer matching program between CMS and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Health Administration (VHA).

The purpose of the matching program is to identify beneficiaries enrolled in both Medicare and VHA health care and to identify medical claims for which both agencies made payment for the same health care services. Under this agreement, the VHA will provide CMS with a finder file on a recurring basis, of all Veteran beneficiaries enrolled in VHA health care that CMS will use to identify dually enrolled beneficiaries. CMS and VHA will use the results of the matching program to recover duplicate payments, improve payment accuracy,

and identify potential fraud, waste, and abuse.

DATES: The deadline for comments on this notice is November 20, 2026. The matching program will commence not sooner than 30 days after publication of this notice, provided no comments are received that warrant a change to this notice. The matching program will remain in effect for 18 months from its effective date, unless one of the parties to the agreement advises the other by written request to terminate or modify the agreement. The agreement is subject to renewal by the HHS Data Integrity Board for 12 additional months if the matching program will be conducted without any change and each party to the agreement certifies that the program has been conducted in compliance with the agreement:

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may submit written comments on this notice, by mail or email, to the CMS Privacy Officer, Division of Security, Privacy Policy & Oversight, Information Security & Privacy Group, Office of Information Technology, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Location: N1–14–56, 7500 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21244–1850, to *barbara.demopolos@cms.hhs.gov*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about the matching program, you may contact Richard Mazur, Government Technical Lead, Division of Medicare Secondary Payer Operations, Office of Financial Management, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, CMS, at (410) 786–1418 or by email: *Richard.Mazur2@cms.hhs.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552a) provides certain protections for individuals applying for and receiving federal benefits. The law governs the use of computer matching by federal agencies when records in a system of records (meaning, federal agency records about individuals retrieved by name or other personal identifier) are matched with records of other federal or non-federal agencies. The Privacy Act requires agencies involved in a matching program to:

1. Enter into a written agreement, which must be prepared in accordance with the Privacy Act, approved by the Data Integrity Board of each source and recipient federal agency, provided to Congress and the Department of the Treasury and made available to the public, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(o), (u)(3)(A), and (u)(4).

2. Notify the individuals whose information will be used in the

matching program that the information they provide is subject to verification through matching, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(o)(1)(D).

3. Verify match findings before suspending, terminating, reducing, or making a final denial of an individual's benefits or payments or taking other adverse action against the individual, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(p).

4. Report the matching program to Congress and the OMB, in advance and annually, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(o) (2)(A)(i), (r), and (u)(3)(D).

5. Publish advance notice of the matching program in the **Federal Register** as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(12).

This matching program meets these requirements.

Barbara Demopolos,

CMS Privacy Act Officer Division of Security, Privacy Policy & Oversight Information Security and Privacy Group, Office of Information Technology, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Participating Agencies

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is the source agency, and the Department of the Veterans Health Administration.

Authority for Conducting the Matching Program

The matching program is authorized by the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a); section 1128) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a–7k); section 1862(a)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395y(a)(3)); 38 U.S.C. 1703 and 1725; 38 CFR 1.481; and other authorities identified in the Computer Matching Agreement.

Purpose(s)

The matching program enables CMS and VHA to identify beneficiaries enrolled in both Medicare and VHA health care, identify duplicate payments made for the same health care services, recover improper payments, and support fraud, waste, and abuse detection activities.

Categories of Individuals

Individuals whose records are involved in the matching program include:

- Veterans enrolled in the Veterans Health Administration health care system; and
- Medicare beneficiaries who are dually enrolled in Medicare and VHA health care.

Categories of Records

Records exchanged under the matching program include beneficiary identifying information, enrollment information, claims information, provider identifiers, diagnosis and procedure information, dates of service, payment information, and other data elements necessary to identify duplicate payments for medical services.

The data used in the match include the following:

VHA Beneficiary Finder File Data:

- a. Transaction type: VA Unique Person Identifier
- b. SSN
- c. Medicare Claim Number (if available)
- d. Date of Birth
- e. Beneficiary First Name
- f. Beneficiary Last Name
- g. Beneficiary Sex
- h. Enrollment time frames: effective date and/or, when applicable, end date
- i. Date of death (if applicable)

CMS Response File Data:

- a. Action type: VA Unique Person Identifier
- b. SSN
- c. MBI
- d. Date of Birth
- e. Beneficiary First Name
- f. Beneficiary Last Name
- g. Beneficiary Sex code
- h. Medicare Enrollment time frames: Effective and termination dates
- i. Date of death

Based on the results in each response file identifying the beneficiaries who are dual enrolled, VHA will provide CMS with a file containing medical claims that VHA paid in full or in part for those dually enrolled beneficiaries. CMS will match the records to its own claims and payment systems and return to VHA a response file containing claims that CMS paid in full or in part for the same service. This exchange includes the following data:

VHA Claims File Data Fields:

- a. Patient Information from Matched Beneficiary File (e.g., SSN, Date of Birth, Name, Sex)
- b. Claim Identification Fields (e.g., Claim Number, Claim Line)
- c. Service Identification Fields (e.g., Service Date, Type, Place)
- d. Additional Claim Relevant Identification Fields (e.g., Revenue Codes)
- e. Billing Provider Identification Fields (e.g., Name, National Provider Identification number).
- f. Additional Relevant Provider Identification Fields (e.g., Rendering Provider, Attending Provider)

- g. Procedure Codes and Modifiers
- h. Diagnosis Codes and Qualifiers
- i. Payment Identification Fields (e.g., Date, Amount, Units, Payment Authority)

CMS Claims File Data Fields that are Added to the VA File for Matched Claims:

- a. Patient Information from Matched Beneficiary File (e.g., SSN, Date of Birth, Name, Sex)
- b. Claim Identification Fields (e.g., Claim Number, Claim Line)
- c. Service Identification Fields (e.g., Service Date, Type, Place)
- d. Additional Claim Relevant Identification Fields (e.g., Revenue Codes)
- e. Billing Provider Identification Fields (e.g., Name, National Provider Identification number).
- f. Additional Relevant Provider Identification Fields (e.g., Rendering Provider, Attending Provider)
- g. Procedure Codes and Modifiers
- h. Diagnosis Codes and Qualifiers
- i. Payment Identification Fields (e.g., Date, Amount, Units)

System(s) of Records

The data used in this matching program will be disclosed from the following systems of records, based on the routine uses identified:

CMS

- Common Working File (CWF), System No. 09–70–0526
- Medicare Beneficiary Database (MBD), System No. 09–70–0536
- Integrated Data Repository (IDR), System No. 09–70–0571
- National Claims History (NCH), System No. 09–70–0558

Department of Veterans Affairs

- Enrollment and Eligibility Records—VA (147VA10)
- Non-VA Care (Fee) Records—VA (23VA10NB3)

[FR Doc. 2026–21491 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120–03–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA–2023–D–2482]

Regulatory Considerations for Prescription Drug Use-Related Software; Guidance for Industry; Availability

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is announcing the availability of a final guidance for industry titled “Regulatory Considerations for Prescription Drug Use-Related Software.” This final guidance describes FDA’s application of its drug labeling authorities to certain software outputs that are disseminated by or on behalf of a drug sponsor for use with a prescription drug product or a prescription drug-led, drug-device combination product that is assigned to the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research or the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research as the lead center. This guidance finalizes the draft guidance of the same title issued on September 19, 2023.

DATES: The announcement of the guidance is published in the **Federal Register** on October 21, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit either electronic or written comments on Agency guidances at any time as follows:

Electronic Submissions

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to <https://www.regulations.gov> will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else’s Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>.

- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see “Written/Paper Submissions” and “Instructions”).

Written/Paper Submissions

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- **Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions):** Dockets Management Staff (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.
- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management

Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in “Instructions.”

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA–2023–D–2482 for “Regulatory Considerations for Prescription Drug Use-Related Software.” Received comments will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as “Confidential Submissions,” publicly viewable at <https://www.regulations.gov> or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 240–402–7500.

- **Confidential Submissions**—To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states “THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.” The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as “confidential.” Any information marked as “confidential” will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA’s posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf>.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the “Search” box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240–402–7500.

You may submit comments on any guidance at any time (see 21 CFR 10.115(g)(5)).

Submit written requests for single copies of this guidance to the Division

of Drug Information, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10001 New Hampshire Ave., Hillandale Building, 4th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist that office in processing your requests. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access to the guidance document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Chris Wheeler, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 51, Rm. 3314, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002, 301–796–2500, CDEROMP@fda.hhs.gov; Aneesh Deoras, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 66, Rm. 5540, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002, 240–402–4363, digitalhealth@fda.hhs.gov; or Phillip Kurs, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 240–402–7911, industry.biologics@fda.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

FDA is announcing the availability of a guidance for industry titled “Regulatory Considerations for Prescription Drug Use-Related Software.” This guidance describes how FDA intends to apply its drug labeling authorities to certain software outputs that are disseminated by or on behalf of a drug sponsor for use with a prescription drug product or a prescription drug-led, drug-device combination product. As explained in this final guidance, prescription drug use-related software generally includes software that (1) is disseminated by or on behalf of a drug sponsor and (2) produces an end-user output that supplements, explains, or is otherwise textually related to one or more of the sponsor’s drug products regardless of whether the software is regulated as a device¹ under the Federal Food, Drug,

and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act). A software function is a distinct purpose of the prescription drug use-related software, and end-user output is any material (content) that the prescription drug use-related software presents to the end user (e.g., a patient, caregiver, or health care practitioner). As discussed in this final guidance, FDA considers end-user output to be a type of prescription drug labeling.

This final guidance clarifies (1) how FDA intends to apply its drug labeling authorities to end-user output of prescription drug use-related software, (2) how the FDA-required labeling, in particular the Prescribing Information (PI), should describe prescription drug use-related software functions, and (3) when and how sponsors should submit end-user output to FDA for review. Generally, the recommendations provided in this final guidance are intended to align with ongoing Agency initiatives across all product centers, including digital health initiatives at the Center for Devices and Radiological Health. In developing this guidance, FDA has considered existing Agency policies to ensure consistent regulation of device software and efficient, coordinated review in instances when prescription drug use-related software is reviewed by the Agency as a device.

This guidance finalizes the draft guidance titled “Regulatory Considerations for Prescription Drug Use-Related Software” issued on September 19, 2023 (88 FR 64443). FDA considered comments received on the draft guidance as the guidance was finalized. Changes from the draft to the final guidance include (1) clarifying the considerations for standalone software functions; (2) introducing a decision tree to guide sponsors through labeling determinations; (3) providing illustrative examples of PI language for both device-connected software and standalone software; and (4) recommending the addition of a statement in the PI for device-connected software functions for which there is no meaningful improvement in a clinical outcome. In addition, editorial changes were made to improve clarity.

This guidance is being issued consistent with FDA’s good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The guidance represents the current thinking of FDA on “Regulatory Considerations for Prescription Drug Use-Related Software.” It does not establish any rights for any person and is not binding on FDA or the public.

¹ Under section 201(h)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, “the term ‘device’ (except when used in paragraph (n) of this section and in sections 301(i), 403(f), 502(c), and 602(c)) means an instrument, apparatus, implement, machine, contrivance, implant, in vitro reagent, or other similar or related article, including any component, part, or accessory, which is—(A) recognized in the official National Formulary, or the United States Pharmacopeia, or any supplement to them, (B) intended for use in the diagnosis of disease or other conditions, or in the cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease, in man or other animals, or (C) intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of man or other animals, and which does not achieve its primary intended purposes through chemical action within or on the body of man or other animals and which is not dependent upon being metabolized for the achievement of its primary intended purposes. The term ‘device’ does not include software functions excluded pursuant to section 520(o).”

You can use an alternative approach if it satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations.

FDA considered the applicability of Executive Order 14192, per OMB guidance in M–25–20, and finds this action to be neither an E.O. 14192 regulatory action nor an E.O. 14192 deregulatory action.

II. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

While this guidance contains no collection of information, it does refer to previously approved FDA collections of information. The previously approved collections of information are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501–3521). The collections of information in 21 CFR part 314 for new drug applications and abbreviated new drug applications have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0001. The collections of information in 21 CFR 601.2 and 601.12 for biologics license applications and supplemental applications have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0338. The collections of information in Form FDA 2253 have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0001. The collections of information for prescription drug product labeling requirements in 21 CFR 201.56 have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0572. The collections of information in 21 CFR 202.1 for prescription drug advertisements have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0686.

III. Electronic Access

Persons with access to the internet may obtain the guidance at <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/guidance-compliance-regulatory-information/guidances-drugs>, <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents>, <https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/guidance-compliance-regulatory-information-biologics/biologics-guidances>, or <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Grace R. Graham,

Deputy Commissioner for Policy, Legislation, and International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026–21516 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4164–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission to OMB for Review and Approval; Public Comment Request; Information Collection Request Title: Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant to States Program: Guidance and Forms for the Title V Application/Annual Report, OMB No. 0915–0172—Revision

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, HRSA submitted an Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. Comments submitted during the first public review of this ICR will be provided to OMB. OMB will accept further comments from the public during the review and approval period. OMB may act on HRSA's ICR only after the 30-day comment period for this notice has closed.

DATES: Comments on this ICR should be received no later than November 20, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request a copy of the clearance requests submitted to OMB for review, email Samantha Miller, the HRSA Information Collection Clearance Officer, at paperwork@hrsa.gov or call (301) 443–9094.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Information Collection Request Title: Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant to States Program: Guidance and Forms for the Title V Application/Annual Report OMB No. 0915–0172—Revision.

Abstract: The Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant to States Program is authorized by Sections 501–509 of Title V of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 701–709). HRSA is updating the *Title V Maternal and*

Child Health Services Block Grant to States Program: Guidance and Forms for the Title V Application/Annual Report (Guidance). This Guidance is used annually by the 50 states and nine jurisdictions (the District of Columbia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; hereafter referred to as “state”) in applying for Block Grants under Title V of the Social Security Act and in preparing the required Annual Report. The updates being proposed by HRSA for this edition of the Guidance continue to support the federal-state partnership that is supported by the Title V MCH Services Block Grant and the state's role in developing a 5-Year Action Plan that addresses its individual priority needs. Updates to this edition of the Guidance are editorial and technical revisions based on feedback from the states in using the Guidance and Forms since January 2024, and by comments received from State Title V program leadership, national MCH leaders, other MCH stakeholders, and the public.

A 60-day notice published in the **Federal Register** on May 19, 2026, vol. 91, No. 96; pp. 29140–41 (91 FR 29140). The 60-day **Federal Register** Notice (FRN) stated that minor editorial corrections and clarifications were made to Form 7, Form 10, Form 12 instructions and the Glossary, and that updates were made to the short and long titles of the National Performance Measures to improve title accuracy and fulfill Government Accountability Office recommendations and align National Performance Measures with other HRSA program measures. However, the reference to Form 12 instructions in the 60-day FRN was a technical error; instead, the FRN should have referred to Form 11, to which additional minor clarifications were made.

HRSA received comments from five respondents (state Title V programs and other MCH stakeholders) on the proposed updates to the eleventh edition of the Guidance. The submitted responses included multiple comments. Of the five respondents, four respondents provided comments related to implementation of the guidance or the Title V Information System (TVIS) that would be addressed most effectively in the form of technical assistance, rather than adjusting the guidance instructions. Two respondents recommended expanding the definitions of budget-related glossary terms to

include additional examples for each category. HRSA considered all public comments as part of its deliberative process in finalizing updates to the eleventh edition of the *Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant to States Program: Guidance and Forms for the Title V Application/Annual Report*.

A discussion of the public comments received during the 60-day comment period and HRSA's response to the comments is set below:

(1) *Organization and Structure of the Application/Annual Report Guidance.*

Comments: Some respondents expressed support for the Application/Annual Report Guidance reporting structure that was implemented as part of the tenth edition and maintained through this edition. Respondents provided additional comments related to combining various sections of the Application/Annual Report, such as: (1) Systems and Services for Children with Special Health Care Needs with Relationship with Medicaid; (2) Title V Purpose and Design, Organizational Structure, Impact of Organizational Structure, and Impact of Agency Capacity; (3) System of Care for Mothers, Infants, and Families with Systems and Services for Children with Special Health Care Needs; (4) How Title V Funds Support MCH Efforts and the Expenditures and Budget Narratives; (5) MCH Population Health and Wellbeing and State Description; (6) Impact of Organizational Structure, Impact of Agency Capacity, and Title V Workforce Capacity and Workforce Development; and (7) Title V Partnerships, Collaboration, and Coordination and Family and Community Partnerships.

HRSA Response: HRSA will not adopt the recommendation to consolidate the identified sections, as each section requests distinct types of information or fulfills a legislative requirement.

Consolidating sections increases the risk that important information may be left out or overlooked. HRSA also sought to minimize revisions in the eleventh edition of the guidance to provide State Title V programs sufficient time to implement and adjust to the Application/Annual Report reporting structure that was introduced in the tenth edition. HRSA wants State Title V programs to have sufficient opportunities to fully implement and assess the revised structure before making a significant number of revisions to the TVIS reporting structure.

(2) *TVIS Functionality.*

Comments: Some respondents provided comments regarding the

character limits in the Executive Summary section and requested that HRSA increase the character limits to allow states to provide additional detail, including more comprehensive descriptions of program successes (*i.e.*, success stories). Respondents also requested an increase in character limits for the Relationship with Medicaid section, to allow states to more fully describe relevant program activities and efforts.

HRSA Response: HRSA will not adopt the recommendation related to character limits in the Executive Summary section but will adopt the recommendation related to the increase in character count for the Relationship with Medicaid Section. The Executive Summary is intended to be a standalone document that enables the reader to acquire a clear understanding of the state's Title V program without having to read the entire MCH Block Grant Application/Annual Report. The Executive Summary also serves as the narrative portion of the TVIS State Snapshot, serving as a quick point of reference for MCH stakeholders and other interested parties. Character limits for the Executive Summary are established in TVIS to support these purposes. The Relationship with Medicaid section character limits are established within TVIS and related to the functionality of the data entry system, rather than to requirements contained in the Guidance. HRSA will increase the character limit for the Relationship with Medicaid section, which will be implemented as part of system updates to TVIS. Additionally, HRSA will communicate any relevant changes to states through skills-building training or technical assistance provided prior to the release of the data entry system.

(3) *Guidance Implementation and Technical Assistance.*

Comments: Some respondents requested additional support related to Interim Needs Assessment reporting and data entry for Form 5 and Form 10.

HRSA Response: HRSA recognizes the importance of providing technical assistance to support states in their submission of the Application/Annual Report. For Forms 5 and 10, HRSA provides dedicated Learning Labs that include presentations from states on their approaches to completing and reporting on these forms. HRSA will also provide technical assistance on the interim Needs Assessment Reporting.

(4) *Statutory Requirement Clarification.*

Comments: Two respondents recommended incorporating the Public Input section into the Family and

Community Engagement (*i.e.*, Family and Community Partnerships) section, stating that community input is centered on engagement in program planning, implementation, and evaluation, rather than on the formal application process itself. The respondents also questioned whether a separate Public Input section is statutorily required.

HRSA Response: While public input may include family and community engagement activities, the two sections serve distinct purposes. Section 505(a) of Title V of the Social Security Act requires states to make the Application/Annual Report available for public comment during its development and after its transmittal. Maintaining a separate Public Input section provides a clear and consistent mechanism for states to annually document compliance with this statutory requirement. The Family and Community Partnerships section addresses ongoing engagement activities with families, individuals, and family-led organizations and is only required to be updated every 5 years. As a result, HRSA will not adopt this recommendation and will provide technical assistance to the states through group webinars and one-on-one calls, as appropriate.

(5) *Expanded Definitions of Budget-Related Glossary Terms.*

Comments: Two respondents requested an expansion of budget-related glossary terms.

HRSA Response: HRSA agrees that additional examples would improve the clarity of the budget-related glossary terms. HRSA will revise the definitions of local, program income, and other funds to include additional examples.

(6) *State General Revenue Funds Delineation.*

Comments: Two respondents recommended revising the guidance to require states to report on the specific delineation of the percent of undesignated state general revenue funds used for non-federal Title V funding.

HRSA Response: HRSA will not adopt this recommendation. Requiring states to provide this additional information would increase the reporting burden associated with the Application/Annual Report. However, states may elect to include this information in the financial narrative at their discretion.

Need and Proposed Use of the Information: Each year, all states are required to submit an Application/Annual Report for federal funds for their Title V MCH Services Block Grant to States Program to HRSA (Sections 505(a) and 506(a)(1) of Title V of the Social Security Act). In addition, the

state MCH Services Block Grant programs are required to conduct a state-wide, comprehensive needs assessment every 5 years. The information and instructions for the preparation and submission of this Application/Annual Report are contained in the Guidance.

Likely Respondents: Likely respondents are state MCH agencies and other MCH stakeholders.

Burden Statement: Burden in this context means the time expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain,

disclose, or provide the information requested. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information; to search data sources; to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the

information. The total annual burden hours estimated for this ICR are summarized in the table below. States will use the updated edition of the Guidance to prepare and submit the fiscal year (FY) 2028, FY 2029, and FY 2030 Applications/FY 2026, FY 2027, and FY 2028 Annual Reports, which will not contain the 5-Year Needs Assessment Summary. States will submit the next 5-Year Needs Assessment Summary in 2030, as part of the FY 2031 Application/FY 2029 Annual Report.

TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Total responses	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
Application and Annual Report without Five-Year Needs Assessment Summary	59	1	59	116	6,844
Total	59		59		6,844

Maria G. Button,

Director, Executive Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 2026–21519 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4165–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission to OMB for Review and Approval; Public Comment Request; Maternal and Child Health Bureau Performance Measures for Discretionary Grant Information System, OMB No. 0915–0298—Revision

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, HRSA submitted an Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. Comments submitted during the first public review of this ICR will be provided to OMB. OMB will accept further comments from the public during the review and approval period. OMB may act on HRSA's ICR only after the 30-day comment period for this notice has closed.

DATES: Comments on this ICR should be received no later than November 20, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request a copy of the clearance requests submitted to OMB for review, email Samantha Miller, the HRSA Information Collection Clearance Officer, at paperwork@hrsa.gov or call (301) 443–0904.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Information Collection Request Title: Maternal and Child Health Bureau Performance Measures for Discretionary Grant Information System.

OMB No. 0915–0298—Revision

Abstract: HRSA is requesting OMB approval to revise the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) Performance Measures for the Discretionary Grant Information System (DGIS). The revision updates terminology across five forms—replacing “underserved” with “medically underserved” on the Engaging Families and Other Individuals (formerly Engagement of Persons With Lived Experience) form; Training Forms 07, 08, 09; and Former Long-Term Trainees—and eliminates

two forms (Training 03/Healthy Tomorrows and Training 04/Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Training Program) whose data is now captured through the Partnership and Collaboration form. The remaining 42 forms carry forward unchanged from the currently approved package.

A 60-day notice published in the **Federal Register** on July 13, 2026, vol. 91, No. 132; pp. 42967–42969. HRSA received one out-of-scope comment regarding drug testing, which this information collection does not cover.

Need and Proposed Use of the Information: The performance data collected through the DGIS supports grantee monitoring, program planning, and performance reporting, and helps demonstrate alignment between MCHB discretionary programs and the Title V MCH Services Block Grant program.

Likely Respondents: The grantees for MCHB Discretionary Grant Programs.

Burden Statement: Burden in this context means the time expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information requested. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information; to search data sources; to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information. The total annual burden

hours estimated for this ICR are summarized in the table below.

TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Total responses	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
Project Abstract	817	1	817	1.33	1,087
Project Abstract (Research Programs Only)	58	1	58	0.66	38
Financial Form	817	1	817	0.87	711
Direct and Enabling Services	476	1	476	1.89	900
Training and Workforce Development	250	1	250	2.42	605
Partnerships and Collaboration	380	1	380	1.04	395
Engaging Families and Other Individuals	416	1	416	1.58	657
Technical Assistance	300	1	300	2.24	672
Outreach and Education	500	1	500	0.61	305
Research	65	1	65	3.11	202
Guidelines and Policy	78	1	78	0.70	55
Data and Information Systems	50	1	50	0.67	34
Quality Improvement and Evaluation	346	1	346	0.29	100
Knowledge Change	200	1	200	1.64	328
Behavior Change	200	1	200	1.56	312
Products and Publications	672	1	672	4.23	2,843
Training Form 07	6	1	6	0.83	5
Training Form 08	6	1	6	0.75	5
Training Form 09	6	1	6	0.92	6
Training Form 14	6	1	6	3.64	22
Training Form 15	52	1	52	3.17	165
Faculty and Staff Information	124	1	124	1.92	238
Short-Term Trainees	8	1	8	0.67	5
Medium-Term Trainees	121	1	121	2.49	301
Long-Term Trainees	112	1	112	6.37	713
Former Long-Term Trainees	106	1	106	1.60	170
Leadership, Education, and Advancement in Under-graduate Pathways (LEAP) Trainee Information	6	1	6	0.65	4
Healthy Start (HS) 04	101	1	101	0.57	58
HS 10	101	1	101	0.31	31
HS 11	101	1	101	0.61	62
HS 12	101	1	101	0.33	33
HS 13	101	1	101	0.50	51
HS 14	101	1	101	0.43	43
HS 15	101	1	101	0.45	45
HS 16	101	1	101	0.39	39
HS 17	101	1	101	0.40	40
HS 18	101	1	101	0.33	33
HS 19	101	1	101	0.38	38
HS 20	101	1	101	0.37	37
HS 21	101	1	101	0.36	36
HS Site Form	101	1	101	0.32	32
Emergency Medical Services for Children State Partnership (EMSC) 04	58	1	58	0.92	53
EMSC 08	58	1	58	0.09	5
EMSC 09	58	1	58	0.42	24
EMSC 10	58	1	58	0.46	27
Family-to-Family 1	59	1	59	2.76	163
Form 10	200	2	400	12.87	5,148
Total	*817		*817		16,876

* Total Burden Hours are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Maria G. Button,

Director, Executive Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 2026-21518 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4165-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

No Adjustment to HHS Civil Monetary Penalty Amounts for 2026

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources, Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS or the Department) is notifying the public that there will be no Civil Monetary Penalty (CMP) inflation adjustment for 2026 in accordance with the April 17, 2026, guidance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). HHS

will continue to use the 2025 civil monetary penalty levels because there will be no cost-of-living adjustment for 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jennifer Johnson, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Acquisitions, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources, Room 536–H, Hubert Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20201; (771) 215–0133.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 (section 701 of Pub. L. 114–74) amended the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101–410, 104 Stat. 890 (1990)), which is intended to improve the effectiveness of CMPs and to maintain the deterrent effect of such penalties requires agencies to adjust the CMPs for inflation annually.

HHS lists the CMP authorities and the amounts administered by its Divisions in tabular form in 45 CFR 102.3, which was issued in an interim final rule published in the September 6, 2016, **Federal Register** (81 FR 61538). Annual adjustments were subsequently published on February 3, 2017 (82 FR 9175), October 11, 2018 (83 FR 51369), November 5, 2019 (84 FR 59549), January 17, 2020 (85 FR 2869), November 15, 2021 (86 FR 62928), March 17, 2022 (87 FR 15100), October 6, 2023 (88 FR 69531), August 8, 2024 (89 FR 64815), and January 28, 2026 (91 FR 3665).

II. Calculation of 2025 Fiscal Year Penalties

The annual inflation adjustment for each applicable CMP is determined using the percent increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI–U) for the month of October of the year in which the amount of each CMP was most recently established or modified. In the December 17, 2024, OMB Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies, M–25–02, “Implementation of Penalty Inflation Adjustments for 2025, Pursuant to the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015,” OMB published the multiplier for the required annual adjustment. The cost-of-living adjustment multiplier for 2025, based on the CPI–U for the month of October 2024, not seasonally adjusted, was 1.02598. The multiplier was applied to each applicable penalty amount that was updated and published

for fiscal year 2024 and was rounded to the nearest dollar. Those CMP updates were published at 91 FR 3665.

III. Cancellation of 2026 Penalty Inflation Adjustment

Due to a lapse in appropriations from October 1, 2025, until November 12, 2025, BLS was unable to produce the October 2025 CPI–U data. As a result, there was no inflation adjustment multiplier for 2026, which is needed to adjust civil monetary penalties for the 2026 calendar year under the 2015 Act. On April 17, 2026, OMB issued Memorandum M–26–11 informing agencies of the cancellation of the inflation adjustment for 2026. As a result, HHS will continue using the maximum civil monetary penalties as adjusted for inflation by the 2025 adjustment for all penalties imposed after January 15, 2025.

Gustav Chiarello,

*Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources,
Department of Health and Human Services.*

[FR Doc. 2026–21524 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center for Scientific Review; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Social and Community Influences on Health Integrated Review Group; Population and Public Health Approaches to HIV/AIDS Study Section.

Date: November 18, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Aubrey S. Madkour, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of

Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 1000C, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594–6891, madkouras@csr.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Musculoskeletal and Oral Sciences.

Date: November 18–19, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Aftab A. Ansari, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4108, MSC 7814 Bethesda, MD 20892 (301) 237–9931, ansaria@csr.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Instrumentation, Environmental and Occupational Safety.

Date: November 18–19, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: MIR AHAMED Hossain, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817, (301) 496–9223, mirahamed.hossain@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Biomedical Sensing, Measurement and Instrumentation.

Date: November 18–19, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Steven A. Ripp, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594–3010, steven.ripp@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business Activities: Cardiovascular and Hematology.

Date: November 18–19, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Vladimir Bogdanov, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Dr., Room 801G Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594–6602, bogdanovv2@csr.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; PAR Panel:

Therapeutic Development for Neurological Disorders.

Date: November 18–19, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Kristin L. McNally, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594–4079, mcnallyk@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Member Conflict: Skeletal Muscle and Rehabilitation Sciences.

Date: November 18, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Chee Lim, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4128 Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435–1850, limc4@csr.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Preclinical Cancer Therapeutics (R03, R21).

Date: November 18, 2026.

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Susan Lynn Spence, Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institute of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, National Cancer Institute, NIH, Bethesda, MD 20892, susan.spence@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Topics in Health Services Research: Youth and Young Adult Mental Health.

Date: November 18, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Thomas Beres, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5148, MSC 7840, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301–435–1175, berestm@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Fellowships: Infectious Diseases and Immunology F21A Review Panel.

Date: November 18, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Diana Maria Ortiz-Garcia, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, The Center for Scientific Review, The National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301–594–5614, diana.ortiz-garcia@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Genes, Genomes, and Genetics Integrated Review Group; Maximizing Investigators' Research Award A Study Section.

Date: November 18–19, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Mollie Kim Manier, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594–0510, mollie.manier@nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.306, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393–93.396, 93.837–93.844, 93.846–93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 19, 2026.

Sterlyn H. Gibson,

Program Specialist, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2026–21526 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center for Scientific Review; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; PAR–24–272: Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Program.

Date: November 16–17, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Maryam Rohani, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 451–0987, maryam.rohani@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Mechanisms of Cancer Therapeutics.

Date: November 17–18, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Michael M. Opat, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health 6701 Rockledge Drive Bethesda, MD 20892 301–594–3074, michael.opata@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Population Sciences and Epidemiology Integrated Review Group; Kidney Endocrine and Digestive Disorders Study Section.

Date: November 17–18, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Joshua Park, Ph.D. Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 451–1110, joshua.park4@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Advanced Therapeutics.

Date: November 17, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Lambratu Rahman Sesay, Ph.D. Chief, Advanced Cancer Therapeutics Review Branch, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301–905–8294, rahman-sesay@csr.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Basic Cancer Immunobiology and Tumor Host Interactions.

Date: November 17–18, 2026.

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Jennifer Ann Sanders, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-496-3553, jennifer.sanders@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Program Projects: Center Core Grants: AIDS Research Center on Mental Health and HIV/AIDS.

Date: November 17, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Marisa Srivareerat, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-0872, marisa.srivareerat@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Fellowships: Infectious Diseases and Immunology.

Date: November 17–18, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Barry J. Margulies, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-594-3019, barry.margulies@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Cancer Immunotherapy Development.

Date: November 18–19, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Asifa Haider, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 803C, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 480-2190, haidera2@csr.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; RFA–RM–26–017: Pilot Projects Enhancing Utility and Usage of Common Fund Data Sets (R03).

Date: November 18–19, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Susan Wohler Sunnarborg, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for

Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-7912, susan.sunnarborg@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Training: Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition.

Date: November 18, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Jian Yang, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 451-1623, yangj3@nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.306, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393–93.396, 93.837–93.844, 93.846–93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 16, 2026.

Margaret N. Vardanian,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2026-21525 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4167-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center for Scientific Review; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; RFA–EY–25–001: BRAIN Initiative: New Concepts and Early-Stage Research for Recording and Modulation in the Nervous System.

Date: November 12, 2026.

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Steven G. Britt, MD, Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Dr., Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 451-1486, steve.britt@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; PAR Panel: High End, Shared, and Basic Instrumentation (S10).

Date: November 12–13, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Kathryn Roberts Marron, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 904B, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-5032, kathryn.marron@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Chemistry Research for the Division of Translational Toxicology (DTT).

Date: November 12, 2026.

Time: 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate contract proposals.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Alfredo Jose Guerra, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 480-2569, alfredo.guerra@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; NIH Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings.

Date: November 13, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: James J. Li, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5148, MSC 7849, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-827-3060, lijames@csr.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Member Conflict: Molecular and Cellular Neuropharmacology (MCNP).

Date: November 13, 2026.

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Susan Gillmor, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD

20892, 301-827-6883, susan.gillmor@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Discovery and Optimization of Immunotherapeutics and Biological Therapeutics.

Date: November 16-17, 2026.

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Robert C. Unfer, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892 301-402-1474, robert.unfer@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Cancer Biotherapeutics Development.

Date: November 16-17, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Elisaveta Ninova Voynova, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (202) 934-2336, voynovae@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Training and Career Development: Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Research Career Development Awards.

Date: November 16-17, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Dan Yu, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 402-1081, dan.yu@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Advanced Therapeutics.

Date: November 16-17, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Lilia Topol, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 6192, MSC 7804, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-451-0131, ltopol@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; International Research Collaborations Projects.

Date: November 16, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Devaiah N. Ballachanda, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 801F, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 480-0816, ballachandad@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Member Conflict: Medical Imaging, Surgical Sciences, and Bioengineering.

Date: November 16-17, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Carlos J. Perez-Torres, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, The Center for Scientific Review, The National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 480-0451, carlos.perez-torres@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Biomarkers, Diagnostics and Disease Therapy.

Date: November 16-17, 2026.

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Shilpakala Ketha, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Dr., Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-1841, shilpa.ketha@nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.306, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 16, 2026.

Kuleni D. Onnen,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2026-21470 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4167-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center for Scientific Review; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as

amended, notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Special Topics in Macromolecular Biophysics and Biochemistry.

Date: November 17, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Vandana Kumari, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 496-3290, vandana.kumari@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Applied Immunology.

Date: November 18-19, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Dayadevi Jirage, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4422, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 867-5309, jiragedb@csr.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Biologic-based Therapeutics for Neurodegenerative Disorders.

Date: November 18-19, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Elizabeth Litvina, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 1010E, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 272-0774, liza.litvina@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Anti-Infective Therapeutics.

Date: November 18-19, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Hailey P. Weerts, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (240) 220-1725, hailey.weerts@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Fellowships: Population Studies on Mental Health, Substance Use Disorders, Aging and Cancer.

Date: November 18–19, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Gianina Ramona Dumitrescu, Ph.D., MPH, Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Dr., Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 827-0696, ramona.dumitrescu@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Infectious Diseases and Immunology B Integrated Review Group; HIV Coinfections and HIV Associated Cancers Study Section.

Date: November 18, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Joshua D. Powell, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-5370, josh.powell@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Fellowships: Endocrine and Metabolic Systems.

Date: November 18, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Elena Sanovich, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Dr., Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-0000, sanoviche@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Pulmonary and Respiratory Diseases.

Date: November 18, 2026.

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Bradley Nuss, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 451-8754, nussb@csr.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition.

Date: November 19–20, 2026.

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Ganesan Ramesh, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 2182, MSC 7818, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-827-5467, ganesan.ramesh@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Program Project: Cancer Research.

Date: November 19, 2026.

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Maria Dolores Arjona Mayor, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 806D, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 827-8578, dolores.arjonamayor@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Infectious Diseases and Immunology B Integrated Review Group; HIV Comorbidities and Clinical Studies Study Section.

Date: November 19, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Shannon J. Sherman, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-594-0715, shannon.sherman@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Bioengineering, Device Development and Neurosurgery.

Date: November 19–20, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Cristina Backman, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5211,

MSC 7846 Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 480-9069, cbackman@mail.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.306, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393–93.396, 93.837–93.844, 93.846–93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 19, 2026.

Sterlyn H. Gibson,

Program Specialist, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2026–21527 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4167-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center for Scientific Review; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

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Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Social and Behavioral Approaches in Adult Populations.

Date: November 16–17, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Michael Eric Authement, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-451-1175, michael.authement@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; PAR–27–067: Instrumentation Grant Program for Resource-Limited Institutions (S10).

Date: November 16–17, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Jessica Smith, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for

Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 402.3717, jessica.smith6@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Topics in Basic Biological Sciences (R15 and R16).

Date: November 16, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Wing-hang Tong, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 402-0360, tongw@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Career Development Applications in Neuroscience.

Date: November 16, 2026.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Dorela Shuboni-Mulligan, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 480-1823, dorela.shuboni-mulligan@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Research Enhancement and Excellence Programs in Health Promotion and Implementation.

Date: November 16, 2026.

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Andrea B. Kelly, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-8897, kellya2@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Infectious Diseases and Immunology: NIH Collaborative International Research Project Applications (PF5)—Panel A.

Date: November 16, 2026.

Time: 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Frank S. DeSilva, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 451-1120, fdesilva@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Endocrinology, Metabolism, Nutrition and Reproductive

Sciences Integrated Review Group; Gametogenesis and Development of Reproductive Systems Study Section.

Date: November 17, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Leslie McCue Turner, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 480-4962, leslie.turner@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Cardiovascular and Surgical Devices.

Date: November 17–18, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Raul Covian, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-7966, raul.covian@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Research Enhancement Award and SuRE Programs (R15 and R16) in Bioengineering, Computation and Technology Development.

Date: November 17, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Yingli Fu, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-0840, yingli.fu@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Small Business: Health Technology and Methodologies.

Date: November 17–18, 2026.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Michael J. McQuestion, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-480-1276, mike.mcquestion@nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine; 93.333, Clinical Research; 93.306, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 16, 2026.

Margaret N. Vardanian,
Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2026-21523 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4167-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services

Agency Information Collection

Activities: Proposed Collection; Public Comment Request; Information Collection Request Title: SAMHSA Data Security Requirements for Accessing Confidential Data (OMB No. 0930-0396)

AGENCY: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA), within the Department of Health and Human Services, has submitted the following information collection requirement to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This is the first notice for public comment. SAMHSA will forward the proposed Data Security Requirements for Accessing Confidential Data information collection to the OMB for clearance simultaneously with the publication of the second notice, following the expiration of this first notice. The full submission may be found at: <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

DATES: Written comments should be received by November 20, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: SAMHSA Reports Clearance Officer, Room 15E-57A, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857 OR email to Samhsapra@samhsa.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SAMHSA within the Department of Health and Human Services has submitted the following information collection requirement to OMB for review and

clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This is the second notice for public comment; the first was published in the **Federal Register** at 91 FR 52312 and no comments were received. SAMHSA is forwarding the proposed Data Security Requirements for Accessing Confidential Data information collection to the OMB for clearance simultaneously with the publication of this second notice. The full submission may be found at: <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

Comments: Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of SAMHSA, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of SAMHSA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, use, and clarity of the information to be collected, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated or other forms of information technology.

Proposed Information Collection: Data Security Requirements for Accessing Confidential Data (OMB Control Number: 0930-0396)—Extension

Title III of the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018 (44 U.S.C. 3583) mandates that the Director of OMB establish a standard application process (SAP) for requesting access to certain confidential data assets. The Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality (CBHSQ) is a federally recognized statistical unit and the adoption of the SAP is required for statistical agencies/units designated under the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2018 (CIPSEA). The SAP Portal is a single web-based common application designed to collect information from individuals requesting access to confidential data assets from federal statistical agencies/units.

The SAP allows agencies, the Congressional Budget Office, State, local, and Tribal governments, researchers, and other individuals, as appropriate, to apply to access confidential data assets held by a federal statistical agency or unit for the purposes of developing evidence. With the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP) as advisors, the entities upon whom this requirement is levied are working with the SAP Project

Management Office (PMO) and with OMB to implement the SAP.

The SAP Portal is a single web-based common application designed to collect information from individuals requesting access to confidential data assets from federal statistical agencies and units. When an application for confidential data is approved through the SAP Portal, SAMHSA will collect information to fulfill its data security requirements. This is a required step before providing the individual with access to restricted use microdata for the purpose of evidence building. SAMHSA's data security agreements and other paperwork, along with the corresponding security protocols, allow SAMHSA to maintain careful controls on confidentiality and privacy, as required by law. SAMHSA's collection of data security information will occur outside of the SAP Portal.

The following bullets outline the major components and processes in and around the SAP Portal, leading up to SAMHSA's collection of security requirements.

- **SAP Policy:** At the recommendation of the ICSP, the SAP Policy establishes the SAP to be implemented by statistical agencies and units and incorporates directives from the Evidence Act. The SAP Policy may be found in OMB Memorandum 23-04.

- **The SAP Portal:** The SAP Portal is an application interface connecting applicants seeking data with a catalog of metadata for data assets owned by the federal statistical agencies and units. The SAP Portal is not a new data repository or warehouse; confidential data assets will continue to be stored in secure data access facilities owned and hosted by the federal statistical agencies and units. The Portal provides a streamlined application process across agencies, reducing redundancies in the application process.

- **Data Discovery:** Individuals begin the process of accessing restricted use data by discovering confidential data assets through the SAP metadata catalog, maintained by federal statistical agencies at <https://sap.nsf.gov/>.

- **SAP Portal Application Process:** Individuals who have identified and wish to access confidential data assets apply through the SAP Portal. Applicants must create an account and follow all steps to complete the application. Applicants enter personal, contact, and institutional information for the research team and provide summary information about their proposed project.

- **Submission for Review:** Agencies approve or reject an application within a prompt timeframe. Agencies may also

request applicants to revise and resubmit their application.

- **Access to Confidential Data:** Approved applicants are notified through the SAP Portal that their proposal has been accepted. This concludes the SAP Portal process. Agencies will contact approved applicants to initiate completion of their security documents. The completion and submission of the agency's security requirements will take place outside of the SAP Portal.

- **Collection of Information for Data Security Requirements:** In the instance of a positive determination for an application requesting access to a SAMHSA-owned confidential data asset, SAMHSA will contact the applicant(s) to initiate the process of collecting information to fulfill its data security requirements. This process allows SAMHSA to place the applicant(s) in a trusted access category.

The estimated response burden is as follows:

The amount of time to complete the agreements and other paperwork that comprise SAMHSA's security requirements will vary based on the confidential data assets requested. To obtain access to SAMHSA confidential data assets, it is estimated that the average time to complete and submit SAMHSA's data security agreements and other paperwork is 40 minutes. This estimate does not include the time needed to complete and apply within the SAP Portal. All efforts related to SAP Portal applications occur prior to and separate from SAMHSA's effort to collect information related to data security requirements.

The expected number of applications in the SAP Portal that receive a positive determination from SAMHSA each year may vary. Overall, per year, SAMHSA estimates it will collect data security information for 15 application submissions that received a positive determination within the SAP Portal. SAMHSA estimates that the total burden for the collection of information for data security requirements over the course of the three-year OMB clearance will be about 30 hours and, as a result, an average annual burden of 10 hours.

Alicia Broadus,

Public Health Advisor.

[FR Doc. 2026-21486 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4162-20-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID: FEMA–2026–0430; OMB No. 1660–0083]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review, Comment Request; Application for Community Disaster Loan (CDL) Program

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: 30-Day notice of revision and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will submit the information collection abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget for review and clearance in accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. FEMA invites the general public to take this opportunity to comment on a revision of a currently approved information collection. In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice seeks comments concerning the Community Disaster Loan (CDL) Program. This collection allows the Federal Government to make loans to local governments that have suffered economic problems due to disasters.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 20, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be made to Director, Information Management Division, 500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, email address FEMA-Information-Collections-Management@fema.dhs.gov or Martha Castro, Section Chief, Program Support and Monitoring Branch, Public Assistance Division, 202–701–4023, or Martha.Castro@fema.dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The information collection is required for Community Disaster Loan (CDL) Program eligibility determinations, CDL

management, and compliance with other Federal laws and regulations. The CDL Program is authorized by Section 417 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93–288, as amended, 88 Stat. 143 (42 U.S.C. 5184) and implementing regulations at 44 CFR part 206, subpart K. FEMA may make a CDL to any local government which has suffered a substantial loss of tax or other revenues as a result of a major disaster or emergency and which demonstrates a need for Federal financial assistance to perform its governmental functions.

The CDL must be justified on the basis of need and be based on the actual and projected expenses, as a result of the disaster, for the fiscal year in which the disaster occurred and the three succeeding fiscal years. FEMA has the authority to cancel repayment of all or part of these CDLs to the extent that a determination is made that revenues of the local government during the three fiscal years following the disaster are insufficient to meet the operating budget of that local government because of disaster related revenue losses and additional unreimbursed disaster-related municipal operating expenses.

This proposed information collection previously published in the **Federal Register** on August 4, 2026, at 91 FR 49435 with a 60-day public comment period. FEMA received one comment. The commenter expressed concern about the removal of Part III the Community Disaster Loan Promissory Note, asserting its practical utility for maintaining reliable cash-flow projections for Federal direct loans. FEMA is replacing the speculative, nonbinding projected disbursement schedule with a practical, real-time assessment of actual financial need at the time each loan draw is requested. This updated process prevents local governments from incurring unnecessary interest expenses by ensuring funds are borrowed only when current revenues cannot meet operating obligations. Additionally, this change strengthens the stewardship of Federal funds and improves administrative utility without impacting required credit-subsidy cash-flow forecasting or changing the information collection burden. The purpose of this notice is to notify the public that FEMA will submit the information collection abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget for review and clearance. This 30-day notice updates the type of information collection that was previously published in the 60-day notice as Extension, with a minor change to Revision of a currently approved information collection.

Collection of Information

Title: Application for Community Disaster Loan (CDL) Program.

Type of Information Collection: Revision of a currently approved information collection.

OMB Number: 1660–0083.

FEMA Forms: FEMA Form-104–FY–22–223 (formerly 090–0–1), Certification of Eligibility for Community Disaster Loans; FEMA Form-104–FY–22–224 (formerly 116–0–1), Promissory Note; FEMA Form-104–FY–22–225 (formerly 085–0–1), Local Government Resolution—Collateral Security; FEMA Form-104–FY–22–226 (formerly 112–0–3C), Certifications Regarding Lobbying, Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters, and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; FEMA Form-104–FY–22–227 (formerly 009–0–15), Application for Loan Cancellation.

Abstract: The loan package for the CDL Program provides local governments that have suffered substantial loss of tax or other revenues as a result of a major disaster, the opportunity to obtain financial assistance in order to perform their governmental functions. The loan must be justified on the basis of need and disaster-related expenses.

Affected Public: Local, U.S. Territory, or Tribal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 260.

Estimated Number of Responses: 260.

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: 552.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost: \$29,990.

Estimated Respondents' Operation and Maintenance Costs: 0.

Estimated Respondents' Capital and Start-Up Costs: 0.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to the Federal Government: \$80,961.

Comments

Comments may be submitted as indicated in the **ADDRESSES** caption above. Comments are solicited to (a) evaluate whether the proposed data collection is necessary for the proper performance of the Agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) evaluate 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) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Nigel S. Allicock,

Records Management Branch Chief, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Mission Support, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. 2026–21497 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111–24–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID: FEMA–2026–0463; OMB No. 1660–0100]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; General Admissions Applications (Long and Short) and Stipend Forms

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: 30-Day notice of extension and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public to take this opportunity to comment on an extension, without change, of a currently approved information collection. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice seeks comments concerning the admission applications and student stipend agreements for FEMA courses and programs that are delivered on-campus and throughout the Nation, in coordination with state and local training officials and local colleges and universities.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 20, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Smiley White, Supervisory Program Specialist, United States Fire Administration, 301–447–1055. You may contact the Information

Management Division for copies of the proposed collection of information at email address: FEMA-Information-Collections-Management@fema.dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FEMA offers courses and programs that are delivered at National Emergency Training Center (NETC) in Emmitsburg, Maryland, the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston, Alabama, and throughout the Nation in coordination with state and local training officials and local colleges and universities to carry out the authorities listed below. To facilitate meeting these requirements, FEMA collects information necessary to be accepted for courses and for the student stipend or travel reimbursement program for these courses. There are several organizations within FEMA that deliver training and education in support of the FEMA mission.

The authorities under which FEMA delivers this training are as follows:

1. Section 7 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974, Public Law 93–498, 88 Stat. 1535, as amended (15 U.S.C. 2206), established the National Fire Academy (NFA) to advance the professional development of fire service personnel and of other individuals engaged in fire prevention and control activities.

2. Section 611(f) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), Public Law 93–288, as amended, 88 Stat. 143 (42 U.S.C. 5196(f)), authorizes FEMA to conduct or arrange, by contract or otherwise, for training programs for the instruction of emergency preparedness officials and other persons in the organization, operation, and techniques of emergency preparedness; conduct or operate schools or classes, including the payment of travel expenses, in accordance with subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, and the Standardized Government Travel Regulations, and per diem allowances, in lieu of subsistence for trainees in attendance or the furnishing of subsistence and quarters for trainees and instructors on terms prescribed by FEMA; and provide instructors and training aids as deemed necessary. This training is conducted through the National Disaster and Emergency Management University (NDEMU) (formerly known as the Emergency Management Institute).

3. Title XIV of the National Defense Authorization Act of 1997, Public Law 104–201, 110 Stat. 2432 (53 U.S.C. 2301 note); Title I of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies

Appropriations Act of 1998, Public Law 105–119; Sections 403 and 430 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Public Law 107–296, 116 Stat. 2135 (6 U.S.C. 203, 238); and Section 611 of the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006, Public Law 109–295, 120 Stat. 1355, all authorize CDP to serve as a training facility for all relevant Federally-supported training efforts that target state, local and tribal law enforcement, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, and other key agencies such as public works and state, local and tribal emergency management. The focus of the training is to prepare relevant state, local and tribal officials to deal with chemical, biological, or nuclear terrorist acts and handle incidents dealing with hazardous materials.

4. Section 1204 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007, Public Law 110–53, 121 Stat. 386 (6 U.S.C. 1102) established a National Domestic Preparedness Consortium within the Department of Homeland Security. The Consortium is mandated to identify, test, and deliver training to State, local, and tribal emergency response providers, provide on-site and mobile training at the performance, management, and planning levels, and facilitate the delivery of training by the training partners of the Department.

5. Consistent with requirements under Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Appendix C Respirator Medical Evaluation Questionnaire (29 CFR 1910.134, Respiratory Protection) in any workplace where respirators are necessary to protect the health of the employee or whenever respirators are required by the employer, the employer shall establish and implement a written respiratory protection program with worksite-specific procedures. The program shall be updated as necessary to reflect those changes in workplace conditions that affect respirator use. The employer shall include in the program the following provision, 29 CFR 1910.134(c)(1)(ii), Medical evaluations of employees required to use respirators.

Under the authorities of Executive Orders 12127 and 12148, the Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, is responsible for carrying out the mandates of the public laws mentioned above.

This proposed information collection previously published in the **Federal Register** on August 7, 2026, at 91 FR 51179 with a 60-day public comment period. FEMA received three public comments, one of which was outside the scope of this request. The

commenters stated that FEMA had not provided sufficient information to establish that the instruments were the least burdensome alternatives and stated that FEMA should provide more detailed information about its burden calculations. FEMA did not change the information collection in response to these comments but is providing more detailed information about the burden calculation with its request for approval. The purpose of this notice is to notify the public that FEMA will submit the information collection abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget for review and clearance.

Type of Information Collection: Extension, without change, of a currently approved information collection.

OMB Number: 1660–0100.

FEMA Forms: FEMA Form FF–USFA–FY–21–101, (formerly 119–25–0–1), General Admission Application; FEMA Form FF–USFA–FY–21–102, (formerly 119–25–0–6), Training Registration Form; FEMA Form FF–USFA–FY–21–103, (formerly 119–25–3), Student Stipend Agreement; FEMA Form FF–USFA–FY–21–104, (formerly 119–25–4), Student Stipend Agreement (Amendment); FEMA Form FF–USFA–FY–21–105, (formerly 119–25–5) National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer Program Application for Admission; and FEMA Form FF–008–FY–22–125, Respiratory Medical Evaluation Questionnaire For Students.

Abstract: FEMA provides training to advance the professional development of personnel engaged in fire prevention and control, and emergency management activities through CDP, National Disaster and Emergency Management University (formerly known as the Emergency Management Institute), NFA, National Training and Education Division, National Domestic Preparedness Consortium, and Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium.

Affected Public: Federal, State, local, and tribal governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 223,300.

Estimated Number of Responses: 223,300.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 21,644.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost: \$1,380,176.

Estimated Respondents' Operation and Maintenance Costs: \$0.

Estimated Respondents' Capital and Start-Up Costs: \$0.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to the Federal Government: \$191,087.

Comments

Comments may be submitted as indicated in the **ADDRESSES** caption above. Comments are solicited to (a) evaluate whether the proposed data collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) evaluate 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) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Nigel S. Allicock,

Records Management Branch Chief, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Mission Support, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. 2026–21496 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111–45–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[278A2100DD/AAMM001010/A0A600000.000000]

Ohkay Owingeh, New Mexico—Liquor Control Ordinance Amendment

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice publishes amendments to the Ohkay Owingeh, New Mexico Liquor Control Ordinance, which amends and replaces the previous liquor control ordinance published on December 26, 1989.

DATES: This Ordinance shall become effective October 21, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sophia J. Torres, Acting Tribal Government Specialist, Southwest Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1001 Indian School Road NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104–2303, Phone: (505) 536–3304, Email: sophia.torres@bia.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Act of August 15, 1953, Public Law 83–277, 67 Stat. 586, 18 U.S.C. 1161, as interpreted by the Supreme Court in *Rice v. Rehner*, 463 U.S. 713

(1983), the Secretary of the Interior shall certify and publish in the **Federal Register** notice of adopted liquor ordinances for the purpose of regulating liquor transactions in Indian country. On May 6, 2026, Ohkay Owingeh, located in New Mexico, through Resolution No. 2026–33, adopted this amended Liquor Control Ordinance, which regulates and controls the consumption, possession, production, and sale of alcoholic beverages within the Pueblo's territorial jurisdiction.

This notice is published in accordance with the authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs. I certify that Ohkay Owingeh, New Mexico duly adopted this amendment to the Pueblo's Liquor Control Ordinance by Resolution No. 2026–33 on May 6, 2026.

The Ohkay Owingeh, New Mexico Liquor Control Ordinance, as amended, shall read as follows:

Ohkay Owingeh Amended Liquor Control Ordinance

Section 1—Title

This Ordinance shall be known as the “Ohkay Owingeh Liquor Control Ordinance.”

Section 2—Purpose

The purpose of this Ordinance is to authorize, regulate, and control the introduction, possession, and Sale of Alcoholic Beverages on Tribal Lands of Ohkay Owingeh in accordance with federal law, New Mexico state law, and the laws of Ohkay Owingeh. The enactment of this Ordinance will enhance the ability of the Tribal government to control all Alcoholic Beverages' related activities within the jurisdiction of the Tribe. This Ordinance is enacted in conjunction with the laws of the State of New Mexico applicable to the Sale and distribution of Alcoholic Beverages pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1161.

Section 3—Authority

The Tribe enacts this Ordinance pursuant to its inherent governmental powers and in accordance with its traditional law, which empowers its Tribal Council to enact ordinances. This Ordinance conforms with and also has been enacted pursuant to the Act of August 15, 1953 (Pub. L. 83–277, 67 Stat. 586, 18 U.S.C. 1161). The Sale of Alcoholic Beverages shall be lawful within Tribal Lands, to the extent permitted by federal law, and applicable laws of the Tribe and the State of New Mexico.

Section 4—Scope

In order to protect the health, safety, and social welfare of the members of Ohkay Owingeh and the patrons of businesses located on Tribal Lands, and to be consistent with the principles enunciated by the United States Supreme Court in *United States v. Montana*, 101 S.Ct. 1245 (1981), the Tribe, as an exercise of sovereign authority and self-determination, has enacted this Ordinance to regulate the introduction, possession, and Sale of Alcoholic Beverages on Tribal Lands.

This Ordinance applies to all Tribal Lands, as defined herein. This Ordinance shall extend to all Persons, as defined herein, receiving or requiring Licenses hereunder, or doing business on Tribal Lands, or having significant contacts within Tribal Lands, or residing within Tribal Lands, or entering into or coming within Tribal Lands, or consuming, possessing, manufacturing, or distributing Alcoholic Beverages within Tribal Lands. This Ordinance shall apply to all Persons and shall be enforced against all Persons to the fullest extent permitted by applicable federal law.

Section 5—Definitions

As used in this Ordinance, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) “Alcoholic Beverage” means the four varieties of liquor commonly referred to as alcohol, spirits, wine and beer, and all fermented, spirituous, vinous or malt liquors or combinations thereof, mixed liquor, any part of which is fermented, spirituous, vinous or malt liquor, or any otherwise intoxicating liquid, including every liquid or solid or semi-solid or other substance, patented or not, containing alcohol, spirits, wine or beer and intended for oral consumption;

(b) “Gaming Facility” means all buildings or structures in which Class II or Class III Gaming is conducted on Tribal Lands, subject to the limitations set forth in the Compact between the State of New Mexico and the Tribe.

(c) “Intoxicated Person” means a Person whose mental or physical functioning is impaired as a result of the use of Alcoholic Beverages.

(d) “License” means a revocable license granted by the Tribal Council pursuant to this Ordinance authorizing the Licensee named therein to sell Alcoholic Beverages at a specified Licensed Establishment on Tribal Lands.

(e) “Licensee” means the holder of a valid Package License, On-Premises License or Special Event License granted by the Tribal Council.

(f) “Licensed Establishment” means a designated physical location on Tribal Lands from which a Licensee is authorized to sell, offer for Sale, or having in the person’s possession with the intent to sell Alcoholic Beverages in unbroken packages for consumption and not for resale off the Licensed Establishment;

(g) “Minor” means any Person under the age of twenty-one (21) years.

(h) “On-Premises License” means a License that authorizes the Licensee to store, possess and sell Alcoholic Beverages in open containers for consumption at the Licensed Establishment only.

(i) “Ordinance” means this Ohkay Owingeh Liquor Control Ordinance.

(j) “Package” means any immediate container or receptacle used for holding Alcoholic Beverages that is filled or packed by a manufacturer or wine bottler for Sale by the manufacturer or wine bottler to a wholesaler.

(k) “Package License” means a License that authorizes the Licensee to store, possess and sell Alcoholic Beverages in sealed containers for consumption off of the Licensed Establishment only.

(l) “Patron” means a Person visiting a Licensed Establishment and having the intent to purchase any goods or services for Sale to the general public therein, including Alcoholic Beverages.

(m) “Person” means any individual, whether a member or non-member of the Tribe, an estate, trust, receiver, cooperative association, club, corporation, company, firm, partnership, joint venture, syndicate, Pueblo-chartered or authorized entity, or any other legal entity.

(n) “Public Place” means streets, plazas, highways, roads, stores, shopping centers, and the grounds thereof; also government buildings, public buildings, schools, churches, public meeting halls, lobbies and halls of offices, restaurants, theaters, stores, garages, and service stations which are open to and generally used by the public, and the grounds thereof; also open spaces on Tribal Lands except for private land, yards, allotments, and land assignments; also buses, including school buses, and other public conveyances of all kinds and character, and the depots and waiting rooms used in conjunction therewith; also parks and playgrounds; and all other places of a like nature which are generally used by the public.

(o) “Purchase” means the exchange, barter, traffic, receipt, with or without consideration, by any means whatsoever, of Alcoholic Beverage.

(p) “Sale” or “Sell” means any exchange, barter, gift or traffic; and also includes the selling of or supplying or distributing, by any means whatsoever, of Alcoholic Beverages by any Person to any Person and also includes giving away Alcoholic Beverages.

(q) “Special Event License” means a License that authorizes the Licensee to store, possess and sell Alcoholic Beverages at a special event such as a fair, tournament, convention, meeting or similar event held on Tribal Lands.

(r) “State” means the State of New Mexico and any of its agencies or instrumentalities.

(s) “Tribal Court” means the Ohkay Owingeh Tribal Court.

(t) “Tribal Gaming Commission” means the Ohkay Owingeh Gaming Commission and its staff.

(u) “Tribal Lands” means all lands over which the Tribe exercises governmental power and that is either owned by the Tribe or held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe or individual members of the Tribe and located within the boundaries of the Tribe, including rights-of-way, lands owned in fee, allotted lands, tribally purchased lands, and land that may be leased by the Tribe.

(v) “Tribe” means Ohkay Owingeh, a federally-recognized Indian Tribe.

Section 6—Law Generally Concerning Alcoholic Beverages

6.1. General Authorizations.

6.1.1 Hours and Days of Business.

6.1.1.1 Alcoholic Beverages may be sold, served, delivered, or consumed at a Licensed Establishment on Tribal Lands only during the following times:

6.1.1.1.1 from 7:00 a.m. until 12:00 midnight; and

6.1.1.1.2 from 12:01 a.m. until 2:00 a.m.; provided however, that any such sales made between midnight and 2:00 a.m. shall only be for consumption on the premises.

6.1.1.2 The Tribal Council may, by resolution, prohibit the sale, service, delivery, and consumption of Alcoholic Beverages during times in addition to those set forth in this section. Any such resolution shall not require approval by the U.S. Secretary of Interior.

6.1.2 Sales only by Permitted Servers. Except as otherwise provided in this Ordinance, no Person shall be employed at a Licensed Establishment as a server who has not successfully completed an alcohol server certification program and examination approved by the State of New Mexico or the Tribal Gaming Commission within thirty (30) days of employment.

6.1.3 Alcoholic Beverages at a Gaming Facility. Any Sale of Alcoholic

Beverages at a Gaming Facility shall comply with all applicable provisions of any Tribal-State-Class III Gaming Compact between the State of New Mexico and Ohkay Owingeh, related to the selling, serving, giving or delivering of Alcoholic Beverages at a Gaming Facility.

6.1.4 Wholesale Transactions. A Licensed Establishment shall purchase Alcoholic Beverages for resale on Tribal Lands only from a wholesaler that possesses a valid wholesaler license issued by the State of New Mexico.

6.2 General Prohibitions.

6.2.1. License Required. Any Person who Purchases Alcoholic Beverages on Tribal Lands from any Person other than at a Licensed Establishment shall be guilty of a violation of this Ordinance. Any Person who shall Sell or offer for Sale or distribute or transport in any manner, any Alcoholic Beverage in violation of this Ordinance, or who shall operate or shall have Alcoholic Beverages in his possession with intent to Sell or distribute without a License shall be guilty of a violation of this Ordinance.

6.2.2 Resale Transactions. No Licensed Establishment shall Sell Alcoholic Beverages on Tribal Lands for resale. All such Sales shall be for the personal use of the purchaser. Sales of Alcoholic beverages shall be made by the Package or by the drink.

6.2.3. Bringing Alcoholic Beverages onto Licensed Establishment Premises. No Person shall bring any Alcoholic Beverages for personal consumption onto any Licensed Establishment where Alcoholic Beverages are authorized to be Sold by the drink, unless such Alcoholic Beverage was purchased on such premises, or unless the possession or distribution of such Alcoholic Beverage on such premises is otherwise authorized under the provisions of this Ordinance. Possession of such Alcoholic Beverages by a Patron shall result in ejection of the Patron from the Licensed Establishment.

6.2.4 Sales Must Be Made by Adults; Exception for Restaurant Servers.

6.2.4.1. Except as provided in 6.2.4.2, no Person shall take any order, make any delivery, or accept payment for any Sale of Alcoholic Beverages on Tribal Lands, or otherwise have any direct involvement in any such Sale, who is less than twenty-one (21) years of age.

6.2.4.2. A Licensed Establishment holding an On-Premises License may employ Persons eighteen (18) years of age or older to Sell or serve Alcoholic Beverages in a Licensed Establishment that is held out to the public as a place where meals are prepared and served and the primary source of revenue is

food, and where the Sale or consumption of Alcoholic Beverages is not the primary activity, except that a Person under twenty-one (21) years of age shall not be employed as a bartender.

6.2.5 Payment at Time of Sale. A Licensed Establishment shall not make any Sale of any Alcoholic Beverages without receiving payment therefore by cash, check, or credit card at or about the time the Sale is made; provided that nothing herein shall preclude the Licensed Establishment from receiving a delivery of Alcoholic Beverages from a duly authorized Wholesaler if arrangements have been made to pay for such delivery at a different time; and provided further that nothing herein shall preclude the Licensed Establishment from allowing a customer to purchase more than one item in sequence, and to pay for all such purchases at the conclusion thereof, so long as payment is made in full before the patron leaves the premises.

6.2.6 Open Containers Prohibited. No Person shall have an open container of any Alcoholic Beverage in a Public Place, except at a Licensed Establishment. No Person shall have an open container in any automobile, whether moving or standing still. This section shall not apply to empty containers such as aluminum cans or glass bottles collected for recycling.

6.2.7 No Sale to Intoxicated Persons. No Person shall Sell Alcoholic Beverages on Tribal Lands to a Person believed to be intoxicated.

6.2.8 Prohibition on Sale of Miniature Bottles. No Person shall sell Alcoholic Beverages in closed containers or bottles containing fewer than three fluid ounces for consumption off the premises, except for:

6.2.8.1 Sales in which 10 containers of three fluid ounces or less are packaged together by the manufacturer and meant for sale as a single unit; or

6.2.8.2 Sales in which a container of three fluid ounces or less are packaged by the manufacturer, as a value-added product, in conjunction with an Alcoholic Beverages purchase of 750 milliliters or larger.

6.2.8.3 Nothing herein shall prohibit the sale of Alcoholic Beverages in containers of three fluid ounces or less, for consumption on the premises.

6.2.9 Contraband. Alcoholic Beverages possessed contrary to the terms of this Ordinance are declared to be contraband. Any Tribal agent, employee or officer who is authorized by the Tribal Council to enforce this Ordinance shall have the authority to, and shall, seize all contraband. Any officer seizing contraband shall preserve

the contraband in accordance with applicable law of the Tribe or State law. Any Person whose items have been seized may challenge the lawfulness of such seizure by filing a petition with the Tribal Court within seven (7) business days of the seizure. Upon being found in violation of this Ordinance, the Person shall forfeit all right, title, and interest in the items seized and they shall become the property of the Tribe. All contraband shall be disposed of as directed by the Tribal Court.

Section 7—Law Concerning Minors

7.1. Selling or Giving Alcoholic Beverages to Minors.

7.1.1. It is unlawful for any Person to do any of the following:

7.1.1.1 Sell, serve or give any Alcoholic Beverages to a minor, or to permit a minor to consume Alcoholic Beverages on the premises of a Licensed Establishment;

7.1.1.2 Purchase Alcoholic Beverages for or procure the Sale or service of Alcoholic Beverages to a Minor;

7.1.1.3 Deliver Alcoholic Beverages to a Minor;

7.1.1.4 Aid or assist a Minor to buy, procure or be served with Alcoholic Beverages.

7.1.2. It is unlawful for any Minor to consume, Purchase, attempt to Purchase, receive, possess or permit himself or herself to be served with any Alcoholic Beverage at a Licensed Establishment.

7.1.3. If any Person not a Minor deceives another Person to believe that a Minor is legally entitled to be sold, served or delivered Alcoholic Beverages, he or she and not the Person deceived shall have committed an unlawful act.

7.1.4. It is unlawful for any Person to give, loan, sell or deliver an identity card to a Minor with the knowledge that the Minor intends to use the identity for the purpose of procuring or attempting to procure any Alcoholic Beverages.

Section 8—Laws Concerning Licenses

8.1 *Classes of Licenses.* The following licenses may be approved pursuant to this Ordinance: (1) a Package License; (2) an On-Premises License; and (3) a Special Event License.

8.2 *Compliance with Applicable Law.* No Person or entity shall engage in the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages on Tribal Lands, except at a Licensed Establishment in accordance with the terms of this Ordinance and in compliance with any other applicable law, including but not limited to, the Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact between the Tribe and the State of New Mexico.

8.3. *Package and On-Premises Licenses.* Each Licensed Establishment holding a Package or On-Premises License shall be identified on a map showing its location and the perimeters of the land and building, together with a general description of the premises, which map and description shall be filed with the Tribal Gaming Commission. A parcel of land not containing a building, so long as the premises thereof are defined, may be a Licensed Establishment, including but not limited to areas within a golf course, including adjacent facilities utilized in connection with the golf course.

8.3.1 An enterprise which is owned or controlled by the Tribe shall be deemed to have either a Package or On-Premises License upon filing with the Tribal Gaming Commission the map and description required under section 8.3.

8.3.2 An enterprise which is not owned or controlled by the Tribe must apply to the Tribal Gaming Commission for either a Package or On-Premises License on such forms and in such a manner as the Tribal Gaming Commission may prescribe. The premises upon which the enterprise applies to operate shall not be deemed a Licensed Establishment unless and until such License is granted by the Tribal Gaming Commission. The applicant shall submit a sworn application to the Tribal Gaming Commission containing, at a minimum, the following:

8.3.2.1 The name and address of the applicant and, if applicable, the state in which the applicant, if an entity, is incorporated or organized, and a certified copy of its articles of incorporation or organization;

8.3.2.2 A list of every liquor license or permit, by number and state or Indian Tribe, in which the applicant or any predecessor-in-interest has, or within the past ten (10) years had, directly or indirectly owned or held any interest.

8.3.2.3 Detail as to whether the applicant either: (1) ever applied for a liquor license or permit from any governmental entity, which was denied, and the reasons for such denial; or (2) held a liquor license or permit which was revoked, and the reasons for such revocation.

8.3.2.4 Evidence of financial responsibility.

8.3.2.5 A description of the area or premises to be licensed as required under section 8.3 of this Ordinance and the hours that Alcoholic Beverages will be served.

8.3.2.6 A statement that the proposed area or premises to be licensed is at least 500 feet from any church, kiva, plaza, or school.

8.3.2.7 An agreement by the applicant to observe and abide by all conditions of the License, all applicable Tribal, State and federal liquor laws, and consent to Tribal jurisdiction.

8.3.2.8 A statement that the applicant, if an individual, has never been convicted of a felony. If the applicant is an entity, then a statement that the entity(s) owner(s), officer(s), director(s), manager(s), or shareholder(s) have never been convicted of a felony.

8.3.2.9 A statement that the applicant, if an individual, is at least twenty-one (21) years of age. If the applicant is an entity, then a statement that the entity's owner(s), officer(s), director(s), manager(s), or shareholder(s), is/are at least twenty-one (21) years of age.

8.3.2.10 An application fee in an amount set by the Tribal Gaming Commission.

8.3.2.11 An acknowledgement that the Tribal Gaming Commission may require either the individual applicant or the applicant's owner(s), officer(s), director(s), manager(s), or shareholder(s), or any combination of them, to submit to a background investigation by supplementing the application with two (2) complete sets of his or her fingerprints taken under the supervision of and certified by a Tribe, state, or federal law enforcement officer. In such a case, the Tribal Gaming Commission may issue a temporary License pending the results of the background clearance, subject to revocation at any time by the Tribal Gaming Commission.

8.4 *Special Event Licenses*

8.4.1 Any Person may submit an application for a Special Event License, which shall allow the applicant to temporarily Sell Alcoholic Beverages in connection with an event held by the applicant on Tribal Lands that is not otherwise covered by such Person's On-Premises License, if any. The applicant shall submit a sworn application to the Tribal Gaming Commission at least sixty (60) days prior to the event containing, at a minimum, the following:

8.4.1.1 The purpose of the event, the identity of the applicant, and a description of the persons invited to participate in the event;

8.4.1.2 The location on Tribal Lands where the event will take place and where Alcoholic Beverages will be for Sale;

8.4.1.3 The days and times which the event will occur, which shall not exceed a period of seventy-two (72) hours, unless otherwise approved by the Tribal Gaming Commission;

8.4.1.4 Any provisions made by the applicant for sanitation, security and

other measures to protect the health and welfare of the participants at the event;

8.4.1.5 Certification that the event will be covered by a policy of public liability insurance that includes the Tribe as a co-insured;

8.4.1.6 An application fee in an amount set by the Tribal Gaming Commission; and

8.4.1.7 Any other information required by the Tribal Gaming Commission.

8.4.2 Alcoholic Beverages shall be for Sale pursuant to a Special Event License only at the location and during the days and times specified in the license and only to participants at the event for on-premises consumption.

8.5 *Evaluation of and Decision on Applications.*

8.5.1 All applications, together with the applicable fee, shall be submitted to the Tribal Gaming Commission, which shall gather and review all necessary information.

8.5.2 After considering the information submitted on the application for a License the Tribal Gaming Commission shall grant and issue a License if it concludes that the License will serve the best interests of the Tribe and the regulatory goals of this Ordinance.

8.5.3. The Tribal Gaming Commission shall deny the application if it finds that granting a License would be contrary to the best interests of the Tribe and the regulatory goals of this Ordinance.

8.5.4. In making its determinations, the Tribal Gaming Commission shall consider such factors as the applicant's compliance history with applicable Tribal, federal, and State law, whether the applicant is currently in violation of any law, the number and density of Licensed Establishments on Tribal Lands, whether the applicant will operate a new or existing establishment, whether food will be sold on the premises, or any other reason bearing on health, safety, and welfare of the Tribe or the economic security of the Tribe.

8.5.5. The Tribal Gaming Commission shall send the applicant a final written decision explaining the grounds for the Tribal Gaming Commission's decision either granting or denying the application for a License.

8.6. *License Term and Renewal.*

Except as otherwise determined by the Tribal Gaming Commission, the term of a Package or On-Premises License shall be three (3) years. Package or On-Premises Licenses shall be re-issued on or about July 1 of the third year of the License term, upon the payment of the license fee, as set by the Tribal Gaming Commission. Renewal applications and fees shall be submitted no later than

May 1 of the third year of the License term, to the Tribal Gaming Commission. Application fees and/or licensing fees shall not be prorated. Any late renewal applications shall be subject to a late fee assessment of not more than ten (10%) of the application fee. Special Event Licenses shall be effective only for the duration of the event, as specified in the license.

8.7 *License Revocation.* Any License granted herein may be terminated or revoked for cause.

8.7.1 Cause shall include:

8.7.1.1 Violation of this Ordinance or any other applicable law, including the laws of the State of New Mexico;

8.7.1.2 Violation of any rules and regulations adopted by the Tribe to implement this Ordinance;

8.7.1.3 Sale of Alcoholic Beverages outside a Licensed Establishment or in violation of the License;

8.7.1.4 Making a material misstatement in the application for a License; and

8.7.1.5 Allowing a nuisance, drug sales or rowdy behavior to occur within the Licensed Establishment.

8.8 *License Hearings.* Any Person who is denied a license or has had a license revoked, suspended or conditioned by the Tribal Gaming Commission, may request a hearing before the Tribal Gaming Commission by filing a written request for a hearing with the Tribal Gaming Commission within seven (7) business days after receiving the notice of denial, revocation, suspension or condition. The Tribal Gaming Commission shall set a hearing date, which shall be no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of the request for hearing, unless the applicant for good cause requests an extension. The hearing shall be held in accordance with any hearing procedures adopted by the Tribal Gaming Commission.

Section 9—Enforcement

9.1 Criminal Penalties.

Any Person who is subject to the criminal jurisdiction of the Tribe and is found guilty of violating any portion of this Ordinance, which does not otherwise constitute a criminal offense under the Ohkay Owingeh Law and Order Code, shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$500 for each violation and/or subject to confinement for a period not to exceed 120 days in jail.

9.2 Civil Penalties.

Any Person violating any provision of this Ordinance or regulations promulgated hereunder may be subject to a civil fine or revocation of its License, if applicable, and such other civil sanctions imposed by the Tribal Gaming Commission that are provided

in rules and regulations implementing this Ordinance. Any civil fines issued by the Tribal Gaming Commission for violations of this Ordinance or regulations shall not exceed \$5,000 for each violation.

9.3 Tribal Gaming Commission Authority.

9.3.1 Except as otherwise provided herein, the Tribal Gaming Commission is delegated regulatory authority to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance. In furtherance, the Tribal Gaming Commission shall have the following powers and duties:

9.3.1.1 To promulgate, publish and enforce reasonable regulations regarding the purchase, Sale, consumption and distribution of Alcoholic Beverages and the licensing thereof, as necessary and subject to the approval of the Tribal Council, which upon approval by the Tribal Council shall not require further approval by the United States Secretary of Interior;

9.3.1.2 To monitor, as reasonably necessary, Licensee compliance with this Ordinance and any approved regulations;

9.3.1.3 To investigate suspected violations of this Ordinance and any approved regulations;

9.3.1.4 To institute hearings for license denials, revocations, conditions or suspensions or for other violations of this Ordinance;

9.3.1.5 To cooperate with appropriate law enforcement authorities for the prosecution of any violations of any Tribal, State or federal criminal law;

9.3.1.6 To employ staff necessary to allow the Tribal Gaming Commission to perform its powers and duties pursuant to this Ordinance; and

9.3.1.7 To exercise such other powers as may be necessary to implement and enforce this Ordinance.

Section 10—Assignment

No License granted under this Ordinance shall be assigned, pledged, transferred, leased, licensed or sold. Any attempt to do so is grounds for immediate revocation of the License.

Section 11—Repeal

This Ordinance repeals the prior Pueblo of San Juan Liquor Ordinance, enacted in 1989. This repeal shall be effective on the date the United States Secretary of Interior approves this Ordinance.

Section 12—Severability

In the event any provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 13—Sovereign Immunity; No Waiver

Nothing in this Liquor Control Ordinance waives the sovereign immunity of the Tribe. No officer, manager, or employee of the Tribe or an enterprise of the Tribe is authorized to waive the sovereign immunity of the Tribe except as expressly authorized by the Tribal Council.

Section 14—Amendment

This Ordinance may be amended by a majority vote of the Tribal Council subject to approval by the United States Secretary of Interior, except for the modifications allowed by Section 6.1.1.2 which shall not be subject to Secretarial approval.

Section 15—Effective Date

This Ordinance shall be effective upon the date that the United States Secretary of the Interior publishes this Ordinance in the **Federal Register**.

William Henry Kirkland III,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026–21473 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4337–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

**[278A2100DDAAKE200000/
A0A501010.000000]**

Indian Gaming; Extension of Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact Between the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe and the State of South Dakota

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the extension of the Class III gaming compact between the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe and the State of South Dakota.

DATES: The extension takes effect on October 21, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Troy Woodward, Acting Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Washington, DC 20240, *IndianGaming@bia.gov*; (202) 219–4066.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An extension to an existing Tribal-State Class III gaming compact does not require approval by the Secretary if the extension does not modify any other terms of the compact. 25 CFR 293.5. The Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe and the State of South Dakota have reached an

agreement to extend the expiration date of their existing Tribal-State Class III gaming compact to December 21, 2026. This publication provides notice of the new expiration date of the compact.

William Henry Kirkland III,
Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026–21475 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4337–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[278A2100DD/AAKC001030/
A0A501010.999900]

Notice of Supplemented Documented Petition for Federal Acknowledgment as an American Indian Tribe

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Interior (Department) gives notice that the group known as the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation, a petitioner for Federal acknowledgment as an American Indian Tribe, has chosen to complete the petitioning process under the current version of the acknowledgment regulations and has supplemented its petition. The Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation had been proceeding under a previous version of the regulations (as they existed prior to July 31, 2015). The Department seeks comments and evidence from the public on the supplemented petition.

DATES: Comments and evidence must be postmarked by February 18, 2027.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the narrative portion(s) of the supplemented documented petition, as submitted by the petitioner (with any redactions appropriate under 25 CFR 83.21(b)), and other information are available at the Office of Federal Acknowledgement's (OFA) website: www.bia.gov/as-ia/ofa. Submit any comments or evidence to: Department of the Interior, Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Attention: Office of Federal acknowledgment, Mail Stop 4071 MIB, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240, or by email to: Ofa_Info@bia.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Nikki Bass, OFA Director, Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, by phone: (202) 513–7650; or by email: Ofa_Info@bia.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation submitted a

documented petition on February 24, 1988, for evaluation under a previous version of the acknowledgment regulations (as they existed prior to July 31, 2015). On July 1, 2015, the Department revised 25 CFR part 83 (80 FR 37862), and the regulations became final and effective on July 31, 2015. Pursuant to 25 CFR 83.7 of the revised regulations, the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation chose to complete the petitioning process under the revised regulations and has now supplemented its petition.

A key goal of the 2015 revisions was to improve transparency through increased notice of petitions and providing improved public access to petitions. The Department informs the public that the petition submitted by the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation, which has not yet received a final agency decision, will be evaluated pursuant to the standards and processes set forth in the current regulations. Portions of the supplemented petition are publicly available on the website identified above for easy access, and OFA seeks public comment on the petition.

The contact information for the petitioner is Mr. Nathan Banda, 31411 LaMatanza St., Ste. A, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675.

Also, OFA publishes on its website the following:

- i. The narrative portion(s) of the supplemented documented petition, as submitted by the petitioner (with any redactions appropriate under 25 CFR 83.21(b));
- ii. The name, location, and mailing address of the petitioner and other information to identify the entity;
- iii. The date of receipt;
- iv. The opportunity for individuals and entities to submit comments and evidence supporting or opposing the petitioner's request for acknowledgment within 120 days of the date of the website posting; and
- v. The opportunity for individuals and entities to request to be kept informed of general actions regarding a specific petitioner.

Authority

The Department publishes this notice and request for comment in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by Department Manual part 209, chapter 8.

William Henry Kirkland III,

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026–21476 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4337–15–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701–TA–807 and 731–TA–1808 (Preliminary)]

Wooden Fence Pickets From China; Revised Schedule for the Subject Investigations

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

DATES: October 19, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter Stebbins ((202) 205–2039), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (<https://www.usitc.gov>). The public record for this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at <https://edis.usitc.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 24, 2026, the Commission established a schedule for the conduct of the final phase of the subject investigations (91 FR 61438, September 29, 2026). Subsequently, the Department of Commerce ("Commerce") extended the deadline for its initiation determination to November 3, 2026 (91 FR 66106, October 19, 2026). The Commission, therefore, is revising its schedule to conform with Commerce's new schedule. The revised deadline for any person to submit to the Commission a written brief containing information and arguments pertinent to the subject matter of the investigations is on or before 5:15 p.m. on October 23, 2026.

The Commission must reach preliminary determinations within 25 days after the date on which the Commission receives notice from Commerce of initiation of the investigations, and the Commission's views must be transmitted to Commerce within five business days thereafter.

For further information concerning this proceeding, see the Commission's notice cited above and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A through E (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A and C (19 CFR part 207).

Authority: These investigations are being conducted under authority of title

VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.21 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: October 19, 2026.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2026-21504 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[OMB Number #1105-0NEW]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed eCollection eComments Requested; New Information Collection; Title: USAO-PR COMMUNITY OUTREACH REQUEST FORM Feedback Form Package

AGENCY: United States Attorney's Office District of Puerto Rico, Department of Justice.

ACTION: 30-Day notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of Justice Programs, Department of Justice (DOJ), will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for 30 days until December 21, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have additional comments, especially on the estimated public burden or associated response time, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions or additional information, please contact Genesis Gonzalez, Community Outreach Coordinator, genesis.gonzalez@usdoj.gov or USAPR.Outreach.usdoj.gov, (787) 282-1865.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on August 12, 2026, 91 FR 52084, allowing a 60-day comment period. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

—Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the (component),

including whether the information will have practical utility;
—Evaluate 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;
—Evaluate whether and if so how the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected can be enhanced; and
—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, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Written comments and recommendations for this information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function and entering either the title of the information collection or the OMB Control Number. This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Justice, information collections currently under review by OMB. When submitting a public comment, please send a copy to Genesis Gonzalez at genesis.gonzalez@usdoj.gov or USAPR.Outreach.usdoj.gov.

DOJ seeks PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal. The DOJ notes that information collection requirements submitted to the OMB for existing ICRs receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

Overview of This Information Collection

1. *Type of Information Collection:* New information collection.
2. *The Title of the Form/Collection:* USAO-PR COMMUNITY OUTREACH REQUEST FORM.
3. The agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection: There is no agency form number assigned at this time. The applicable component is the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Puerto Rico (USAO-PR), Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA), Department of Justice.

4. *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Individuals or households; Secondary: Schools, nonprofit organizations, community groups, municipalities, and other organizations requesting community outreach presentations.

Affected Public: Primary: Individuals or households.

Abstract: The USAO-PR Community Outreach Request Form collects information necessary to receive, review, schedule, and coordinate requests for educational presentations and community outreach activities. The information will assist the agency in allocating resources, tracking outreach efforts, identifying community concerns and emerging crime trends, and evaluating the effectiveness of outreach programs.

5. *Obligation to Respond:* An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond: Voluntary. An estimated 250 respondents will complete the form annually. The estimated time required to complete the form is 10 minutes (0.167 hours) per response.

6. *Total Estimated Number of Respondents:* 250 annually.

7. *Estimated Time per Respondent:* ~10 minutes (0.167 hours).

8. *Frequency:* Once.

9. *Total Estimated Annual Time Burden:* ~41.8 hours.

10. *Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden:* \$0. There are no capital, start-up, operation, maintenance, or purchase costs associated with this collection.

If additional information is required contact: Darwin Arceo, Department Clearance Officer for PRA, U.S. Department of Justice, Enterprise Portfolio Management, Two Constitution Square, 145 N Street NE, 4W-218, Washington, DC.

Dated: October 19, 2026.

Darwin Arceo,

Department Clearance Officer for PRA, U.S. Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 2026-21517 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-BE-P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[OMB Number 1123-0016]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed eCollection eComments Requested; Revisions of Previously Approved Collection

AGENCY: The Office of the Pardon Attorney, Department of Justice.

ACTION: 60-Day notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of the Pardon Attorney, is submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until 60 days after publication in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have additional comments especially on the estimated public burden or associated response time, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions or additional information, please contact Jaclyn Paolucci, Deputy Pardon Attorney, Office of the Pardon Attorney, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Main Justice—RFK Building, Washington, DC 20530; USPardon.Attorney@usdoj.gov; 202-616-6070.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Office of the Pardon Attorney, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate 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;
- Evaluate whether and if so how the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected can be enhanced; and
- 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, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of This Information Collection

1. *Type of Information Collection:* Revision of a currently approved collection.
2. *The Title of the Form/Collection:* Application for Pardon After Completion of Sentence.
3. *The agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the*

Department sponsoring the collection: There is no agency form number for this collection. The applicable component within the Department of Justice is the Office of the Pardon Attorney.

4. *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Applicants seeking pardon by the President will be asked to respond to this collection. The principal purpose for collecting this information is to enable the Office of the Pardon Attorney to process applicants' requests for pardon after completion of sentence. The information is necessary to verify applicants' identities, conduct investigation of the applicants' backgrounds, criminal records, and conduct since their conviction, and to provide notice to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Attorneys' Offices, U.S. Probation Offices, and federal courts in the event of grants of executive clemency.

5. *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* Available information suggests that potentially 500 to 1,000 applicants will complete petitions annually. We estimate an average of 180 minutes for each applicant to respond to the collection.

6. *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* Considering the above projected figures, we estimate 1,500 to 3,000 hours of annual burden to the public.

If additional information is required contact: Darwin Arceo, Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Justice Management Division, Enterprise Portfolio Management, Two Constitution Square, 145 N Street NE, 3E.206, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: October 19, 2026.

Darwin Arceo,

Department Clearance Officer for PRA, U.S. Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 2026-21528 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-29-P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[OMB Number 1110-0088]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed eCollection eComments Requested; Extension of a Previously Approved Collection; Title—Lawful Access Data Collection (LADC)

AGENCY: Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Department of Justice (DOJ).

ACTION: 30-Day notice.

SUMMARY: The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division, FBI, DOJ, will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on September 19, 2026, allowing a 60-day comment period.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for 30 days until November 20, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have comments especially on the estimated public burden or associated response time, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions or additional information, please contact: Matthew Fancher, Unit Chief, Crime and Law Enforcement Statistics Unit, FBI, CJIS Division, 1000 Custer Hollow Road, Clarksburg, West Virginia 26306, 304.625.4830, email ucr@fbi.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

- Evaluate 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;
- Evaluate 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;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and/or
- 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, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Written comments and recommendations for this information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search

function and entering either the title of the information collection or the OMB Control Number 1110–0088. This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Justice, information collections currently under review by OMB. Please send a copy of your comment to Matthew Facher to email ucr@fbi.gov.

DOJ seeks PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal. The DOJ notes that information collection requirements submitted to the OMB for existing ICRs receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

Abstract: The LADC will act as the collection tool for tracking the volume of law enforcement investigations that are negatively impacted by device and

software encryption and provide valuable data to decision makers to help mitigate these lawful access impacts.

Overview of This Information Collection

1. *Type of Information Collection:* Extension of previously approved collection.

2. *Title of the Form/Collection:* Lawful Access Data Collection.

3. *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Justice sponsoring the collection:* There is no form number for this collection. The sponsor is the CJIS Division, FBI, DOJ.

4. *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Affected Public: Federal, state, county, city, tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies.

5. *Obligation to Respond:* The obligation to respond is voluntary and at

the discretion of the contributing agency.

6. *Total Estimated Number of Respondents:* 950,000.

7. *Estimated Time per Respondent:* 3 minutes and 12 seconds.

8. *Frequency:* Annually.

9. *Total Estimated Annual Time Burden:* 50,667.

10. *Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden:* According to the cost model provided by the FBI's CJIS Division, Resources Management Section, Fee Programs Unit (FPU), the following are projections based upon prior collection activity. The cost module does not separate the costs between the two methods of collecting UCR data. The FPU cannot provide an itemized breakdown of separate UCR collections, so provided is a total cost of the FBI's UCR Program and its collection activities.

DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING COSTS

Activity	Cost	Full-time equivalent
CJIS Systems Agency/Officer Development and Support	\$4,805.07	0.03
Collaborate with Law Enforcement and Critical Incident Management Services	8,479.06	0.06
Conduct Field Office, Office of Partner Engagement, and Legal Attache Engagement Activities	18,456.52	0.15
Conduct Liaison, Education, and Promotion	530,655.46	4.03
Conduct Other Crime Data Services Activities	392,300.68	2.81
Conduct Other Partner Engagement Activities	41,822.65	0.27
Conduct Quality, Process, and System Management Activities	10,191.78	0.06
Conduct research and release studies on collected data	221,358.28	1.79
Conduct State and Local Agency Engagement Activities	71,379.09	0.56
Conduct Tribal Engagement Activities	9,865.78	0.09
Develop and Maintain Partner Outreach Materials	8,365.12	0.06
Develop and Manage Policy	52,028.62	0.36
Direct Customer Engagement for Product/Service Use and Expansion	156,869.82	1.03
Manage Strategic Communications	9,212.45	0.06
Perform Administrative and Human Resource tasks	260,597.57	1.90
Perform Advisory Policy Board (APB) tasks	60,450.64	0.41
Perform Budget, Strategic Planning, and Program Control	151,704.61	0.91
Perform Contracting Officer's Representative Duties	33,935.03	0.21
Perform Quality Assurance	160,033.71	1.24
Perform Quality Management	16,624.04	0.10
Perform Scaled Agile Framework Duties	457,011.19	3.81
Perform Statistical Reporting	930.39	0.01
Perform Strategy Management	40,890.38	0.23
Perform workload management	16,487.43	0.09
Planning and Implementing New Data Collections	87,978.26	0.70
Process Media, Freedom of Information Act, and Congressional requests	79,491.70	0.53
Provide CJIS Multimedia Support	3,159.67	0.03
Provide End User Support Services	88,656.10	0.65
Provide Management and Administration	532,640.20	3.36
Provide Support to Other FBI Units Sections (Temporary Duty, Surge)	20,154.92	0.20
Respond to Data Calls, Media Requests, etc.	260,146.69	1.91
Respond to Internal and External Data Calls	119,149.70	0.69
Support CJIS APB	51,763.19	0.36
Support CJIS Division Community Outreach Program	10,105.00	0.09
Support CJIS Systems Officer Training and Communications	3,899.61	0.03
Support Crime in the United States data release	469,426.78	3.58
Support Law Enforcement Employee Counts Data Collection	147,784.63	1.16
Support Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection	102,405.30	0.80
Support Law Enforcement Training	10,572.66	0.12
Support LEOKA Collection and data release	275,957.77	2.25
Support National Incident-Based Reporting System	178,076.89	1.38
Support National Use-of-Force Data Collection	206,931.23	1.72
Support ORI Administration	7,799.21	0.06
Support Reports, Releases, and Publications	71,322.10	0.61

DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING COSTS—Continued

Activity	Cost	Full-time equivalent
Support the FBI's Crime Data Explorer	186,781.39	1.50
Support the Hate Crime Data Collection and data release	152,748.80	1.18
Support the Law Enforcement Public Contact Data Collection	40,623.54	0.30
Support the Lawful Access Data Collection	49,628.26	0.33
Support the Quarterly Uniform Crime Report	78,946.16	0.56
	5,970,605.15	44.37

If additional information is required, contact: Darwin Arceo, Department Clearance Officer, Enterprise Portfolio Management, Justice Management Division, United States Department of Justice, Two Constitution Square, 145 N Street NE, 4W-218, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: October 19, 2026.

Darwin Arceo,

Department Clearance Officer for PRA, U.S. Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 2026-21500 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-02-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

740th Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS)

In accordance with the purposes of Sections 29 and 182b of the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 2039, 2232(b)), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) will hold meetings on November 4, 2026. In addition, the ACRS is implementing Section 4.(b) of Executive Order (E.O.) 14300, "Ordering the Reform of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission," dated May 23, 2025, which states, in part, that the functions of the ACRS shall be reduced to the minimum necessary to fulfill ACRS's statutory obligations and that review by ACRS of permitting and licensing issues shall focus on issues that are truly novel and noteworthy. The ACRS will only undertake other work as directed by the Commission in accordance with Sections 29 and 182b of the Atomic Energy Act.

The Committee will be conducting meetings that will include some Members being physically present at the headquarters of the NRC while other Members participate remotely. Interested members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely in any open sessions via Microsoft Teams or via phone at 301-576-2978, passcode

381008979#. A more detailed agenda, including the Microsoft Teams link, may be found at the ACRS public website at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/acrs/agenda/index.html. If you would like the Microsoft Teams link forwarded to you, please contact: Quynh.Nguyen@nrc.gov or Lawrence.Burkhart@nrc.gov.

Wednesday, November 4, 2026

1:00 p.m.–1:35 p.m.: Opening Remarks by the ACRS Chairman (Open)—The ACRS Chairman will make opening remarks regarding the conduct of the meeting.

1:35 p.m.–5:00 p.m.: Report Preparation and Committee Deliberation/Planning and Procedures Session/Future ACRS Activities/Reconciliation of ACRS Comments and Recommendations (Open/Closed)—The Committee will discuss planning and procedures topics, including items proposed for consideration by the Full Committee during future ACRS meetings; deliberate; and proceed to preparation of reports. [Note: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2), a portion of this session may be closed to discuss organizational and personnel matters that relate solely to internal personnel rules and practices of the ACRS.]. [Note: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4), a portion of this session may be closed in order to discuss and protect information designated as proprietary.]

Procedures for the conduct of and participation in ACRS meetings were published in the **Federal Register** on July 22, 2025 (90 FR 34522). In accordance with those procedures, oral or written views may be presented by members of the public, including representatives of the nuclear industry. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify Quynh Nguyen, Cognizant ACRS Staff and the Designated Federal Officer (Email: Quynh.Nguyen@nrc.gov), 5 days before the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made to allow necessary time during the meeting for such statements. In view of the possibility that the schedule for ACRS meetings may be adjusted by the

ACRS Chairman as necessary to facilitate the conduct of the meeting, persons planning to attend should check with the cognizant ACRS staff if such rescheduling would result in major inconvenience. Registration for this meeting is not required.

An electronic copy of each presentation should be emailed to the cognizant ACRS staff at least three days before the meeting.

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) and 1009(d), certain portions of this meeting may be closed, as specifically noted above. Use of still, motion picture, and television cameras during the meeting may be limited to selected portions of the meeting as determined by the ACRS Chairman. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during the open portions of the meeting.

Please contact the Designated Federal Officer if you would like to submit a request for physical or electronic meeting accommodation.

ACRS meeting agendas, meeting transcripts, and letter reports are available through the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) at pdr.resource@nrc.gov, the ACRS public website, or by calling the PDR at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, or from the Publicly Available Records System component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System, which is accessible from the NRC website at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html or www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/#ACRS/.

Dated: October 19, 2026.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Tomas E. Herrera,

Deputy Secretary of the Commission, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-21494 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. MC2027–13 and K2027–14]

New Postal Products

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing for the Commission’s consideration concerning a negotiated service agreement. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due:* October 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission’s Filing Online system at <https://www.prc.gov>. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202–789–6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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- I. Introduction
- II. Public Proceeding(s)
- III. Summary Proceeding(s)

I. Introduction

Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405, the Commission gives notice that the Postal Service filed request(s) for the Commission to consider matters related to Competitive negotiated service agreement(s). The request(s) may propose the addition of a negotiated service agreement from the Competitive product list or the modification of an existing product currently appearing on the Competitive product list.

The public portions of the Postal Service’s request(s) can be accessed via the Commission’s website (<http://www.prc.gov>). Non-public portions of the Postal Service’s request(s), if any, can be accessed through compliance with the requirements of 39 CFR 3011.301.¹

Section II identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, that will be reviewed in a public proceeding as defined by 39 CFR 3010.101(p), the title of each such request, the request’s acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. For each such request, the Commission appoints an officer of the Commission to represent the interests of the general public in the proceeding, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505 and 39 CFR 3000.114 (Public Representative). The Public Representative does not represent any individual person, entity or particular point of view, and, when Commission attorneys are appointed, no attorney-client relationship is established. Section II also establishes comment deadline(s) pertaining to each such request.

The Commission invites comments on whether the Postal Service’s request(s) identified in Section II, if any, are consistent with the policies of title 39. Applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3632, 39 U.S.C. 3633, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3035, and 39 CFR part 3041. Comment deadline(s) for each such request, if any, appear in Section II.

Section III identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, to add a standardized distinct product to the Competitive product list or to amend a standardized distinct product, the title of each such request, the request’s acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. Standardized distinct products are negotiated service agreements that are variations of one or more Competitive products, and for which financial models, minimum rates, and classification criteria have undergone advance Commission review. *See* 39 CFR 3041.110(n); 39 CFR 3041.205(a). Such requests are reviewed in summary proceedings pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.325(c)(2) and 39 CFR 3041.505(f)(1). Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405(c)–(d), the Commission does not appoint a Public Representative or request public comment in proceedings to review such requests.

II. Public Proceeding(s)

1. *Docket No(s).*: MC2027–13 and K2027–14; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 1513 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 16, 2026; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Christopher Mohr; *Comments Due:* October 26, 2026.

III. Summary Proceeding(s)

None. *See* Section II for public proceedings.

This Notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Danielle LeFlore,
Legal Assistant.

[FR Doc. 2026–21501 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710–FW–P

POSTAL SERVICE

Product Change—Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail, and USPS Ground Advantage Negotiated Service Agreements; Priority Mail and USPS Ground Advantage Negotiated Service Agreements

AGENCY: Postal Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service gives notice of filing a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to add a domestic shipping services contract to the list of Negotiated Service Agreements in the Mail Classification Schedule’s Competitive Products List.

DATES: *Date of required notice:* October 21, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sean C. Robinson, 202–268–8405.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Postal Service hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3632(b)(3), it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission the following requests:

Date filed with Postal Regulatory Commission	Negotiated service agreement product category and No.	MC docket No.	K docket No.
10/15/26	PM–GA 1111	MC2027–10	K2027–11
10/15/26	PM–GA 1112	MC2027–11	K2027–12
10/15/26	PM–GA 1113	MC2027–12	K2027–13
10/16/26	PME–PM–GA 1513	MC2027–13	K2027–14

¹ See Docket No. RM2018–3, Order Adopting Final Rules Relating to Non-Public Information,

Documents are available at
www.prc.gov.

Sean C. Robinson,

Attorney, Corporate and Postal Business Law.

[FR Doc. 2026-21472 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-12-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-106681; File No. SR-CMESC-2026-011]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; CME Securities Clearing Inc.; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change To Amend the CMESC Risk Management Framework ("RMF") Related to CMESC's Default Management Practices

October 16, 2026.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on October 9, 2026, CME Securities Clearing Inc. ("CMESC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been substantially prepared by CMESC. CMESC filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act.³ The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. CMESC's Statement of the Terms and Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) The proposed rule change of CME Securities Clearing Inc. ("CMESC") is provided in Exhibit 5. The proposed rule change includes amendments to the CMESC Risk Management Framework ("RMF") related to CMESC's default management practices, which provides for necessary transparency to and clarity for CMESC staff in managing a default.⁴ Each modification is described in more detail below.

II. CMESC's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, CMESC included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the

proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. CMESC has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. CMESC's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

Background

CMESC's default management procedures cover the management of a default of either a Member or User (collectively, "Participants") and are designed to ensure the continuity of CMESC's clearance and settlement functions and particularly, the ongoing maintenance of the services provided to non-defaulting Participants, while supporting market integrity and minimizing market disruptions. The primary purpose of the proposed rule change is to enhance the default management process by further codifying the documentation of the default management procedures in the RMF. In particular, the proposed rule change would amend the RMF to (i) provide additional detail around arrangements involving a third-party liquidation agent for managing a Participant default, and (ii) make certain clarifying and administrative changes, where appropriate, in the RMF; and (iii) to clarify the role of CMESC's Risk Management Committee ("CSRMC") in designing the default management procedures.

Liquidation Agent and Execution Brokers

Section 14.1.1 ("Participant Default Management Process") of the RMF would be amended to specify that the close-out process of a defaulted Participant's portfolio may include the use of a liquidation agent and one or more execution brokers.⁵ Broadly, the amended RMF would provide that, in managing a default, CMESC and any liquidation agent will collaborate to assess the exposures of the defaulted Participant's portfolio, including associated settlement obligations as they come due, and formulate a close-out strategy under the prevailing market

conditions to minimize potential losses and market disruptions and to support market integrity. More specifically, the amended RMF would describe the expectations for a third-party liquidation agent, if used, to assist CMESC with designing and executing the close-out strategy for the defaulted Participant's portfolio. In accordance with the amended RMF, the liquidation agent will be expected to coordinate with CMESC to reconcile positions of the defaulted Participant and assess the outstanding exposure of the defaulted Participant over the course of managing the default.

The amended RMF also would provide that the liquidation agent may use various methods to execute close-out trades, including, but not limited to, executing open market transactions; enter into hedging transactions to mitigate the risk of the defaulted Participant's portfolio; and perform other related tasks appropriate to assist CMESC in managing the risk from the Participant's default. In addition, Section 14.1.1 of the RMF would recognize that CMESC may engage one or more execution brokers to coordinate with the liquidation agent and CMESC to provide certain operational services related to the close-out trades arranged or executed by the liquidation agent in managing a default. The amended RMF would include new language to specify that, where appropriate, CMESC would maintain an account with the execution broker where it would be the principal, and the execution broker may submit back-to-back trades that mirror the liquidation agent's close-out trades. CMESC would further specify in the RMF that the submission of back-to-back trades is expected to ensure that CMESC's account at the execution broker maintains a net flat position and facilitate CMESC's ability to meet the settlement obligations of the defaulted Participant as they come due.

Clarifying and Administrative Changes

The proposed rule change would also include certain clarifying and administrative changes.

Member Default: For example, Section 14 ("Default Management") of the RMF would be amended to clarify that CMESC analyzes Users' risk profile on an *ex ante* basis. The associated monitoring and analysis serves to improve the likelihood that non-defaulted Users' positions can be transferred to a Member in good standing where their authorizing Member has defaulted. Additionally, the RMF would be amended to clarify that, while CMESC makes its best efforts to transfer non-defaulting Users' positions

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁴ Capitalized terms used herein and not defined have the meanings assigned to such terms in the CMESC Rulebook (the "Rules"), as applicable, available at <https://www.cmegroup.com/rulebook/> CMESC/CMESC%20Rulebook.pdf.

⁵ For context, Rule 405 ("Default Management Process") provides that the "Corporation's default management process may involve the Corporation's consultation with third parties and may involve these third parties acting as agents on the Corporation's behalf to manage the Member Default or User Default." See Rule 405 of the Rules, *supra* note 1.

(i.e., of a defaulted Member) to non-defaulting Members, CMESC continues to monitor Users' positions and the sufficiency of the associated collateral throughout the default management process and based on the prevailing facts and circumstances may close-out (e.g., liquidate) the positions of some or all Users of a defaulted Member.

User Default: Section 14.1 ("Participant Default Event") of the RMF would be updated to specify that an authorizing Member of a defaulted User must respond to CMESC within a period of time prescribed by the Corporation if it wishes to manage the User's default and, if it elects to do so, CMESC will undertake several operational steps relating to the User's positions and collateral to facilitate the Member's management of the User's default in accordance with the CMESC Rules.⁶ Section 14.1 of the RMF would also be amended to include "close-out" in addition to bidding on or purchasing a defaulted Participant's portfolio when gauging Participants' interest prior to declaring another Participant in default.

Additionally, Section 14.1 of the RMF would be amended to clarify that, for Users with multiple authorizing Members, where CMESC manages the User's default, the default management costs will be allocated on a *pro rata* basis based on the margin requirement for the User's positions authorized by each such Member. Moreover, Section 14.1 would be amended to add that the trades of the Users that are expected to settle on the next day after the day of the Member's default may settle prior to the transfer of any other positions.

Participant Default, Generally: The amended RMF also clarifies certain operational steps CMESC would take if it were to manage a default of a Participant itself. Section 14.1.1 of the amended RMF would provide that CMESC will take appropriate operational steps, as soon as practicable, to contain risk and prevent any unauthorized movement of the default Participant's cash or securities. These operational steps may include appropriate coordination with defaulted Participant's designated Bank(s) and Securities Settlement Bank(s), including enabling CMESC to assume control over outstanding positions and collateral of the defaulter. CMESC will also assess the risk of the defaulted Participant's portfolio, including the maturity of positions and timing for when associated obligations come due. Based on this assessment, CMESC would determine the best strategy for managing

the Participant default in order to meet the obligations of the defaulted Participant's portfolio as they arise, including the process for closing out the portfolio and, where necessary, purchasing or selling securities and/or facilitating an auction (or multiple auctions) to meet the settlement obligations of the defaulted Participant.

The proposed changes would also relocate language related to hedging a defaulted Participant's portfolio using futures from 14.1.1.2, which relates generally to CMESC's ability to enter into securities transactions to address a defaulted Participant's settlement obligations, to Section 14.1.1, which describes the Participant default management process generally. In connection with this change, the term "Hedging" is being deleted from the header for Section 14.1.1.2. Additionally, the proposed changes would amend Section 14.1.1.2 to clarify that CMESC would only use its acceleration rights for applicable transactions with remaining maturities of greater than two business days such that non-defaulting Participants' delivery obligations become due on dates earlier than the original maturity dates of such transactions, as is consistent with the terms of existing Rule 1507(f).⁷ Finally, Section 14 would be amended to clarify that CMESC notification of a User default is governed by CMESC's Rules.⁸

CSRMC Role in Designing the Default Management Procedures

Section 14 of the amended RMF specifies that CMESC's Risk Management Committee ("CSRMC") shall provide guidance to CMESC on the design of its default management procedures, as necessary (i.e., through its ongoing oversight of the RMF).⁹ The current RMF establishes the CSRMC's role in managing a default as discretionary and thus inherently advisory. The proposed amendments clarify the CSRMC's responsibilities prior to and during a default, while preserving its existing power to convene in the latter circumstances.

⁷ See Rule 1507(f) of the Rules, *supra* note 1 (establishing CMESC's acceleration rights with respect to non-Defaulting Members and non-Defaulting Users such that their delivery obligations under outstanding Repo Transactions become due on dates earlier than the original maturity dates of such Repo Transactions).

⁸ See, e.g., Rules 405(c) and 1507(b) of the Rules, *supra* note 1.

⁹ For the avoidance of doubt and as described in the existing RMF, the Chairperson of the CSRMC may convene the CSRMC in the event of a Participant default.

2. Statutory Basis

For the reasons set forth below, CMESC believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹⁰ and SEC Rules 17Ad-22(e)(2)(v),¹¹ 17Ad-22(e)(3),¹² 17Ad-22(e)(13),¹³ and 17Ad-22(e)(18)(iv)(C)¹⁴ thereunder.

Consistency With Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act

Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act requires, in part, that the rules of a clearing agency be designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions, to assure the safeguarding of securities and funds which are in the custody or control of the clearing agency or for which it is responsible, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.¹⁵ Robust documentation of default management practices in the RMF, a core component of CMESC's risk management framework, provides the necessary transparency to and clarity for CMESC staff to help facilitate the orderly management of a Participant default. This, in turn, will ensure CMESC continues to clear and settle securities transactions on a prompt and accurate basis and protect the securities and funds of non-defaulting Members despite a Participant default. For these reasons, CMESC believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act.

Consistency With SEC Rule 17Ad-22(e)(2)(v)

SEC Rule 17Ad-22(e)(2)(v) requires that a covered clearing agency establish, implement, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to provide for governance arrangements that specify clear and direct lines of responsibility.¹⁶ The proposed amendments to Section 14 of the RMF are designed to clarify CSRMC's responsibility in guiding the design of CMESC's default management procedures. As such, CMESC believes that the proposed rule change would further specify the clear and direct lines of responsibility of CSRMC, consistent with SEC Rule 17Ad-22(e)(2)(v).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1.

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(2).

¹² 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(3).

¹³ 17 CFR 17Ad-22(e)(13).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 17Ad-22(e)(18)(iv)(C).

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

¹⁶ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(2)(v).

⁶ See, e.g., Rule 405(c)(ii) of the Rules, *supra* note 1.

Consistency With SEC Rule 17Ad-22(e)(3)

SEC Rule 17Ad-22(e)(3) requires, in part, that a covered clearing agency establish, implement, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to maintain a sound risk management framework for comprehensively managing legal, credit, liquidity, operational, general business, investment, custody, and other risks that arise in or are borne by the covered clearing agency, which includes risk management policies, procedures, and systems designed to identify, measure, monitor, and manage the range of risks that arise in or are borne by the covered clearing agency, that are subject to review on a specified periodic basis and approved by the board of directors annually.¹⁷ The existing RMF is specifically designed to comply with SEC Rule 17Ad-22(e)(3), and the proposed amendments are designed to provide further enhancements and clarity to the manner in which CMESC manages Participant defaults, including potentially through the use of a liquidation agent and execution brokers and the clarifying changes describing CMESC's potential actions during a Participant default, generally, and Member or User defaults, specifically. As such, CMESC believes that the proposed rule change would support a sound, comprehensive framework designed to identify, measure, monitor, and manage the range of risks that arise in or are borne by CMESC, consistent with SEC Rule 17Ad-22(e)(3).

Consistency With SEC Rule 17Ad-22(e)(13)

SEC Rule 17Ad-22(e)(13) requires, in part, that a covered clearing agency establish, implement, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to ensure the covered clearing agency has the authority and operational capacity to take timely action to contain losses and liquidity demands and continue to meet its obligations.¹⁸ The proposed amendments to the RMF are designed to enhance CMESC's default management process by further documenting CMESC's default management procedures. Having well documented procedures, in turn, will bolster CMESC's rule-based authority and provide further clarity regarding operational steps to contain losses and liquidity demands and continue to meet its obligations, despite a Participant default. Furthermore, the proposed

amendments to the RMF would document arrangements with a potential third-party liquidation agent and clarify the default management process involving such a third-party, which if used, could facilitate CMESC's ability to take timely action to close out a defaulting Participant's positions. Therefore, CMESC believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with SEC Rule 17Ad-22(e)(13).

Consistency With Rule 17Ad-22(e)(18)(iv)(C)

SEC Rule 17Ad-22(e)(18)(iv)(C) requires, in part, that a covered clearing agency establish, implement, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to establish objective, risk-based, and publicly disclosed criteria for participation, which, when the covered clearing agency provides central counterparty services for transactions in U.S. Treasury securities, ensure that it has appropriate means to facilitate access to the clearance and settlement services of all eligible secondary market transactions in U.S. Treasury securities, including those of indirect participants.¹⁹ The clarifying changes to the procedures for a Member default are designed to document CMESC's planned efforts, both ex ante and ex post, to increase the probability that a User continues to maintain access to CMESC's services, despite its authorizing Member's default. Therefore, CMESC believes the proposed rule change is consistent with these requirements in SEC Rule 17Ad-22(e)(18)(iv)(C) regarding facilitating access to the clearance and settlement services of all eligible secondary market transactions, including by indirect participants.

B. CMESC's Statement on Burden on Competition

CMESC does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed rule change is designed to improve the Rules' accuracy and clarity for Members and Users, to enhance the default management process, and to be consistent with the Act. These proposed changes would not affect CMESC's operations that are already provided in the existing Rules or create additional rights and obligations of Members and Users. As such, CMESC does not believe the proposed rule change would have any impact on burden on competition that does not already exist under the

existing Rules or is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. CMESC's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

CMESC currently does not have any Members or Users and has not received nor solicited any written comments from others related to this proposal. CMESC has not received any unsolicited written comments from any interested parties. If any written comments are received, they will be publicly filed as an Exhibit 2 to this filing, as required by Form 19b-4 and the General Instructions thereto.

Persons submitting comments are cautioned that, according to Section IV (Solicitation of Comments) of the Exhibit 1A in the General Instructions to Form 19b-4, the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. Commenters should submit only information that they wish to make available publicly, including their name, email address, and any other identifying information.

All prospective commenters should follow the Commission's instructions on how to submit comments, available at <https://www.sec.gov/regulatory-actions/how-to-submit-comments>. General questions regarding the rule filing process or logistical questions regarding this filing should be directed to the Main Office of the Commission's Division of Trading and Markets at tradingandmarkets@sec.gov or 202-551-5777. CMESC reserves the right to not respond to any comments received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period up to 90 days (i) as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (A) by order approve or disapprove such proposed rule change, or
- (B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act.

¹⁷ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(3)(i).

¹⁸ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(13).

¹⁹ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(18)(iv)(C).

Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form <https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/self-regulatory-organization-rulemaking>; or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-CMESC-2026-011 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Station Place, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CMESC-2026-011. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/self-regulatory-organization-rulemaking>). Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of CMESC and on CMESC's website (<https://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html>).

Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CMESC-2026-011 and should be submitted on or before November 12, 2026.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.²⁰

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-21482 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[OMB Control No. 3235-0026]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Extension: Form N-2

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-2736.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC or "Commission") is submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) this request for extension of the proposed collection of information described below.

Form N-2 (17 CFR 239.14 and 274.11a-1) is the form used by closed-end management investment companies ("registered closed-end funds") to register under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-1 *et seq.*) ("Investment Company Act"), and to register their securities under the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a *et seq.*) ("Securities Act"). Form N-2 is also used by business development companies ("BDCs"), which are closed-end management investment companies that do not register under the Investment Company Act (but instead elect to be subject to certain provisions of the Investment Company Act (15 U.S.C. 80a-2(a)(48)) to register and offer their securities under the Securities Act.

Section 5 of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. 77e) requires the filing of a registration statement prior to the offer of securities to the public and that the statement be effective before any securities are sold. The primary purpose of the registration process is to provide disclosure of financial and other information to current and potential investors for the purpose of evaluating an investment in a security. Section 5(b) of the Securities Act requires that investors be provided with a prospectus containing the information required in a registration statement prior to the sale, or at the time of confirmation or delivery, of the securities. A closed-end management investment company (that is not a BDC) is required to register as an investment company under Section 8(a) of the Investment Company Act (15 U.S.C. 80a-8(a)). Form N-2 permits a registered closed end fund and a BDC to provide investors with a prospectus covering essential information about the fund when the fund makes an initial or additional offering of its securities. More-detailed information is available to interested investors in the Statement of Additional Information, which is provided to investors upon request and without charge.

The purpose of Form N-2 is to meet the filing and disclosure requirements of the Securities Act and the Investment Company Act and to enable funds to provide investors with information necessary to evaluate an investment in a registered closed-end fund or BDC. The information filed with the Commission permits the verification of

compliance with securities law requirements and assures the public availability and dissemination of the information. A registered closed-end fund or BDC must file a registration statement on Form N-2 only when making initial or additional offerings of securities under the Securities Act, or when amending its registration statement. Compliance with the disclosure requirements of Form N-2 is mandatory. Responses to the disclosure requirements will not be kept confidential.

We estimate that approximately 427 respondents file Form N-2 annually, with 1 response annually per respondent at 344 hours per response, including the time and the cost of preparing and reviewing disclosure, filing documents, and retaining records, for a total annual time burden of 146,888 hours. In addition, we estimate the total annual external cost burden associated with Form N-2 to be \$9,914,940, based on 30 hours of outside services at a wage rate of \$774 per hour for an attorney in the securities industry (\$23,220 per response times 427 respondents).

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

The public may view and comment on this information collection request at: https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=202608-3235-004 or email comment to MBX.OMB.OIRA.SEC_desk_officer@omb.eop.gov within 30 days of the day after publication of this notice, by November 23, 2026.

Dated: October 19, 2026.

Vanessa A. Countryman,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-21495 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-106682; File No. SR-NYSETEX-2026-30]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Texas, Inc.; Notice of Designation of a Longer Period for Commission Action on a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1, To Offer Complimentary Products and Services

October 16, 2026.

On August 13, 2026, NYSE Texas, Inc. ("NYSE Texas" or the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange

²⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Commission (the “Commission”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³ a proposed rule change to adopt new Rule 24 under Article 22 of the NYSE Texas Rule Book to offer certain issuers complimentary products and services from the Exchange. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on September 1, 2026.⁴ On October 5, 2026, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change, which superseded the original proposed rule change in its entirety.⁵ The Commission has not received any comments on the proposed rule change.

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act⁶ provides that within 45 days of the publication of notice of the filing of a proposed rule change, or within such longer period up to 90 days as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission shall either approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved. The 45th day after publication of the Notice for this proposed rule change is October 16, 2026. The Commission is extending this 45-day time period.

The Commission finds it appropriate to designate a longer period within which to take action on the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, so that it has sufficient time to consider the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, and the issues raised therein. Accordingly, the Commission, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁷ designates November 30, 2026, as the date by which the Commission shall either approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1 (File No. SR-NYSETEX-2026-30).

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁸

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-21479 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 33-11447; File No. 4-933]

Potential Designation of Chartered Financial Analyst Designation as Qualifying Natural Persons for Accredited Investor Status

In notice document 2026-20311 beginning on page 63314 in the issue of Monday, October 5, 2026, make the following correction:

1. On page 63314, in the third column, the **ADDRESSES** section is corrected to read as follows:

“**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission’s internet comment form (<https://www.sec.gov/comments/4-933/potential-designation-chartered-financial-analyst-designation-qualifying-natural-persons-accredited>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number 4-933 on the subject line. To submit a comment to more than one file, please include each file number on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments to Vanessa A. Countryman, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090. All submissions should refer to File Number 4-933. To submit a comment to more than one file, please refer to each file number. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method of submission. The Commission will post all submitted comments on its website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/public-comments/4-933>). Do not include personally identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. The

Commission may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection.”

[FR Doc. C1-2026-20311 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 0099-10-D

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-106680; File No. SR-CBOE-2026-080]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend Its Fees Schedule

October 16, 2026.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on October 8, 2026, Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “Cboe Options”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “Cboe Options”) proposes to amend its Fees Schedule to (i) replace the fixed, premium-based transaction fees applicable to Customer, Clearing Trading Permit Holder Proprietary, Broker-Dealer (including Joint Back-Office, Non-Trading Permit Holder Market Maker, and Professional), and Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders executed electronically and removing liquidity in Mini-S&P 500 Index (“XSPBX”) binary options with a tier-based constant transaction fee methodology applicable to Index Binaries, as defined in new footnote 55, while retaining the existing per-contract transaction fees for Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM liquidity-adding and manual orders, and (ii) add Investors Exchange LLC (“IEX”) to fee code RD. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 106204 (Aug. 27, 2026), 91 FR 56247 (Sept. 1, 2026) (“Notice”).

⁵ The full text of Amendment No. 1 can be found on the Commission’s website at <https://www.sec.gov/comments/SR-NYSETEX-2026-30/srnysetex202630-1084479-3778147.pdf>.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(31).

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Commission's website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>), the Exchange's website (https://www.cboe.com/us/options/regulation/rule_filings/cone/), and at the principal office of the Exchange.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend its Fees Schedule, effective October 1, 2026,³ to (1) amend the Binary Options⁴ rate table to replace the fixed, premium-based transaction fees currently applicable to XSPBX options with a tier-based constant transaction fee methodology applicable to Index Binaries⁵ for Customer, Clearing Trading Permit Holder Proprietary,⁶

³ The Exchange initially filed the proposed fee change on October 1, 2026 (SR CBOE-2026-079). On October 8, 2026, the Exchange withdrew that filing and submitted this proposal.

⁴ The term "Binary Option" means an option contract having an exercise settlement amount that is established at the creation of an option and only two possible payoff outcomes: either a fixed amount equal to the exercise payout amount or nothing at all. See Cboe Rule 1.1.

⁵ The Exchange proposes to adopt new footnote 55, as described below, which provides that Index Binaries include XSPBX, and to append footnote 55 to each "Index Binaries" product designation in the proposed Rate Table—Binary Options. For purposes of the Fees Schedule, "Index Binaries" are binary index options, as defined in Rule 4.70, that are listed for trading on the Exchange and identified in footnote 55. As proposed, footnote 55 identifies only binary options that overlie the Mini-S&P 500 Index ("XSPBX"). The Exchange anticipates adding other binary index options to footnote 55 in future amendments to the Fees Schedule as it plans to list binary index options on additional indexes. Each such amendment will be the subject of a separate rule filing submitted to the Commission pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Act and Rule 19b-4 thereunder.

⁶ "Clearing Trading Permit Holder Proprietary" orders are orders for an OCC clearing member firm proprietary account (capacity "F") and orders for the account of a non-Trading Permit Holder Affiliate of a Clearing Trading Permit Holder (capacity "L"). See Cboe Rule 1.1 (definition of

Broker-Dealer⁷ (including Joint Back-Office, Non-Trading Permit Holder Market Maker, and Professional), and Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM⁸ orders executed electronically and removing liquidity, while retaining the existing per-contract transaction fees for Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM liquidity-adding and manual orders, together with new footnote 55; and (2) add IEX to fee code RD⁹ within the Routing Fees section of the Fees Schedule.

Index Binaries Transaction Fees

The Fees Schedule currently includes a Rate Table—Binary Options, which sets forth transaction fees for XSPBX options. The current table assesses fixed per-contract transaction fees that vary

"Capacity"). A "Clearing Trading Permit Holder" is a Trading Permit Holder that has been admitted to membership in the Clearing Corporation pursuant to the provisions of the Rules of the Clearing Corporation and is self-clearing or that clears transactions for other Trading Permit Holders. See Cboe Rule 1.1. A "non-Trading Permit Holder Affiliate" is a 100% wholly owned affiliate or subsidiary of a Clearing Trading Permit Holder that is registered as a United States or foreign broker-dealer and that is not a Trading Permit Holder. See Fees Schedule, footnote 11.

⁷ "Broker-Dealer" orders are orders for the account of a broker or dealer, including a Foreign Broker-Dealer (capacity "B"). See Rule 1.1 (definition of "Capacity"). A "broker-dealer" is a Trading Permit Holder, a non-Trading Permit Holder broker or dealer in securities (including a foreign broker-dealer), or a joint venture with a Trading Permit Holder and non-Trading Permit Holder participants. See Rule 1.1. Broker-Dealer transaction fees apply to broker-dealer orders (capacity "B"), non-Trading Permit Holder market-maker orders (capacity "N"), and certain orders with "F" or "L" capacity codes (i.e., orders from OCC numbers that are not from Cboe Options Trading Permit Holders or are not registered with the Exchange). See Fees Schedule, footnote 16.

⁸ Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders are orders for the account of a Market-Maker (capacity "M"), including a Designated Primary Market-Maker ("DPM") or Lead Market-Maker ("LMM"). See Cboe Rule 1.1 (definition of "Capacity"). A "Market-Maker" is a Trading Permit Holder registered with the Exchange pursuant to Rule 3.52 for the purpose of making markets in option contracts traded on the Exchange and that has the rights and responsibilities set forth in Chapter 5, Section D of the Rules. A "DPM" is a TPH organization that is approved by the Exchange to function in appointed securities as a Market-Maker per trading session and is subject to the obligations under Cboe Rule 5.54 or as otherwise provided under the Rules. See Rules 1.1 and 3.53. An "LMM" is a Market-Maker in good standing with an appointment in a class for which a DPM has not been appointed that the Exchange has designated as a Lead Market-Maker. See Rules 1.1 and 3.55.

⁹ Fee code RD is appended to Customer orders routed to NYSE American LLC ("AMEX"), BOX Exchange LLC ("BOX"), Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. ("EDGX"), Miami International Securities Exchange, LLC ("MIAEX"), MIAAX Pearl, LLC ("MX2"), MIAAX Sapphire, LLC ("SPHR"), or Nasdaq PHLX LLC ("PHLX") (excluding orders in SPY options routed to PHLX), as well as ETF and Equity options, and is assessed a charge of \$0.25 per contract.

by capacity and across seven premium ranges (less than \$0.04; \$0.04–\$0.09; \$0.10–\$0.24; \$0.25–\$0.75; \$0.76–\$0.90; \$0.91–\$0.96; and greater than \$0.96). Specifically, Customer orders are assessed \$0.04 (fee code D1),¹⁰ \$0.08 (fee code D2),¹¹ \$0.20 (fee code D3),¹² and \$0.30 (fee code D4)¹³ per contract, with the fee increasing as the premium approaches \$0.50 and decreasing symmetrically as the premium approaches \$0.00 or \$1.00. Clearing Trading Permit Holder Proprietary and Broker-Dealer orders (including Joint Back-Office, Non-Trading Permit Holder Market Maker, and Professional orders) are assessed \$0.10 (fee code N1),¹⁴ \$0.15 (fee code N2),¹⁵ \$0.25 (fee code N3),¹⁶ and \$0.35 (fee code N4)¹⁷ per contract across the same premium ranges. Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders are assessed \$0.10 (fee code H1),¹⁸ \$0.15 (fee code H2),¹⁹ \$0.25 (fee

¹⁰ Fee code D1 is appended to all Customer (capacity "C") orders in XSPBX with a premium price less than \$0.04 or greater than \$0.96 and assesses a fee of \$0.04 per contract.

¹¹ Fee code D2 is appended to all Customer (capacity "C") orders in XSPBX with a premium price of \$0.04 to \$0.09 or \$0.91 to \$0.96 and assesses a fee of \$0.08 per contract.

¹² Fee code D3 is appended to all Customer (capacity "C") orders in XSPBX with a premium price of \$0.10 to \$0.24 or \$0.76 to \$0.90 and assesses a fee of \$0.20 per contract.

¹³ Fee code D4 is appended to all Customer (capacity "C") orders in XSPBX with a premium price of \$0.25 to \$0.75 and assesses a fee of \$0.30 per contract.

¹⁴ Fee code N1 is appended to all Clearing Trading Permit Holder (capacity "F"), non-Clearing Trading Permit Holder Affiliate (capacity "L"), Broker-Dealer (capacity "B"), Joint Back-Office (capacity "J"), non-Trading Permit Holder Market-Maker (capacity "N"), and Professional (capacity "U") (collectively, "non-Customer, non-Market-Maker") orders in XSPBX with a premium price less than \$0.04 or greater than \$0.96 and assesses a fee of \$0.10 per contract.

¹⁵ Fee code N2 is appended to all non-Customer, non-Market-Maker orders in XSPBX with a premium price of \$0.04 to \$0.09 or \$0.91 to \$0.96 and assesses a fee of \$0.15 per contract.

¹⁶ Fee code N3 is appended to all non-Customer, non-Market-Maker orders in XSPBX with a premium price of \$0.10 to \$0.24 or \$0.76 to \$0.90 and assesses a fee of \$0.25 per contract.

¹⁷ Fee code N4 is appended to all non-Customer, non-Market-Maker orders in XSPBX with a premium price of \$0.25 to \$0.75 and assesses a fee of \$0.35 per contract.

¹⁸ Fee code H1 is appended to all electronic Cboe Options Market-Maker/Designated Primary Market-Maker ("DPM")/Lead Market-Maker ("LMM") (collectively, "Market-Maker") (capacity "M") orders in XSPBX taking liquidity with a premium price less than \$0.04 or greater than \$0.96 and assesses a fee of \$0.10 per contract.

¹⁹ Fee code H2 is appended to all electronic Market-Maker (capacity "M") orders in XSPBX taking liquidity with a premium price of \$0.04 to \$0.09 or \$0.91 to \$0.96 and assesses a fee of \$0.15 per contract.

code H3),²⁰ and \$0.35 (fee code H4)²¹ per contract across the same premium ranges when executed electronically and taking liquidity, \$0.05 per contract (fee code HA)²² when executed electronically and adding liquidity, and \$0.15 per contract (fee code HM)²³ when executed manually.

The Exchange proposes to amend the Rate Table—Binary Options to replace the fixed, premium-based transaction fees currently applicable to XSPBX options with a tier-based constant transaction fee methodology applicable to “Index Binaries,” under which transaction fees for Customer, Clearing Trading Permit Holder Proprietary, Broker-Dealer (including Joint Back-Office, Non-Trading Permit Holder Market Maker, and Professional), and Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders executed electronically and removing liquidity, will be calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Transaction Fee} = ((k * p * (1 - p) * c) * m)$$

where k is the tier-based constant for the applicable capacity; p is the contract price (\$0.01–\$1.00); c is the number of contracts traded; and m is the contract multiplier (*i.e.*, 100). The proposed tier-based constants (k) are as follows:

- Customer (capacity code C): 1.2% (fee code HC);
- Clearing Trading Permit Holder Proprietary, Broker-Dealer, Joint Back-Office, Non-Trading Permit Holder Market Maker, and Professional (capacity codes F, L, B, N, U, and J): 1.4% (fee code HD); and
- Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM (capacity code M), Electronic, Removing Liquidity: 1.4% (fee code HB).

Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders executed electronically and adding liquidity and executed manually will continue to be assessed flat per-contract transaction fees of \$0.05 (fee code HA) and \$0.15 (fee code HM), respectively, which are unchanged from the current fees. The Exchange believes it is reasonable to continue to assess these orders flat per-contract fees rather than fees under the proposed price-

based methodology because Market-Makers, DPMs, and LMMs, unlike other market participants, are subject to continuous quoting and other obligations under the Exchange’s Rules that require them to provide liquidity across the full range of contract prices, including in contracts priced near \$0.50, where the proposed methodology would otherwise result in the highest fees. A flat, low per-contract fee for liquidity-adding electronic executions and manual executions provides Market-Makers, DPMs, and LMMs with fee certainty that does not vary with the price at which they are obligated to quote, which the Exchange believes encourages them to continue to provide tighter and deeper markets in Index Binaries, to the benefit of all market participants. Market-Maker/DPM/LMM electronic orders that remove liquidity do not further these obligations in the same manner and will therefore be subject to the proposed methodology (fee code HB), consistent with other non-Customer capacities. Maintaining the current flat fees for liquidity-adding and manual Market-Maker/DPM/LMM executions also avoids any fee increase for these participants as a result of the proposed change. The Exchange also proposes to adopt new footnote 55, which provides that “Index Binaries include XSPBX,” and to append footnote 55 to each “Index Binaries” product designation in the new rate table. XSPBX will therefore continue to be the only binary option subject to the rate table following the proposed change.

Under the proposed methodology, the transaction fee for an Index Binary is a function of $p * (1 - p)$, which is greatest when the contract price is \$0.50 and declines symmetrically as the contract price approaches \$0.00 or \$1.00. The proposed methodology therefore preserves the general shape of the current premium-range fee structure, under which the highest fees apply to contracts priced near \$0.50 and the lowest fees apply to contracts priced near \$0.00 or \$1.00, while replacing

seven discrete premium ranges with a continuous calculation based on the actual contract price. The proposed constants are calibrated so that the maximum per-contract fee for each capacity is unchanged. For example, a Customer executing one contract at a price of \$0.50 would be assessed $((0.012 \times 0.50 \times 0.50 \times 1) \times 100) = \$0.30$, which is identical to the current \$0.30 fee applicable to Customer orders priced between \$0.25 and \$0.75 (fee code D4). Similarly, a Clearing Trading Permit Holder Proprietary order executing one contract at \$0.50 would be assessed $((0.014 \times 0.50 \times 0.50 \times 1) \times 100) = \$0.35$, identical to the current \$0.35 fee applicable to such orders priced between \$0.25 and \$0.75 (fee code N4). At other contract prices, the fee under the proposed methodology will generally be lower than the fee currently assessed for the applicable premium range. For example, a Customer order executing one contract at \$0.25 would be assessed \$0.225 rather than \$0.30; at \$0.10, \$0.108 rather than \$0.20; and at \$0.02, approximately \$0.024 rather than \$0.04. A Clearing Trading Permit Holder Proprietary order executing one contract at \$0.25 would be assessed approximately \$0.26 rather than \$0.35; at \$0.10, \$0.126 rather than \$0.25; and at \$0.02, approximately \$0.027 rather than \$0.10. Because the proposed fee is calculated continuously rather than by premium range, the fee for contracts priced at the upper end of a current premium range may be modestly higher than the current fixed fee for that range (*e.g.*, a Customer order executing one contract at \$0.24 would be assessed approximately \$0.219 rather than \$0.20), but will never exceed the current maximum per-contract fee for the applicable capacity.

The following examples illustrate the per-contract transaction fee that would be assessed under the proposed methodology for a single contract (*i.e.*, $c = 1$ and $m = 100$) at various contract prices, by capacity:

Contract price	Customer (k = 1.2%)	Clearing TPH proprietary, broker-dealer, JBO, Non-TPH MM, Professional (k = 1.4%)	Cboe Options Market- Maker/DPM/ LMM electronic remove (k = 1.4%)
\$0.01	\$0.01188	\$0.01386	\$0.01386
0.05	0.05700	0.06650	0.06650
0.10	0.10800	0.12600	0.12600
0.25	0.22500	0.26250	0.26250

²⁰ Fee code H3 is appended to all electronic Market-Maker (capacity “M”) orders in XSPBX taking liquidity with a premium price of \$0.10 to \$0.24 or \$0.76 to \$0.90 and assesses a fee of \$0.25 per contract.

²¹ Fee code H4 is appended to all electronic Market-Maker (capacity “M”) orders in XSPBX taking liquidity with a premium price of \$0.25 to \$0.75 and assesses a fee of \$0.35 per contract.

²² Fee code HA is appended to all Market-Maker (capacity “M”) orders in XSPBX that add liquidity

and that are executed electronically, and assesses a fee of \$0.05 per contract.

²³ Fee code HM is appended to all Market-Maker (capacity “M”) orders in XSPBX that are executed manually (*i.e.*, open outcry) and assesses a fee of \$0.15 per contract.

Contract price	Customer (k = 1.2%)	Clearing TPH proprietary, broker-dealer, JBO, Non-TPH MM, Professional (k = 1.4%)	Cboe Options Market- Maker/DPM/ LMM electronic remove (k = 1.4%)
0.50	0.30000	0.35000	0.35000
0.75	0.22500	0.26250	0.26250
0.90	0.10800	0.12600	0.12600
0.99	0.01188	0.01386	0.01386

At each contract price, Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders executed electronically and adding liquidity would continue to be assessed \$0.05 per contract (fee code HA), and Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders executed manually would continue to be assessed \$0.15 per contract (fee code HM). Because the transaction fee is calculated on a per-contract basis, the total fee for an execution of multiple contracts equals the applicable per-contract fee multiplied by the number of contracts traded. For example, a Customer order executing ten contracts at a contract price of \$0.25 would be assessed $((0.012 \times 0.25 \times 0.75 \times 10) \times 100) = \$2.25$.

The Exchange believes that the proposed methodology will simplify and add transparency to binary option pricing on the Exchange by applying a single, objective calculation based on the contract price in place of multiple premium ranges, and will more closely align the transaction fee with the price of the contract at the time of execution. Additionally, by applying the new rate table to Index Binaries as a category, as defined in new footnote 55, the Exchange will be able to apply a consistent fee methodology across index binary options. Any future addition of a product to the definition of Index Binaries in footnote 55 would be the subject of a separate rule filing.

Addition of IEX to Fee Code RD

The Exchange assesses fees in connection with orders routed away to various options exchanges. The Fees Schedule currently lists fee codes and their corresponding transaction fees for certain Customer orders routed to other options exchanges. Currently, under the Routing Fees section of the Fees Schedule, fee code RD is appended to Customer orders routed to AMEX, BOX, EDGX, MIA, MX2, SPHR, or PHLX (excluding orders in SPY options routed to PHLX), as well as ETF and Equity options, and assesses a charge of \$0.25 per contract.

The Exchange's current approach to routing fees is to set forth in a simple manner certain sub-categories of fees that approximate the cost of routing to other options exchanges based on the

cost of transaction fees assessed by each venue as well as costs to the Exchange for routing (*i.e.*, clearing fees, connectivity and other infrastructure costs, membership fees, etc.) (collectively, "Routing Costs"). The Exchange monitors the fees charged as compared to the costs of its routing services and adjusts its routing fees and/or sub-categories to ensure that the Exchange's fees result in a rough approximation of overall Routing Costs, and are not significantly higher or lower in any area. Other options exchanges assess routing fees in a similar manner.

The Exchange proposes to amend fee code RD to add applicable Customer orders routed to IEX, a national securities exchange that is launching an options market on October 2, 2026. As proposed, the description of fee code RD would read: "Routed to AMEX, BOX, EDGX, IEX, MIA, MX2, SPHR, PHLX (excluding SPY), ETF, Equity." The charge assessed per contract for fee code RD remains the same (\$0.25) under the proposed rule change. The proposed change results in an assessment of fees that, given the fees of an away options exchange, is in line with the Exchange's current approach to routing fees, *i.e.*, in a manner that approximates the cost of routing Customer orders to other away options exchanges, based on the general cost of transaction fees assessed by the sub-category of away options exchanges for such orders (as well as the Exchange's Routing Costs). The Exchange notes that routing through the Exchange is optional and that market participants will continue to be able to choose where to route applicable Customer orders.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.²⁴ Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)²⁵ requirements that the rules of

an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5) requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination. The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,²⁶ which requires that Exchange rules provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its Trading Permit Holders and other persons using its facilities.

As a general matter, the Exchange operates in a highly competitive market. The Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") has repeatedly expressed its preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. In Regulation NMS, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system "has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies."²⁷ Market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive or incentives to be insufficient. Accordingly, competitive forces constrain the Exchange's transaction fees, and market participants can readily trade on competing venues if they deem pricing levels at those other venues to be more favorable.

Index Binaries Transaction Fees. The Exchange believes the proposed tier-

²⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

²⁷ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005).

²⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

²⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

based constant fee methodology for Index Binaries is reasonable. The proposed constants are calibrated so that the maximum per-contract fee for each capacity (\$0.30 for Customer orders and \$0.35 for Clearing Trading Permit Holder Proprietary, Broker-Dealer (including Joint Back-Office, Non-Trading Permit Holder Market Maker, and Professional), and Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders, other than Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders adding liquidity or executed manually) is unchanged from the maximum fee under the current premium-range structure. At most contract prices, the proposed methodology will result in fees that are lower than those currently assessed for the applicable premium range, and while fees for contracts priced at the upper end of certain current premium ranges may be modestly higher, they will not exceed the current maximum fee for the applicable capacity. The proposed methodology is also reasonable because it bases the transaction fee on an objective, transparent calculation using the actual contract price, the number of contracts, and the contract multiplier, which more closely aligns the fee with the price of the contract at execution than a fixed fee applicable across a broad premium range. The Exchange believes it is reasonable to continue to assess Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders executed electronically and adding liquidity, and Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders executed manually, the existing flat fees of \$0.05 and \$0.15 per contract, respectively, which are unchanged. Market-Makers, DPMs, and LMMs are subject to continuous quoting and other obligations under the Exchange's Rules that other market participants are not, and those obligations require them to provide liquidity across the full range of contract prices, including in contracts priced near \$0.50, where the proposed methodology would otherwise assess the highest fees. A flat, low per-contract fee gives these participants fee certainty that does not vary with the price at which they are obligated to quote, which the Exchange believes encourages them to continue to provide tighter and deeper markets in Index Binaries, to the benefit of all market participants. Market-Maker/DPM/LMM electronic orders that remove liquidity do not further these obligations in the same manner and are therefore subject to the proposed methodology, consistent with other non-Customer capacities. Retaining the current flat fees also ensures that Market-Makers, DPMs, and

LMMs will not experience a fee increase as a result of the proposed change. The Exchange believes it is reasonable to adopt footnote 55 to define Index Binaries, as it makes clear the products to which the new rate table applies and currently includes only XSPBX, the product to which the current rate table applies.

The Exchange believes the proposed methodology is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the same formula and the same tier-based constant will apply to all market participants within each applicable capacity. The Exchange believes it is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory to apply a lower constant to Customer orders (1.2%) than to Clearing Trading Permit Holder Proprietary, Broker-Dealer (including Joint Back-Office, Non-Trading Permit Holder Market Maker, and Professional), and Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders (1.4%), which is consistent with the current structure, under which Customer orders are generally assessed lower fees than other capacities in each premium range,²⁸ and with the longstanding practice of the Exchange and other options exchanges of assessing lower fees to Customer orders, which enhance liquidity for the benefit of all market participants. The Exchange believes it is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory to apply the same 1.4% constant to Clearing Trading Permit Holder Proprietary, Broker-Dealer, Joint Back-Office, Non-Trading Permit Holder Market Maker, and Professional orders, and to Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders executed electronically and removing liquidity, because each of these capacities is currently assessed identical fees in each premium range (fee codes N1 through N4 and H1 through H4, respectively), and the proposed change preserves that parity. The Exchange believes it remains equitable and not unfairly discriminatory to assess lower flat fees to Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM orders executed electronically and adding liquidity, as is the case today, in light of the value that Cboe Options Market-Maker/DPM/LMM liquidity provides to the market and the obligations to which Cboe Options Market-Makers/DPMs/LMMs are subject that other market participants are not.

Addition of IEX to Fee Code RD. The Exchange believes the proposed change to add IEX to fee code RD is reasonable because the charge assessed per contract

for fee code RD remains the same, and the change is designed to assess routing fees for Customer orders routed to IEX in a manner consistent with the Exchange's current approach to routing fees—*i.e.*, in the most appropriate sub-category of fees that approximates the cost of routing to a group of away options exchanges based on the cost of transaction fees assessed by each venue as well as the Exchange's Routing Costs. The Exchange believes the proposed change is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because all applicable Customer orders routed to IEX will automatically yield fee code RD and uniformly be assessed the corresponding fee. The Exchange notes that routing through the Exchange is voluntary, and market participants may choose to route orders to IEX directly or through other means.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe the proposed changes will impose any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed tier-based constant fee methodology for Index Binaries will apply the same formula and the same constant to all market participants within each applicable capacity, and maintains the relative relationships among capacities that exist under the current premium-range structure. The proposed addition of IEX to fee code RD will apply automatically and uniformly to all Trading Permit Holders' applicable Customer orders routed to IEX, which will be assessed the same \$0.25 per contract charge that applies to orders routed to other exchanges within fee code RD. To the extent Customer orders continue to be assessed lower fees than non-Customer orders, and Market-Maker orders adding liquidity in Index Binaries continue to be assessed lower flat fees, the Exchange believes such differentiation is consistent with longstanding industry practice and reflects the value that Customer order flow and Market-Maker liquidity provide to the market.

The Exchange does not believe the proposed changes will impose any burden on intermarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. As previously discussed, the Exchange operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can

²⁸ This is generally the case today, other than in the premium range below \$0.04, in which Customer orders are not currently assessed lower fees than other capacities.

readily direct order flow to competing venues, including 17 other options exchanges and off-exchange venues, if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive or incentives to be insufficient. With respect to the proposed changes to the Index Binaries transaction fees, the Exchange notes that Index Binaries, which currently include only XSPBX, are proprietary products exclusively listed on the Exchange. Because Index Binaries are not listed or traded on any other exchange, the proposed changes to the Index Binaries transaction fees do not implicate intermarket competition. With respect to the addition of IEX to fee code RD, routing through the Exchange is optional, and the charge assessed under fee code RD is unchanged. The Exchange notes that its market share in the options market is subject to competition, and that, in such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive with other exchanges and to attract order flow. Moreover, the Commission has recognized that competition for order flow among exchanges is robust. In *NetCoalition v. SEC*, the D.C. Circuit stated that “[n]o one disputes that competition for order flow is ‘fierce,’” and that, “[a]s the SEC explained, ‘[i]n the U.S. national market system, buyers and sellers of securities, and the broker-dealers that act as their order-routing agents, have a wide range of choices of where to route orders for execution’; [and] ‘no exchange can afford to take its market share percentages for granted’ because ‘no exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers’”²⁹ Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe its proposed fee changes impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)

of the Act³⁰ and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4³¹ thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form <https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>; or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number SR-CBOE-2026-080 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR-CBOE-2026-080. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website <https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>. Copies of the filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-CBOE-2026-080 and should be submitted on or before November 12, 2026.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.³²

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-21480 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-106683; File No. SR-CboeEDGX-2026-071]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend Rule 11.1(a)(3) To Describe When Unpriced Orders Are Eligible for Execution and To Amend Rule 11.6(q)(2) To Clarify the Expiration of Day Orders Entered During the Overnight Trading Session or Order Acceptance Queueing Time

October 16, 2026.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on October 13, 2026, Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Exchange filed the proposal as a “non-controversial” proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁴ The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. (“Cboe EDGX” or the “Exchange”) is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission” or “SEC”) a proposed rule change to amend Rule 11.1(a)(3) to describe when unpriced orders are eligible for execution and to amend Rule 11.6(q)(2) to clarify the expiration of Day Orders entered during the Overnight Trading Session or Order Acceptance Queueing Time. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Commission's

³² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

²⁹ *NetCoalition v. SEC*, 615 F.3d 525, 539 (D.C. Cir. 2010) (quoting Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59039 (December 2, 2008), 73 FR 74770, 74782-83 (December 9, 2008) (SR-NYSEArca-2006-21)).

³⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

³¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).

website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>), the Exchange's website (https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule_filings/edgx/), and at the principal office of the Exchange.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 11.1(a)(3) to introduce rule text to describe when orders that do not contain a limit price are eligible for execution. Under current Rule 11.1(a)(1), the Exchange does not accept Market Orders,⁵ other than those with a Time-in-Force ("TIF") instruction of Regular Hours Only⁶ or a Stop Price, prior to 4:00 a.m. Eastern Time or prior to 7:00 a.m. Eastern Time for orders eligible for a 7:00 a.m. Start.⁷

As part of the Exchange's transition to trading 23 hours per day, 5 days per week ("23x5 Trading"), the Exchange updated Rule 11.1(a) to introduce a new subparagraph (3) titled "Orders Permitted in Each Session."⁸ Rule 11.1(a)(3), which is approved but not yet effective, states: "Market Orders, other than those designated with a Time-in-Force instruction of Regular Hours Only or those that include a Stop Price, will not be accepted by the Exchange prior

to Regular Trading Hours." The intent of this sentence was to prevent Market Orders from executing during the Overnight Trading Session⁹ and the Pre-Opening Session,¹⁰ but the text did not expressly prohibit the Exchange from accepting Market Orders during Regular Trading Hours and executing during the Post-Closing Session,¹¹ which experiences similar characteristics regarding liquidity and volume as the current Early Trading Session.¹² Now, the Exchange proposes to add an additional sentence to the end of Rule 11.1(a)(3) which states: "Orders without a limit price will not be eligible for execution outside of Regular Trading Hours." The addition of this sentence eliminates any potential ambiguity about when an order that does not contain a limit price will be eligible for execution on the Exchange. In addition, this proposed change is substantially similar to limits on unpriced orders currently in place on Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq") and NYSE Arca, Inc. ("NYSE Arca") and differs only in that the Exchange's proposed rule refers to orders without a limit price rather than specifically designating market orders or pegged orders as other market centers have done in their rule text.¹³

The Exchange also proposes to amend Rule 11.6(q)(2) to clarify that a Day Order entered during the Order Acceptance Queueing Time¹⁴ or Overnight Trading Session will expire at the end of Regular Trading Hours on the

same business day to which the Overnight Trading Session belongs, as provided in Rule 11.1(b).¹⁵ This amendment replaces the phrase "following trading day," which could be read ambiguously for orders entered after midnight during the Overnight Trading Session, with language that expressly ties the order's expiration to the business day to which the Overnight Trading Session belongs.

The change is consistent with the Exchange's intent as described in the Original Filing, which introduced the 23x5 Trading framework and explained that "a trading day is deemed to begin at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the preceding calendar day." Under Rule 11.1(b), a business day includes the Overnight Trading Session on the preceding calendar day, meaning the entire Overnight Trading Session (from 9:00 p.m. through 4:00 a.m.) belongs to the following business day. The proposed amendment merely conforms the Day Order TIF definition to this structural principle and does not alter any operational aspect of Day Order handling.

Specifically, current Rule 11.6(q)(2) provides that a Day Order entered during the Order Acceptance Queueing Time or the Overnight Trading Session "will expire at the end of Regular Trading Hours on the following trading day." The Exchange proposes to replace "following trading day" with "same business day to which the Overnight Trading Session belongs, as provided in Rule 11.1(b)." This revision eliminates any potential ambiguity regarding whether an order entered after midnight *i.e.*, during the portion of the Overnight Trading Session occurring on a new calendar day) could be interpreted as expiring on a different business day than intended.

This proposed rule change will become operative in conjunction with the Original Filing. Rules 11.1(a)(3) and 11.6(q)(2) will be amended with the approved rule text in the Original Filing, whereby the Exchange seeks to offer a new Overnight Trading Session. The amended rule text will take effect in December 2026 pending industry readiness. Prior to codifying the amended rule text, the Exchange will file a proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Exchange Act and the rules thereunder to amend its rules confirming that the Exchange is able to comply with its obligations under the Exchange Act and the rules thereunder

⁹ See Exchange Rule 1.5(jj) ("Overnight Trading Session" means "the time between 9:00 p.m. on any night preceding a business day, as provided in Rule 11.1(b), and 4:00 a.m. Eastern Time on the following calendar day").

¹⁰ See Exchange Rule 1.5(s). ("Pre-Opening Session" shall mean the time between 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time).

¹¹ See Exchange Rule 1.5(r). ("Post-Closing Session" shall mean the time between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time).

¹² See Exchange Rule 1.5(jj). ("Early Trading Session" shall mean the time between 4:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Eastern Time.).

¹³ See, e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release No. 105199 (April 10, 2026), 91 FR 20222 (April 15, 2026), SR-NASDAQ-2025-109 ("Nasdaq 23x5 Filing") at 20223: "During its current Pre-Market and Post-Market trading sessions, Nasdaq offers more limited trading functionality that period is subject to different regulation Meanwhile, the Exchange does not offer certain order types during these trading session, such as unpriced orders and pegged orders." See also Nasdaq Equity 4, Rule 4703(d) (prohibiting pegged orders outside of Regular Market Hours), NYSE Arca Rule 7.34-E(c)(1)(A) (prohibiting Market Orders and Pegged Orders from participating in the Early Trading Session) and NYSE Arca Rule 7.34-E(c)(3)(A) (prohibiting Market Orders and Pegged Orders from participating in the Late Trading Session).

¹⁴ See Exchange Rule 1.5(kk) ("Order Acceptance Queueing Time" means "8:55 p.m., Eastern Time, when orders may be entered into the System on each night that precedes a trading day (as specified in Rule 11.1(b))").

¹⁵ See Exchange Rule 11.1(b) (defining "business day" as "any day the Exchange is open for trading, which includes any Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, other than a holiday").

⁵ See Exchange Rule 11.8(a). (A Market Order is an order to buy or sell a stated amount of a security that is to be executed at the NBBO or better when the order reaches the Exchange. See also Exchange Rule 11.8(a)(5), which provides that a Market Order is only eligible for execution by the System during the Regular Session.)

⁶ See Exchange Rule 1.5(y). ("Regular Trading Hours" means "the time between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time").

⁷ See Exchange Rule 11.1(a)(1).

⁸ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-105206 (May 29, 2026) 91 FR 33238 (June 3, 2026) (SR-CboeEDGX-2026-019) (Notice of Filing of Amendment No. 1 and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of a Proposed Rule Change, as Amended by Amendment No. 1, To Extend the Exchange's Trading Hours to 23 Hours per Day, Five Days per Week) (the "Original Filing").

during the Overnight Trading Session and that the Equity Data Plans¹⁶ are prepared to collect, consolidate, process and disseminate quotation and transaction information at all times during the Overnight Trading Session.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act¹⁷ and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act. Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹⁸ which requires that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes the proposed amendment to Rule 11.1(a)(3) promotes just and equitable principles of trade by establishing uniform standards for order eligibility with respect to orders without a limit price across all trading sessions. The amendment ensures that all Users are subject to the same restrictions regarding the execution of unpriced orders. By codifying that orders without a limit price will not be eligible for execution outside of Regular Trading Hours in the Exchange's rules, Users will have confidence in how their orders will be handled, which promotes fairness and consistency in the execution process.

Further, the Exchange believes this change removes impediments to and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market and protects investors and the public interest by clarifying that orders without a limit price will not be eligible for execution outside of Regular Trading Hours. During extended trading sessions, such as the Overnight Trading Session and the Post-Closing Session, market liquidity and trading volume are typically lower than during Regular Trading Hours. Under these conditions, unpriced orders may experience

execution quality issues, such as executions at prices that vary significantly from the prevailing market price or from investor expectations. By limiting the execution of unpriced orders to Regular Trading Hours—when liquidity is greater and price discovery is more robust—the amendment helps ensure that investors receive executions that are more consistent with their expectations and enhances the overall integrity of the market.

Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed amendment to Rule 11.6(q)(2) removes impediments to and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market by eliminating potential ambiguity in the Exchange's rules regarding when Day Orders expire in the 23x5 trading environment. The amendment promotes just and equitable principles of trade and protects investors and the public interest by ensuring that the rule text clearly communicates the Exchange's order handling procedures, reducing the risk of confusion among market participants regarding order lifecycle in the Overnight Trading Session.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed amendment to Rule 11.1(a)(3) is not being made for competitive reasons, but rather to prohibit the execution of orders that do not contain a limit price in trading sessions where liquidity is limited, which was partially accomplished by existing rule text that prohibits the Exchange from accepting Market Orders prior to Regular Trading Hours. Additionally, the restriction on the execution of unpriced orders outside of Regular Trading Hours applies equally to all Users in that all Users will be subject to the proposed rule.

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intermarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed amendment to Rule 11.1(a)(3) is consistent with the approach taken by other national securities exchanges that prohibits the execution of unpriced orders during extended trading sessions. Accordingly, the proposed rule change does not create any competitive imbalance between the Exchange and other trading venues.

Further, the proposed amendment to Rule 11.6(q)(2) is a non-substantive

clarification that does not alter any operational aspect of order handling on the Exchange. The proposed rule change neither introduces new requirements for market participants nor modifies the competitive dynamics between the Exchange and other trading venues.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act¹⁹ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.²⁰

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or

¹⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

²⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

¹⁶ See Exchange Rule 1.5(l) (defining "Equity Data Plans" as "the effective national market system plan(s) governing the collection, consolidation, processing and dissemination of consolidated equity market data via the exclusive securities information processors").

¹⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

• Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number SR-CboeEDGX-2026-071 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

• Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR-CboeEDGX-2026-071. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-CboeEDGX-2026-071 and should be submitted on or before November 12, 2026.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.²¹

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-21481 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

Grant Guideline; Notice

AGENCY: State Justice Institute.

ACTION: Grant guideline for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027.

SUMMARY: This guideline sets forth the administrative, programmatic, and financial requirements attendant to FY 2027 State Justice Institute grants.

DATES: October 19, 2026.

ADDRESSES: State Justice Institute, 12700 Fair Lakes Circle, Suite 340, Fairfax, VA 22033.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jonathan Mattiello, Executive Director, State Justice Institute, 703-660-4979, jonathan.mattiello@sji.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the State Justice Institute Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10701 *et seq.*), the State Justice Institute is authorized to award

grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts to State and local courts, nonprofit organizations, and others for the purpose of improving the quality of justice in the State courts of the United States.

The following Grant Guideline is adopted by the State Justice Institute for FY 2027.

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I. Eligibility

Pursuant to the State Justice Institute Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10701 *et seq.*), the State Justice Institute (SJI) is authorized to award grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts to State and local courts, national nonprofit organizations, and others for the purpose of improving the quality of justice in the State courts of the United States.

SJI is authorized by Congress to award grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts to the following entities and types of organizations:

- State and local courts and their agencies (42 U.S.C. 10705(b)(1)(A)).
- National nonprofit organizations controlled by, operating in conjunction with, and serving the judicial branches of State governments (42 U.S.C. 10705(b)(1)(B)).
- National nonprofit organizations for the education and training of judges and support personnel of the judicial branch of State governments (42 U.S.C. 10705(b)(1)(C)). An applicant is considered a national education and training applicant under section 10705(b)(1)(C) if:
 - the principal purpose or activity of the applicant is to provide education and training to State and local judges and court personnel, and
 - the applicant demonstrates a record of substantial experience in the field of judicial education and training.
- Other eligible grant recipients (42 U.S.C. 10705 (b)(2)(A) through (D)).
 - Provided that the objectives of the project can be served better, SJI is also authorized to make awards to:
 - nonprofit organizations with expertise in judicial administration;
 - institutions of higher education;
 - individuals, partnerships, firms, and corporations (for-profit organizations must waive their fees); and

○ private agencies with expertise in judicial administration.

▪ SJI may also make awards to State or local agencies and institutions other than courts for services that cannot be adequately provided through nongovernmental arrangements (42 U.S.C. 10705(b)(3)).

SJI is prohibited from awarding grants to Federal, tribal, and international courts.

II. Grant Application Deadlines

The SJI Board of Directors makes awards on a quarterly basis aligned with the Federal fiscal year. Applications may be submitted at any time but will be considered for award based only on the timetable below.

TABLE 1—APPLICATION DEADLINES BY FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR QUARTER

Federal fiscal year quarter	Application due date
1	November 1.
2	February 1.
3	May 1.
4	August 1.

To be considered timely, an application must be submitted by the application deadline noted above. Applicants must use the SJI Grants Management System (GMS) to submit all applications and postaward documents. The SJI GMS is accessible at <https://gms.sji.gov>. SJI urges applicants to submit applications at least 72 hours prior to the application due date to allow time for the applicant to receive an application acceptance message and to correct in a timely fashion any problems that may arise, such as missing or incomplete forms.

Questions related to the SJI Grant Program or the SJI GMS should be directed to contact@sj.gov.

III. The Mission of the State Justice Institute

The State Justice Institute Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10701 *et seq.*) established SJI to improve the administration of justice in the State courts of the United States. Incorporated in the State of Virginia as a private, nonprofit corporation, SJI is charged, by statute, with the responsibility to:

- direct a national program of financial assistance designed to ensure that each citizen of the United States is provided ready access to a fair and effective system of justice,
- foster coordination and cooperation with the Federal judiciary,
- promote recognition of the importance of the separation-of-powers

²¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

doctrine to an independent judiciary, and

- encourage education for judges and support personnel of State court systems through national and State organizations.

To accomplish these broad objectives, SJI is authorized to provide funding to State courts, national organizations that support and are supported by State courts, national judicial education organizations, and other organizations that can assist in improving the quality of justice in the State courts.

Through the award of grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements, SJI is authorized to perform the following activities:

- support technical assistance, demonstrations, special projects, research, and training to improve the administration of justice in the State courts;
- provide for the preparation, publication, and dissemination of information regarding State judicial systems;
- participate in joint projects with Federal agencies and other private grantors;
- evaluate or provide for the evaluation of programs and projects to determine their impact upon the quality of criminal, civil, and juvenile justice and the extent to which they have contributed to improving the quality of justice in the State courts;
- encourage and assist in furthering judicial education; and
- encourage, assist, and serve in a consulting capacity State and local courts in the development, maintenance, and coordination of criminal, civil, and juvenile justice programs and services.

SJI is supervised by a board of directors appointed by the U.S. President, with the advice and consent of the U.S. Senate. The SJI Board of Directors is statutorily composed of six judges, a State court administrator, and four members of the public, no more than two of whom may belong to the same political party. Additional information about SJI, including a list of members of the SJI Board of Directors, is available at <https://www.sji.gov>.

a. Priority Investment Areas

The SJI Board of Directors has established Priority Investment Areas for grant funding. SJI will allocate significant financial resources through grants for these Priority Investment Areas. The Priority Investment Areas are applicable to all grant types. SJI strongly encourages potential grant applicants to consider projects addressing one or more of these Priority Investment Areas

and to integrate the following factors into each proposed project:

- evidence-based, data-driven decision making;
- cross-sector collaboration;
- systemic approaches (as opposed to standalone programs);
- institutionalization of new court processes and procedures;
- ease of replication; and
- sustainability.

For FY 2027, the Priority Investment Areas are listed below in no specific order.

1. Opioids and Other Dangerous Drugs and Behavioral Health Responses

- *Opioids and Behavioral Health Court Responses*—Research indicates that justice-involved persons have significantly greater proportions of mental, substance-use, and cooccurring disorders than are found in the general public. SJI supports cross-sector collaboration and information sharing that emphasize policies and practices designed to improve court responses to justice-involved persons with behavioral health and other cooccurring needs.

- *Trauma-Informed Approaches*—Judges, court staff, system stakeholders, and court-involved persons (e.g., defendants, respondents, and victims) alike may be impacted by prior trauma. This is particularly, but not exclusively, true for those with mental illness and/or substance-use disorders. SJI supports trauma-informed training, policies, and practices in all aspects of the judicial process.

- Due to limited grant resources, SJI will not support grants that propose to maintain, enhance, or expand the operations of problem-solving courts. SJI will continue to prioritize innovative projects that can be replicated across the United States regardless of court type. SJI encourages potential applicants to consider Federal grant funding for these activities. Information regarding other funding opportunities is available on SJI's Funding Toolkit, the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs Current Funding Opportunities page, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Grants Dashboard.

2. Promoting Access to Justice and Procedural Fairness

- *Procedural Fairness*—A fundamental role of courts is to ensure fair processes and just outcomes for litigants. SJI promotes the integration of research-based procedural-fairness principles, policies, and practices into

State court operations to increase public trust and confidence in the court system, reduce recidivism, and increase compliance with court orders.

- *Self-Represented Litigation*—SJI promotes court-based solutions to address increases in self-represented litigants; helps make courts more user-friendly by simplifying court forms; provides one-on-one assistance; develops guides, handbooks, and instructions on how to proceed; develops court-based self-help centers; and uses internet technologies to increase access. These projects are improving outcomes for litigants and saving valuable court resources.

3. Protecting Victims, Underserved Populations, and Vulnerable Populations

- *Human Trafficking*—SJI addresses the impact of Federal and State human-trafficking laws on the State courts and the challenges faced by State courts in dealing with cases involving trafficking victims and their families, including victims who are U.S. citizens. These efforts are intended to empower State courts to identify victims, link them with vital services, and hold traffickers accountable.

- *Rural Justice*—Rural areas and their justice systems routinely have fewer resources and more barriers—such as unavailability of services, lack of transportation, and smaller workforces—than their urban counterparts. Programs and practices that are effective in urban areas are often inappropriate and/or lack research supporting their implementation in rural areas. SJI supports rural courts by identifying promising and best practices and promoting resources, education, and training opportunities that are uniquely designed for rural courts and court users.

- *Guardianship, Conservatorship, and Elder Issues*—SJI assists courts in improving court oversight of guardians and conservators for the elderly and incapacitated adults through visitor programs, electronic reporting, and training.

4. Advancing Justice Reform

- *Criminal Justice Reform*—SJI assists State courts in promoting offender accountability and oversight; fostering transparency, governance, and structural reforms that promote access to justice; and implementing innovative diversion and reentry programs that serve to improve outcomes for justice-involved persons and reduce the impact of the costs of the justice system.

- *Juvenile Justice Reform*—SJI supports innovative projects that

advance best practices in handling dependency and delinquency cases, promote effective court oversight of juveniles in the justice system, address the impact of trauma on juvenile behavior, assist the courts in identifying appropriate services for juveniles, and address juvenile reentry.

- *Family and Civil Justice Reform*—SJI promotes court-based solutions for the myriad types of civil cases, such as domestic relations, housing, employment, and debt collection, which are overwhelming court dockets.

5. Transforming Courts

- *Courthouse and Public Safety*—In the current climate of increasing threats and acts of violence against courthouses across the nation, State and local courts are seeking new and innovative ways to enhance the safety of courthouses. SJI has long recognized the need to assist State and local courts in improving the safety of the public, court staff, and judges in court facilities.

- *Technology*—Courts must integrate technological advances into daily judicial processes and proceedings. SJI supports projects that institutionalize innovative technology that has successfully advanced the use of electronic filing and payment systems, online dispute resolution, remote work, and virtual court proceedings. SJI promotes projects that streamline case-filing and case-management processes, thereby reducing time and costs to litigants and the courts; provide litigants with online access to courts so that disputes can be resolved more efficiently; and make structural changes to court services that enable them to evolve into an online environment. Additionally, SJI supports the examination of the potential integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into court processes, including identification of positive outcomes and potential limitations of AI.

- *Cybersecurity*—Courts must also be prepared for cyberattacks on court systems, such as denial-of-service and ransomware attacks on court case-management systems, websites, and other critical information technology infrastructure. SJI supports projects that assist courts in preparing for and responding to these attacks and shares lessons learned with courts across the United States.

- *Emergency Response and Recovery*—Courts must be prepared for natural disasters and public health emergencies and institutionalize the most effective and efficient practices and processes that evolve during response and recovery. SJI supports projects that look to the future of

judicial service delivery by identifying and replicating innovations and alternative means of conducting court business due to public health emergencies, such as pandemics, and natural disasters, such as hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, and wildfires.

- *Strategic Planning*—Courts must rely on a deliberate process to determine organizational values, mission, vision, goals, and objectives. SJI promotes structured planning processes and organizational assessments to assist courts in setting priorities, allocating resources, and identifying areas for ongoing improvements in efficiency and effectiveness. Strategic planning includes elements of court governance, data collection, management, analysis, sharing, and sustainable court governance models that drive decision making. Strategic plans and outcomes must be communicated to judges, court staff, justice partners, and the public.

- SJI intends to support strategic planning but, absent exigent circumstances, limit such support to a single grant award due to limited resources. In addition, applicants must describe how they will implement their strategic plan, including the specific steps, timelines, and responsible parties involved in carrying out identified goals and objectives. Applicants must also describe how they will support and sustain their planning efforts on an ongoing basis after the conclusion of the project, including how they will build internal capacity, institutionalize planning processes, and ensure continued organizational commitment to periodically reassessing and updating the strategic plan.

- *Workforce Development*—State courts require a workforce that is adaptable to public demands for services. SJI supports projects that focus on the tools needed to enable judges, court managers, and staff to be innovative, forward-thinking court leaders.

IV. Grant Types

SJI supports five types of grants: Project, Technical Assistance (TA), Curriculum Adaptation and Training (CAT), Strategic Initiatives Grants (SIG) Program, and Education Support Program (ESP). A brief description of each type of grant is below.

a. Project Grant

Project grants are intended to support innovative education and training, research and evaluation, demonstration, and TA projects that can improve the administration of justice in State courts locally or nationwide. State court and national nonprofit applicants may

request up to \$300,000 for 36 months. Local court applicants may request up to \$200,000 for 24 months. Examples of expenses not covered by project grants include the salaries or benefits of full- or part-time court employees. Funding may not be used for the ordinary, routine operations of court systems.

All applicants for project grants must contribute a cash match greater than or equal to the SJI award amount. This means that grant awards by SJI must be matched at least dollar for dollar by grant applicants. For example, an applicant seeking a \$300,000 Project grant must provide a cash match of at least \$300,000. Applicants may contribute the required cash match directly or in cooperation with third parties. Funding from other Federal departments or agencies may not be used for a cash match.

b. TA Grant

TA grants are intended to provide State or local courts—or regional court associations—with sufficient support to obtain expert assistance to diagnose a problem, develop a response to that problem, and implement any needed changes. TA grants may not exceed \$75,000 or 12 months in duration. In calculating project duration, applicants are cautioned to fully consider the time required to issue a request for proposals, negotiate a contract with the selected provider, and execute the project. Funds may not be used for salaries or benefits of full- or part-time court employees.

Applicants for TA grants are required to contribute a total match (cash and in-kind) of no less than 50 percent of the SJI award amount, of which 20 percent must be cash. For example, an applicant seeking a \$75,000 TA grant must provide a \$37,500 match, of which up to \$30,000 can be in-kind and not less than \$7,500 must be cash. Funding from other Federal departments and agencies may not be used for a cash match.

c. CAT Grant

CAT grants are intended to (1) enable courts or national court associations to modify and adapt model curricula, course modules, or conference programs to meet States' or local jurisdictions' educational needs; train instructors to present portions or all of the curricula; and pilot-test them to determine their appropriateness, quality, and effectiveness; or (2) conduct judicial branch education and training programs, led by either expert or in-house personnel, designed to prepare judges and court personnel for innovations, reforms, and/or new technologies recently adopted by grantee courts. CAT grants may not

exceed \$40,000 or 12 months in duration. Examples of expenses not covered by CAT grants include the salaries or benefits of full- or part-time court employees.

Applicants for CAT grants are required to contribute a total match (cash and in-kind) of not less than 50 percent of the SJI award amount, of which 20 percent must be cash. For example, an applicant seeking a \$40,000 CAT grant must provide a \$20,000 match, of which up to \$16,000 can be in-kind and not less than \$4,000 must be cash. Funding from other Federal departments and agencies may not be used for a cash match.

d. SIG Program

The SIG Program provides SJI with the flexibility to address national court issues as they occur and develop solutions to those issues. This innovative approach allows SJI to use its expertise and the expertise and knowledge of its grantees to address key issues facing State courts across the United States.

The funding is used for grants or contractual services and is handled at the discretion of the SJI Board of Directors and staff. SJI requires the submission of a concept paper prior to the full application process. *Only applicants that submit an approved concept paper will be invited to submit a full application for funding. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact SJI prior to submitting a concept paper for guidance on this initial step.*

e. ESP for Judges and Court Managers

The ESP is intended to enhance the skills, knowledge, and abilities of State court judges and court managers by enabling them to attend educational and training programs out of State or enroll in online programs sponsored by national and State providers they could not otherwise attend or take online because of limited State, local, and personal budgets. The program covers only the cost of tuition up to a maximum of \$1,000 per course.

The ESP is administered by the National Judicial College (NJC) and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC)/Institute for Court Management (ICM), in partnership with SJI. For NJC courses, register online at <https://www.judges.org/courses>. For ICM courses, register online at <https://www.ncsc.org/courses>. During the respective registration processes, each website will ask whether a scholarship is needed to participate. Follow the online instructions to request tuition assistance.

V. Application and Submission Information

This section describes in detail what an application must include. An applicant should anticipate that failing to submit an application that contains all the specified project components may negatively affect the review of the application. Applicants must use the SJI GMS to submit all applications and postaward documents. The SJI GMS is accessible at <https://gms.sji.gov>.

a. Application Components

Applicants for SJI grants must submit the following forms and/or documents via the SJI GMS:

1. Application Form

The application form requests basic information regarding the proposed project, the applicant, and the total amount of funding requested from SJI. It also requires the signature of an individual authorized to certify on behalf of the applicant that the information contained in the application is true and complete; the submission of the application has been authorized by the applicant; and if funding for the proposed project is approved, the applicant will comply with the requirements and conditions of the award, including the assurances set forth in section V.a.4, *Assurances*, of this guideline.

2. Certificate of State Approval

An application from a State or local court must include a copy of the *Certificate of State Approval* signed by the State's chief justice or State court administrator. The signature denotes that the proposed project has been approved by the State's highest court or the agency or council it has designated. Further, the signature denotes that, if applicable, a cash-match reduction has been requested and that, if SJI approves funding for the project, the court or the specified designee will receive, administer, and be accountable for the awarded funds.

3. Budget Form

Applicants must provide a detailed budget and a budget narrative providing an explanation of the basis for the amounts in each budget category. If funds from other sources are required to conduct the project, either to provide a match or to support other aspects of the project, the source, the current status of the request, and the anticipated decision date must be provided.

4. Assurances

The *Assurances* form lists the statutory, regulatory, and policy

requirements with which recipients of SJI funds must comply.

5. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Applicants other than units of State or local government are required to disclose whether they, or another entity that is part of the same organization as the applicant, have advocated a position before Congress on any issue, and to identify the specific subjects of their lobbying efforts.

6. Project Abstract

The abstract must highlight the purposes, goals, methods, and anticipated benefits of the proposed project. It must not exceed one single-spaced page and must be uploaded on the "Attachments" tab in the SJI GMS.

7. Program Narrative

The program narrative for an application may not exceed 25 double-spaced pages on 8½- by 11-inch paper with 1-inch margins, using a standard 12-point font. The pages must be numbered. This page limit does not include the forms, the abstract, the budget narrative, or any additional attachments. The program narrative must address the following, noting any specific areas to address by grant type:

i. *Statement of Need.* Applicants must explain the critical need they are facing and how SJI funds will enable them to meet this critical need. The applicants must also explain why State or local resources are not sufficient to fully support the costs of the project.

Applicants must provide a verified data source (*i.e.*, a Federal, State, or local database) that supports the problem statement. The discussion must include specific references to the relevant literature and to experience in the field. SJI continues to make all grant reports and most grant products available online through the NCSC Library and Digital Archive. Applicants are required to conduct a search of the NCSC Library and Digital Archive on the topic areas they are addressing. This search must include SJI-funded grants and previous projects not supported by SJI. Searches for SJI grant reports and other State court resources begin with the NCSC Library section. Applicants must discuss the results of their research, how they plan to incorporate the previous work into their proposed project, and whether the project will differ from prior work.

ii. *Project Grants.* If the project is to be conducted at any specific location(s), applicants must discuss the particular needs of the project site(s) the project would address and why existing

programs, procedures, services, or other resources do not meet those needs.

If the project is not site-specific, the applicants must discuss the problems that the proposed project would address and why existing programs, procedures, services, or other resources cannot adequately resolve those problems. In addition, applicants must describe how, if applicable, the project will be sustained in the future through existing resources.

iii. TA Grants. Applicants must explain why State or local resources are unable to fully support the modification and presentation of the model curriculum. The applicants must also describe the potential for replicating or integrating the adapted curriculum in the future using State or local funds once it has been successfully adapted and tested. In addition, applicants must describe how, if applicable, the project will be sustained in the future through existing resources.

iv. CAT Grants (curriculum adaptation). Applicants must explain why State or local resources are unable to fully support the modification and presentation of the model curriculum. The applicants must also describe the potential for replicating or integrating the adapted curriculum in the future using State or local funds once it has been successfully adapted and tested.

v. CAT Grants (training). Applicants must describe the court reform or initiative prompting the need for training. Applicants must also discuss how the proposed training will help them implement planned changes at the court and why State or local resources are not sufficient to fully support the costs of the required training.

vi. SIGs. Applicants must detail the origin of the project (*i.e.*, requested by SJI or a request submitted to SJI) and provide a detailed description of the issue of national impact the proposed project will address, including any evaluations, reports, resolutions, or other data to support the need statement.

b. Project Description and Objectives

The applicants must include a clear, concise statement of what the proposed project is intended to accomplish and how those objectives will be met. Applicants must delineate the tasks to be performed in achieving the project objectives and the methods to be used for accomplishing each task.

Applicants must describe how the proposed project addresses one or more Priority Investment Areas. If the project does not address any Priority Investment Areas, the applicants must explain why.

1. Application Details by Project Type

i. Project Grants. The applicants must include detailed descriptions of tasks, methods, and evaluations. For example:

- *Research and evaluation projects.* The applicants must include the data sources, data-collection strategies, variables to be examined, and analytic procedures to be used for conducting the research or evaluation and ensuring the validity and general applicability of the results. For projects involving human subjects, the discussion of methods must address the procedures for obtaining respondents' informed consent, ensuring the respondents' privacy and freedom from risk or harm, and protecting others who are not the subjects of research but would be affected by the research. If the potential exists for risk or harm to human subjects, a discussion must be included that explains the value of the proposed research and the methods to be used to minimize or eliminate such risk. Refer to section VIII.r.3, *Human Subject Protection*, of this guideline for additional information.

- *Education and training projects.* The applicants must include the adult education techniques to be used in designing and presenting the program, including the teaching and learning objectives of the educational design, the teaching methods to be used, and the opportunities for structured interaction among the participants. The elements applicants must include are how faculty would be recruited, selected, and trained; the proposed number and length of the conferences, courses, seminars, or workshops to be conducted and the estimated number of persons who would attend them; the materials to be provided and how they would be developed; and the cost to participants.

- *Demonstration projects.* The applicants must include the demonstration sites and the reasons they were selected or, if the sites have not been chosen, how they would be identified; how the applicants would obtain the cooperation of demonstration sites; and how the program or procedures would be implemented and monitored.

- *TA projects.* The applicants must explain the types of assistance that would be provided, the particular issues and problems for which assistance would be provided, how the type of assistance would be determined, how suitable providers would be selected and briefed, and how reports would be reviewed.

ii. TA Grants. Applicants must identify which organization or individual will be hired to provide the

assistance and how the consultant was selected. The applicants must describe the tasks the consultant will perform and how the tasks will be accomplished.

If a consultant has not yet been identified, the applicants must describe the procedures and criteria that will be used to select the consultant (applicants are expected to follow their jurisdictions' normal procedures for procuring consultant services).

If the consultant has been identified, the applicants must provide a letter from that individual or organization documenting interest in and availability for the project, as well as the consultant's ability to complete the assignment within the proposed timeframe and for the proposed cost. The consultant must agree to submit a detailed written report to the court and SJI upon completion of the TA. Applicants must then describe the steps that have been or will be taken to facilitate implementation of the consultant's recommendations upon completion of the technical assistance.

The applicants must then address the following questions:

- What specific tasks will the consultant and court staff undertake?
- What is the schedule for completion of each required task and the entire project?
- How will the applicant oversee the project and provide guidance to the consultant, and who at the court or regional court association would be responsible for coordinating all project tasks and submitting Quarterly Progress and Financial Status Reports?

iii. CAT Grants (curriculum adaptation). The applicants must provide the title of the curriculum that will be adapted and identify the entity that originally developed the curriculum. Applicants must allow at least 90 days between the potential award date and the date of the proposed program to allow sufficient time for planning. This period should be reflected in the project timeline. The applicants must also address the following questions:

- Why is this education program needed at the present time?
- What are the project's goals?
- What are the learning objectives of the adapted curriculum?
- What program components would be implemented, and what types of modifications, if any, are anticipated in length, format, learning objectives, teaching methods, or content?
- Who would be responsible for adapting the model curriculum?
- Who would the participants be, how many would there be, how would they be recruited, and from where

would they come (*e.g.*, from a single local jurisdiction, from across the State, from a multistate region, from across the nation, etc.)?

The applicants must also provide the proposed timeline, including the project start and end dates, the date(s) the judicial branch education program will be presented, and the process that will be used to modify and present the program. Applicants must also identify who will serve as faculty and how faculty members will be selected, in addition to the measures taken to facilitate subsequent presentations of the program.

iv. CAT Grants (training). The applicants must identify the tasks the trainer will be expected to perform; which organization or individual will be hired; and, if in-house personnel will not serve as the trainer, how the trainer will be selected.

If a trainer has not yet been identified, the applicants must describe the procedures and criteria that will be used to select the trainer.

If the trainer has been identified, the applicants must provide a letter from that individual or organization documenting interest in and availability for the project, as well as the trainer's ability to complete the assignment within the proposed timeframe and for the proposed cost.

In addition, the applicants must address the following questions:

- What specific tasks would the trainer and court staff or regional court association members undertake?
- What presentation methods will be used?
- What is the schedule for completion of each required task and the entire project?
- How will the applicant oversee the project and provide guidance to the trainer, and who at the court or affiliated with the regional court association would be responsible for coordinating all project tasks and submitting Quarterly Progress and Financial Status Reports?
- What steps have been or will be taken to coordinate the implementation of the training? For example, if the support or cooperation of specific court or regional court association officials, committees, other agencies, funding bodies, organizations, or a court other than the applicant will be needed to adopt the reform and initiate the proposed training, how will the applicant secure their involvement in the development and implementation of the training?

v. SIGs. The applicants should expand upon the project description and objectives described in the approved

concept paper. Any and all feedback and questions submitted by the SJI Board of Directors and staff during the review of the concept paper should also be incorporated into the project design.

2. Dissemination Plan

The application must (1) explain how and to whom the products would be disseminated and describe how they would benefit the State courts, including how they could be used by judges and court personnel; (2) identify development, production, and dissemination costs covered by the project budget; and (3) present the basis on which products and services developed or provided under the grant would be offered to the court community and the public at large (*i.e.*, whether products would be distributed at no cost to recipients or, if costs were involved, the reason for charging recipients and the estimated price of the product). Ordinarily, applicants must schedule all product preparation and distribution activities within the project period.

The type of product to be prepared depends on the nature of the project. For example, in most instances, the products of a research, evaluation, or demonstration project must include (1) an article summarizing the project findings that is publishable in a journal serving the court community nationally, (2) an executive summary that would be disseminated to the project's primary audience, or (3) both an article and an executive summary. Applicants proposing to conduct empirical research or evaluation projects with national import must describe how they would make their data available for secondary analysis after the grant period.

The curricula and other products developed through education and training projects must be designed for use by others and again by the original participants in the course of their duties. Applicants proposing to develop web-based products must provide, for sending, a notice and description of the document (*i.e.*, a written report with a reference to the website) to the appropriate audiences to alert them to the availability of the website or electronic product.

Applicants must submit a final draft of all written grant products to SJI for review and approval at least 30 days before the products are submitted for publication or reproduction. Applicants must provide multimedia products for SJI review at the treatment, script, rough-cut, and final stages of development, or their equivalents. No grant funds may be obligated for publication or reproduction of a final

grant product without the written approval of SJI. Project products should be submitted to SJI electronically in HTML or PDF format.

Applicants must also include in all project products a prominent acknowledgment that SJI provided support and a disclaimer paragraph such as, "This [document, film, videotape, etc.] was developed under [grant/cooperative agreement] number SJI-[insert number] from the State Justice Institute. The points of view expressed are those of the [author(s), filmmaker(s), etc.] and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the State Justice Institute." The SJI logo must appear on the front cover of a written product or in the opening frames of a website or other multimedia product, unless SJI approves another placement. The SJI logo can be downloaded from SJI's website (<https://www.sji.gov>) at the bottom of the "Grants" page.

3. Staff Capability and Organizational Capacity

An applicant that is not a State or local court and has not received a grant from SJI within the past 3 years must indicate whether it is either (1) a national nonprofit organization controlled by, operating in conjunction with, and serving the judicial branches of State governments; or (2) a national nonprofit organization for the education and training of State court judges and support personnel. If the applicant is a nonjudicial unit of Federal, State, or local government, it must explain whether the proposed services could be adequately provided by nongovernmental entities.

Applicants that have not received a grant from SJI within the past 3 years must include a statement describing their capacity to administer grant funds, including the financial systems used to monitor project expenditures (and income, if any), a summary of their past experience in administering grants, and any resources or capabilities they have that would particularly assist in the successful completion of the project.

Unless requested otherwise, an applicant that has received a grant from SJI within the past 3 years must describe only the changes in its organizational capacity, tax status, or financial capability that may affect its capacity to administer a grant. If the applicant is a nonprofit organization (other than a university), it must also provide documentation of its 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status as determined by the Internal Revenue Service and a copy of a current certified audit report. For the purpose of this requirement, "current"

means no earlier than 2 years prior to the present calendar year.

The applicant must include a summary of key staff members' and consultants' training and experience that qualify them to conduct and manage the proposed project. Resumes of identified staff should be attached to the application. If one or more key staff members or consultants are not known at the time of the application, a description of the criteria that would be used to select persons for these positions should be included. The applicant must also identify the person who would be responsible for managing and reporting on the financial aspects of the proposed project.

4. Evaluation

Projects must include an evaluation plan to determine whether the project has met its objectives. The evaluation must be designed to provide an objective and independent assessment of the effectiveness or usefulness of the training or services provided; the impact of the procedures, technology, or services tested; or the validity and applicability of the research conducted. The evaluation plan must be appropriate to the type of project proposed, considering the nature, scope, and magnitude of the project.

5. Sustainability

Applicants must describe how the project will be sustained after SJI assistance ends. The sustainability plan must describe how current collaborations and evaluations will be used to leverage ongoing resources. SJI encourages applicants to ensure sustainability by coordinating with local, State, and other Federal resources.

c. Budget and Matching State Contribution

Applicants must complete a budget in the SJI GMS and upload a budget narrative. The budget narrative must provide the basis for all project-related costs and the sources of any match, as required. The budget narrative must thoroughly and clearly describe every category of expense listed. SJI expects proposed budgets to be complete, cost effective, and allowable (*i.e.*, reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

1. *Prohibited Uses of SJI Funds.* To ensure that funds made available are used to supplement and improve the operation of State courts, rather than to support basic court services, funds shall not be used:

- To supplant State or local funds supporting a program or activity (*e.g.*, paying the salaries of court employees

who would be performing their normal duties as part of the project or paying rent for space that is part of the court's normal operations).

- To construct court facilities or structures.

- Solely to purchase equipment.

Examples of *basic court services* include:

- Hiring of personnel
- Purchase and/or maintenance of equipment
- Purchase of software and/or licenses
- Purchase of internet access or service
- Supplies to support the day-to-day operations of courts

The final determination of what constitutes basic court services is made by SJI and is not negotiable.

Meals and refreshments are not allowable costs.

Trinkets (*e.g.*, hats, mugs, portfolios, T-shirts, coins, gift bags, gift cards, etc.) may not be purchased with SJI grant funding.

2. Justification of Personnel

Compensation. The applicants must set forth the amount of time the individuals who would staff the proposed project would devote, the annual salary of each of those persons, and the number of workdays per year used to calculate the amount of time or daily rates of those individuals. The applicants must explain any deviations from current rates or established written organizational policies. No grant funds or cash match may be used to pay the salary and related costs for a current or new employee of a court or other unit of government because such funds would constitute a supplantation of State or local funds in violation of 42 U.S.C. 10706(d)(1); this includes new employees hired specifically for the project. The salary and any related costs for a current or new employee of a court or other unit of government may only be accepted as an in-kind match.

3. *Fringe-Benefit Computation.* For nongovernmental entities, applicants must provide a description of the fringe benefits provided to employees. If percentages are used, the authority for such use should be presented, as well as a description of the elements included in the determination of the percentage rate.

4. *Consultant/Contractual Services and Honoraria.* The applicants must describe the tasks each consultant would perform, the estimated total amount to be paid to each consultant, the basis for compensation rates (*e.g.*, the number of days multiplied by the daily consultant rates), and the method for selection. Prior written SJI approval is required for any consultant rate in

excess of \$800 per day; SJI funds may not be used to pay a consultant more than \$1,100 per day. Honorarium payments must be justified in the same manner as consultant payments.

5. *Travel.* Transportation costs and per diem rates must comply with the policies of the applicant organization. If the applicant does not have an established travel policy, then travel rates must be consistent with those established by the Federal Government. The budget narrative must include an explanation of the rate used, including the components of the per diem rate and the basis for the estimated transportation expenses. The purpose of the travel must also be included in the narrative.

6. *Equipment.* Grant funds may be used to purchase only the equipment that is necessary to demonstrate a new technological application in a court or that is otherwise essential to accomplishing the objectives of the project. In other words, grant funds cannot be used strictly for the purpose of purchasing equipment. Equipment purchases to support basic court operations will not be approved. Applicants must describe the equipment to be purchased or leased and explain why the acquisition of that equipment is essential to accomplish the project's goals and objectives. The narrative must clearly identify which equipment is to be leased and which is to be purchased. The method of procurement must also be described.

7. *Supplies.* Applicants must provide a general description of the supplies necessary to accomplish the goals and objectives of the grant. In addition, the applicants must provide the basis for the amount requested for this expenditure category.

8. *Construction.* Construction expenses are prohibited.

9. *Postage.* Anticipated postage costs for project-related mailings, including distribution of the final product(s), should be described in the budget narrative. The cost of special mailings, such as for a survey or for announcing a workshop, should be distinguished from routine mailing costs. The bases for all postage estimates should be included in the budget narrative.

10. Printing/Photocopying.

Anticipated costs for printing or photocopying project documents, reports, and publications must be included in the budget narrative, along with the bases used to calculate these estimates.

11. *Indirect Costs.* Indirect costs are only applicable to organizations that are not State courts or government agencies. Recoverable indirect costs are limited to

no more than 75 percent of a grantee's direct personnel costs (*i.e.*, salaries plus fringe benefits). Applicants must describe the indirect-cost rates applicable to the grant in detail. If costs often included within an indirect-cost rate are charged directly (*e.g.*, a percentage of the time of senior managers to supervise project activities), the applicants should specify that these costs are not included within their approved indirect-cost rate. If an applicant has an indirect-cost rate or allocation plan approved by any Federal granting agency, a copy of the approved rate agreement must be attached to the application.

12. Matching Requirements. SJI grants require a match, which is the portion of project costs not borne by SJI and includes both cash and in-kind matches as outlined in this paragraph. A cash match is the direct outlay of funds by the grantee or a third party to support the project. Other Federal department and agency funding may not be used for a cash match. An in-kind match consists of contributions of time and/or services from current staff members and new employees as well as space, supplies, and other resources provided to the project by the grantee or others (*e.g.*, advisory board members) working directly on the project. An in-kind match can also consist of that portion of the grantee's Federally approved indirect-cost rate that exceeds the limit of permitted charges (75 percent of salaries and benefits).

The grantee is responsible for ensuring that the total amount of the match proposed is contributed. If a proposed contribution is not fully met, SJI may reduce the award amount accordingly, to maintain the ratio originally provided for in the award agreement. The match should be expended at the same rate as SJI funding.

i. Project Grants. Applicants for project grants must contribute a cash match greater than or equal to the SJI award amount. This means that grant awards by SJI must be matched at least dollar for dollar by grant applicants. For example, an applicant seeking a \$300,000 Project grant must provide a cash match of at least \$300,000. Applicants may contribute the required cash match directly or in cooperation with third parties.

ii. TA Grants. Applicants for TA grants are required to contribute a total match (cash and in-kind) of no less than 50 percent of the SJI award amount, of which 20 percent must be cash. For example, an applicant seeking a \$75,000 TA grant must provide a \$37,500 match,

of which up to \$30,000 can be in-kind and not less than \$7,500 must be cash.

iii. CAT Grants. Applicants for CAT grants are required to contribute a total match (cash and in-kind) of not less than 50 percent of the SJI award amount, of which 20 percent must be cash. For example, an applicant seeking a \$40,000 CAT grant must provide a \$20,000 match, of which up to \$16,000 can be in-kind and not less than \$4,000 must be cash. Funding from other Federal departments and agencies may not be used for a cash match.

iv. SIGs. State and local courts and noncourt units of government must provide a dollar-for-dollar cash match for SIG projects. Matching funds may not be required for SIG projects that are awarded to noncourt or nongovernmental entities.

13. Letters of Support. Written assurances of support or cooperation should accompany the application letter if the support or cooperation of agencies, funding bodies, organizations, or courts other than the applicant would be needed in order for the consultant to perform the required tasks. Applicants may also submit memorandums of agreement or understanding, as appropriate.

14. Project Timeline. A project timeline detailing each project objective, activity, expected completion date, and responsible person or organization should be included. The plan should include the starting and completion dates for each task; the time commitments to the project of key staff and their responsibilities regarding each project task; and the procedures that would ensure that all tasks are performed on time, within budget, and at the highest level of quality. In preparing the project timeline, applicants must make certain that all project activities, including publication or reproduction of project products and their initial dissemination, would occur within the proposed project period. The project timeline must also provide for the submission of Quarterly Progress and Financial Status Reports within 30 days after the close of each calendar quarter, as well as submission of all final closeout documents. The project timeline may be included in the program narrative or provided as a separate attachment.

15. Other Attachments. Resumes of key project staff may also be included. Additional background material should be attached only if it is essential to impart a clear understanding of the proposed project. Numerous and lengthy appendixes are strongly discouraged.

d. Application Review Information

1. Selection Criteria. In addition to the criteria detailed below, SJI will consider the following factors when determining which projects to support: whether the applicant is a State or local court, a national court support or education organization, a noncourt unit of government, or another type of entity eligible to receive grants under SJI's enabling legislation; the availability of financial assistance from other sources for the project; the diversity of subject matter; geographic diversity; the level and nature of the match that would be provided; the reasonableness of the proposed budget; the extent to which the proposed project would also benefit the Federal courts or help State or local courts enforce Federal constitutional and legislative requirements; and the level of appropriations available to SJI in the current year and the amount expected to be available in succeeding fiscal years.

2. Project Grant Applications. Project grant applications will be rated based on the criteria set forth below:

- Soundness of the methodology.
 - Demonstration of need for the project.
 - Appropriateness of the proposed evaluation design.
 - If applicable, the key findings and recommendations of the most recent evaluation and the proposed responses to those findings and recommendations.
 - Applicant's management plan and organizational capabilities.
 - Qualifications of the project's staff.
 - Products and benefits resulting from the project, including the extent to which the project will have long-term benefits for State courts across the nation.
 - Degree to which the findings, procedures, training, technology, or other results of the project can be transferred to other jurisdictions.
 - Reasonableness of the proposed budget.
 - Demonstration of cooperation and support of other agencies that may be affected by the project.
- 3. TA Grant Applications.** TA grant applications will be rated based on the following criteria:
- Whether the assistance would address a critical need of the applicant.
 - Soundness of the technical assistance approach to the problem.
 - Qualifications of the consultant(s) to be hired or the specific criteria that will be used to select the consultant(s).
 - Commitment of the court or association to act on the consultant's recommendations.
 - Reasonableness of the proposed budget.

4. *CAT Grant Applications.* CAT grant applications will be rated based on the following criteria:

- Goals and objectives of the proposed project.
- How the training would address a critical need of the court or association.
- Need for outside funding to support the program.
- Soundness of the approach in achieving the project's educational or training objectives.
- Integration of distance learning and technology in project design and delivery.
- Qualifications of the trainer(s) to be hired or the specific criteria that will be used to select the trainer(s) (training project only).
- Likelihood of effective implementation and integration of the modified curriculum into the State or local jurisdiction's ongoing educational programming (curriculum adaptation project only).
- Commitment of the court or association to the training program (training project only).
- Expressions of interest by judges and/or court personnel, as demonstrated by letters of support.

5. *SIG Applications.* SIG applications will be rated based on the following criteria:

- Goals and objectives of the proposed project.
- Demonstration of need for the project.
- Degree to which the project addresses a current national court issue.
- Level of innovation in addressing the identified need.
- Potential impact on the court community.
- Qualifications of the consultant(s) engaged to manage the project.

6. *Review Process.* SJI reviews the application to make sure that the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with this guideline. Applications must meet basic minimum requirements. Although specific requirements may vary by grant type, the following are common requirements applicable to all SJI grant applications:

- Must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.
- Must request funding within funding constraints of each grant type (if applicable).
- Must be within statutorily allowable expenditures.
- Must include all required forms and documents.

The SJI Board of Directors reviews all applications and makes final funding decisions. The decision to fund a project

is solely that of the SJI Board of Directors.

7. *Notification of SJI Board of Directors Decision.* The chairman of the board signs grant awards on behalf of SJI. SJI will notify applicants regarding the SJI Board of Directors' decisions to award, defer, or deny their respective applications. If requested, SJI conveys the key issues and questions that arose during the review process. A decision by the SJI Board of Directors to deny an application may not be appealed, but it does not prohibit resubmission of a proposal in a subsequent funding cycle.

8. *Response to Notification of Award.* Grantees have 30 days from the date they were notified about their award to respond to any revisions requested by the SJI Board of Directors. If the requested revisions (or a reasonable schedule for submitting such revisions) have not been submitted to SJI within 30 days after notification, the award may be rescinded, and the application may be presented to the SJI Board of Directors for reconsideration. Special conditions, in the form of incentives or sanctions, may also be used in other situations.

VI. How To Apply

Applicants must use the SJI GMS to submit all applications and postaward documents. SJI urges applicants to submit applications at least 72 hours prior to the application due date in order to allow time for the applicant to receive an application acceptance message and to correct, in a timely fashion, any problems that may arise, such as missing or incomplete forms. Files must be in .doc, .docx, .xls, .xlsx, .pdf, .jpg, or .png format. Individual file size cannot exceed 5 MB.

a. Submission Steps

Applicants (except for ESP) must register with the SJI GMS to submit applications for funding consideration. Below are the basic steps for submission:

1. Access the SJI GMS and complete the information required to create an account.
2. If you already have an account, log in and create a new application.
3. Complete all required forms and upload all required documents:
 - Application Form.
 - Certificate of State Approval.
 - Budget and Budget Narrative.
 - Assurances.
 - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities.
 - Project Abstract.
 - Program Narrative.
 - Attachments.
 - Letters of Support.
 - Project Timeline.

- Resumes.
- Indirect-Cost Approval.
- Other Attachments.

4. Certify and submit the application to SJI for review.

VII. Postaward Reporting Requirements

All required reports and documents must be submitted via the SJI GMS.

a. Quarterly Reporting Requirements

Recipients of SJI funds must submit Quarterly Progress and Financial Status Reports within 30 days after the close of each calendar quarter (*i.e.*, no later than January 30, April 30, July 30, and October 30).

1. *Program Progress Reports.* Program Progress Reports must include a narrative description of project activities during the calendar quarter; the relationship between those activities, the task schedule, and objectives set forth in the approved application or an approved adjustment thereto; any significant problem areas that have developed and how they will be resolved; and the activities scheduled during the next reporting period. Failure to comply with the requirements of this provision could result in the termination of a grantee's award.

2. *Financial Reporting.* A Financial Status Report is required from all grantees for each active quarter on a calendar-quarter basis. This report is due within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter. It is designed to provide financial information relating to SJI funds, State and local matching shares, project income, and any other sources of funds for the project, as well as information on obligations and outlays.

b. Request for Reimbursement of Funds

Awardees will receive funds on a reimbursable basis via electronic funds transfer (EFT). All requests for reimbursement must include a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) generated by the System for Award Management (SAM) with an active registration. Upon receipt, review, and approval of a request for reimbursement by SJI, payment will be issued directly to the grantee or its designated fiscal agent. Requests for reimbursements, along with the instructions for their preparation, are available in the SJI GMS.

1. *Accounting System.* Awardees are responsible for establishing and maintaining an adequate system of accounting and internal controls. Awardees are also responsible for ensuring an adequate system exists for each of their subgrantees and

contractors. An acceptable and adequate accounting system:

- Properly accounts for receipt of funds under each grant awarded and the expenditure of funds for each grant by category of expenditure (including matching contributions and project income).

- Assures that expended funds are applied to the appropriate budget category included within the approved grant.

- Presents and classifies historical costs of the grant as required for budgetary and evaluation purposes.

- Provides cost and property controls to assure optimal use of grant funds.

- Is integrated with a system of internal controls adequate to safeguard the funds and assets covered, check the accuracy and reliability of the accounting data, promote operational efficiency, and assure conformance with any general or special conditions of the grant.

- Meets the prescribed requirements for periodic financial reporting of operations.

- Provides financial data for planning, control, measurement, and evaluation of direct and indirect costs.

c. Final Progress Report

The Final Progress Report must describe the project activities during the final calendar quarter of the project and the closeout period, including to whom project products have been disseminated; provide a summary of activities during the entire project; specify whether all the objectives set forth in the approved application or an approved adjustment have been met and, if any of the objectives have not been met, explain why not; and discuss what, if anything, could have been done differently that might have enhanced the impact of the project or improved its operation. In addition, grantees are required to submit electronic copies of the final products related to the project (e.g., reports, curriculum, etc.). These reporting requirements apply at the conclusion of every grant.

VIII. Compliance Requirements

a. Advocacy

No funds made available by SJI may be used to support or conduct training programs for the purpose of advocating particular nonjudicial public policies or encouraging nonjudicial political activities (42 U.S.C. 10706(b)).

b. Approval of Key Staff

If the qualifications of an employee or consultant assigned to a key project staff position are not adequately described in

the application or if there is a change of a person assigned to such a position, the recipient must submit a description of the qualifications of the newly assigned person to SJI. Prior written approval of the qualifications of the new person assigned to a key staff position must be received from SJI before the salary or consulting fee of that person and associated costs may be paid or reimbursed from grant funds.

c. Audit

Recipients of SJI grants must provide for an annual fiscal audit, which includes an opinion on whether the financial statements of the grantee fairly present its financial position and its financial operations in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. If requested, a copy of the audit report must be made available electronically to SJI.

d. Budget Revisions

Prior SJI approval is required for budget revisions among direct-cost categories that (1) transfer grant funds to an unbudgeted cost category or (2) individually or cumulatively exceed 5 percent of the approved original budget or the most recently approved revised budget. Refer to section X, *Grant Adjustments*, of this guideline for additional details about the process for modifying the project budget.

e. Conflict of Interest

Personnel and other officials connected with SJI-funded programs must adhere to the following requirements:

- Officials or employees of a recipient court or organization must not participate personally through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, the rendering of advice, investigation, or otherwise in any proceeding, application, request for a ruling or other determination, contract, grant, cooperative agreement, claim, controversy, or other particular matter in which SJI funds are used where, to their knowledge, they or their immediate family; partners; organization other than a public agency in which they are serving as officer, director, trustee, partner, or employee; or any person or organization with whom they are negotiating or have any arrangement concerning prospective employment have a financial interest.

- In the use of SJI project funds, an official or employee of a recipient court or organization must avoid any action that might result in or create the appearance of:

- using an official position for private gain, or

- adversely affecting the confidence of the public in the integrity of the SJI program.

- Requests for proposals (RFPs) or invitations for bids issued by a recipient of SJI funds or a subgrantee or subcontractor will provide notice to prospective bidders that the contractors who develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, and/or RFPs for a proposed procurement will be excluded from bidding on or submitting a proposal to compete for the award of such procurement.

f. Inventions and Patents

If any patentable items, patent rights, processes, or inventions are produced during the course of SJI-sponsored work, such fact must be promptly and fully reported to SJI. Unless there is a prior agreement between the grantee and SJI on the disposition of such items, SJI will determine whether protection of the invention or discovery may be sought should the grantee choose to pursue such protection.

g. Lobbying

Funds awarded to recipients by SJI must not be used—directly or indirectly—to influence Executive orders or similar promulgations by Federal, State, or local agencies or to influence the passage or defeat of any legislation by Federal, State, or local legislative bodies (42 U.S.C. 10706(a)).

It is the policy of the SJI Board of Directors to award funds only to support applications submitted by organizations that would carry out the objectives of their applications in an unbiased manner. Consistent with this policy and the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 10706, SJI will not knowingly award a grant to an applicant that has, directly or through an entity that is part of the same organization as the applicant, advocated a position before Congress on the specific subject matter of the application.

h. Matching Requirements

All grant recipients are required to provide a match. A match is the portion of project costs not borne by SJI. A match includes both cash and in-kind contributions. A cash match is the direct outlay of funds by the grantee or a third party to support the project. An in-kind match for State and local courts or other units of government consists of contributions of time and/or services from current staff members and new employees as well as space, supplies, and other resources provided to the project by the grantee or others (e.g., advisory board members) working directly on the project. Generally, these

same items are considered cash matches for nongovernmental entities. For nongovernmental entities, a Federally approved indirect-cost rate may be used as an in-kind match for that portion of the rate that exceeds the limit of permitted charges for indirect costs (75 percent of salaries and benefits).

Under normal circumstances, an allowable match may be incurred only during the project period. The amount and nature of the required match depend on the type of grant. Refer to section V.c.12, *Matching Requirements*, of this guideline for details by grant type.

The grantee is responsible for ensuring that the total amount of the match proposed is contributed. If a proposed contribution is not fully met, SJI may reduce the award amount accordingly to maintain the ratio originally provided for in the award agreement. The match should be expended at the same rate as SJI funding.

The SJI Board of Directors looks favorably upon any unrequired match contributed by applicants when making grant decisions. The match requirement may be waived in exceptionally rare circumstances upon the request of the chief justice of the highest court in the State or the highest-ranking official in the requesting organization, and with the approval of the SJI Board of Directors (42 U.S.C. 10705(d)). The SJI Board of Directors encourages all applicants to provide the maximum amount of cash and in-kind match possible, even if a waiver is approved. The amount and nature of the match are criteria in the grant-selection process.

Other Federal department and agency funding may not be used for a cash match.

i. Nondiscrimination

No person may, on the basis of race, sex, national origin, disability, color, or creed, be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity supported by SJI funds. Recipients of SJI funds must take any measures necessary to effectuate this provision immediately.

j. Political Activities

No recipient may contribute or make available SJI funds, program personnel, or equipment to any political party or association or the campaign of any candidate for public or party office. Recipients are also prohibited from using funds in advocating or opposing any ballot measure, initiative, or referendum. Officers and employees of recipients must not intentionally

identify SJI or recipients with any partisan or nonpartisan political activity associated with a political party or association or the campaign of any candidate for public or party office (42 U.S.C. 10706(a)).

k. Products

1. Acknowledgment, Logo, and Disclaimer. Recipients of SJI funds must acknowledge prominently on all products that were developed with grant funds that support was received from SJI. The SJI logo must appear on the front cover of a written product or in the opening frames of a multimedia product, unless another placement is approved in writing by SJI. This includes final products printed or otherwise reproduced during the grant period as well as reprintings or reproductions of those materials following the end of the grant period. The SJI logo can be downloaded from SJI's website (<https://www.sji.gov>) at the bottom of the "Grants" page.

Recipients also must display the following disclaimer on all grant products: "This [document, film, videotape, etc.] was developed under [grant/cooperative agreement] number SJI-[insert number] from the State Justice Institute. The points of view expressed are those of the [author(s), filmmaker(s), etc.] and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the State Justice Institute."

i. Project Grants. In addition to other required grant products and reports, recipients must provide a one-page executive summary of the project. The summary should include a background on the project, the tasks undertaken, and the outcome. In addition, the summary should provide the performance metrics that were used during the project and how performance will be measured in the future.

ii. TA Grants. Grantees must submit a final report that explains how they intend to act on the consultant's recommendations as well as a copy of the consultant's written report. Both should be submitted in electronic format.

iii. CAT Grants. Grantees must submit an electronic version of the agenda or schedule; an outline of presentations and/or relevant instructor's notes; copies of overhead transparencies, Microsoft PowerPoint presentations, or other visual aids; exercises, case studies, and other background materials; hypotheticals, quizzes, and other materials involving the participants; manuals, handbooks, conference packets, and evaluation forms; and suggestions for replicating the program,

including possible faculty or the preferred qualifications or experience of those selected as faculty, developed under the grant after the grant period, along with a final report that includes any evaluation results and explains how the grantee intends to present the educational program in the future as well as the consultant's or trainer's report. All items should be submitted in electronic format.

2. Charges for Grant-Related Products/Recovery of Costs. SJI's mission is to support improvements in the quality of justice and foster innovative, efficient solutions to common issues faced by all courts. SJI has recognized and established procedures for supporting research and development of grant products (*e.g.*, a report, curriculum, video, software, database, or website) through competitive grant awards based on the merit reviews of proposed projects. To ensure that all grants benefit the entire court community, projects SJI considers worthy of support (in whole or in part) are required to be disseminated widely and to be available for public consumption. This includes open-source software and interfaces. Costs for development, production, and dissemination are allowable as direct costs to SJI.

Applicants must disclose their intent to sell grant-related products in the application. Grantees must obtain SJI's prior written approval of their plans to recover project costs through the sale of grant products. Written requests to recover costs ordinarily should be received during the grant period and should specify the nature and extent of the costs to be recouped, the reason that such costs were not budgeted (if the rationale was not disclosed in the approved application), the number of copies to be sold, the intended audience for the products to be sold, and the proposed sale price. If the product is to be sold for more than \$25, the written request should also include a detailed itemization of costs that will be recovered and a certification that the costs were not supported by either SJI grant funds or grantee matching contributions.

In the event that the sale of grant products results in revenues that exceed the costs to develop, produce, and disseminate the products, the revenues must continue to be used for the authorized purposes of the SJI-funded project or other purposes consistent with the State Justice Institute Act that have been approved by SJI.

l. Copyrights

Except as otherwise provided in the terms and conditions of an SJI award, a recipient is free to copyright any books, publications, or other copyrightable materials developed in the course of an SJI-supported project. SJI must reserve a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, and to authorize others to use, the materials for purposes consistent with the State Justice Institute Act.

m. Due Date

All products and, for TA and CAT grants, consultant and/or trainer reports are to be completed and distributed not later than the end of the award period, not the 90-day closeout period. The 90-day closeout period is intended only for grantee final reporting and the liquidation of obligations.

n. Distribution

In addition to the distribution specified in the grant application, grantees must send an electronic version of all products in HTML or PDF format to SJI.

o. Original Material

All products prepared as the result of SJI-supported projects must be originally developed material unless otherwise specified in the award documents. Material not originally developed that is included in such products must be properly identified, whether the material is quoted verbatim or extensively paraphrased.

p. Prohibition Against Litigation Support

No funds made available by SJI may be used directly or indirectly to support legal assistance for parties in litigation, including cases involving capital punishment.

q. Reporting Requirements

All reports must be submitted via the SJI GMS as detailed below:

1. *Quarterly Progress and Financial Status Reports.* Recipients of SJI funds must submit Quarterly Progress and Financial Status Reports within 30 days after the close of each calendar quarter (i.e., no later than January 30, April 30, July 30, and October 30). The Quarterly Progress Reports must include a narrative description of project activities during the calendar quarter; the relationship between those activities, the task schedule, and objectives set forth in the approved application or an approved adjustment thereto; any significant problem areas that have developed and how they will be

resolved; and the activities scheduled during the next reporting period. Failure to comply with the requirements of this provision could result in the termination of a grantee's award.

2. *Quarterly Financial Reporting.* The Quarterly Financial Report must be submitted in accordance with section VII.a.2, *Financial Reporting*, of this guideline. A Final Progress Report and Financial Status Report must be submitted within 90 days after the end of the grant period.

r. Research

1. *Availability of Research Data for Secondary Analysis.* Upon request, grantees must make available for secondary analysis backup files containing research and evaluation data collected under an SJI grant and the accompanying code manual. Grantees may recover the actual cost of duplicating and mailing, or otherwise transmitting, the dataset and manual from the person or organization requesting the data. Grantees may provide the requested dataset in the format in which it was created and analyzed.

2. *Confidentiality of Information.* Except as provided by Federal law other than the State Justice Institute Act, no recipient of financial assistance from SJI may use or reveal any research or statistical information furnished under the act by any person and identifiable to any specific private person for any purpose other than the purpose for which the information was obtained. Such information and copies thereof will be immune from legal process and must not, without the consent of the person furnishing such information, be admitted as evidence or used for any purpose in any action; suit; or other judicial, legislative, or administrative proceedings.

3. *Human Subject Protection.* Human subjects are defined as individuals who are participants in an experimental procedure or who are asked to provide information about themselves, their attitudes, feelings, opinions, and/or experiences through an interview, questionnaire, or other data-collection technique. All research involving human subjects must be conducted with the informed consent of those subjects and in a manner that will ensure their privacy and freedom from risk or harm and the protection of persons who are not subjects of the research but would be affected by it—unless such procedures and safeguards would make the research impractical. In such instances, SJI must approve procedures designed by the grantee to provide human subjects with relevant

information about the research after their involvement and to minimize or eliminate risk or harm to those subjects due to their participation.

4. *Prohibited Uses of SJI Funds.* To ensure SJI funds are used to supplement and improve the operation of State courts, rather than to support basic court services, SJI funds must not be used for the following purposes:

- To supplant State or local funds supporting a program or activity (e.g., paying the salaries of court employees who would be performing their normal duties as part of the project or paying rent for space that is part of the court's normal operations).

- To construct court facilities or structures.

- Solely to purchase equipment.

Examples of *basic court services* include:

- Hiring of personnel
- Purchase and/or maintenance of equipment
- Purchase of software and/or licenses
- Purchase of internet access or service
- Supplies to support the day-to-day operations of courts

The final determination of what constitutes basic court services is made by SJI and is not negotiable.

Meals and refreshments are not allowable costs.

Trinkets (e.g., hats, mugs, portfolios, T-shirts, coins, gift bags, and gift cards) may not be purchased with SJI grant funding.

5. *Suspension or Termination of Funding.* After providing a recipient reasonable notice and opportunity to submit written documentation demonstrating why fund termination or suspension should not occur, SJI may terminate or suspend funding of a project that fails to substantially comply with the State Justice Institute Act, the Grant Guideline, or the terms and conditions of the award (42 U.S.C. 10708(a)).

6. *Title to Property.* At the conclusion of the project, title to all expendable and nonexpendable personal property purchased with SJI funds must vest in the recipient court, organization, or individual that purchased the property if certification is made to and approved by SJI that the property will continue to be used for the authorized purposes of the SJI-funded project or other purposes consistent with the State Justice Institute Act. If such certification is not made or SJI disapproves of such certification, title to all such property with an aggregate or individual value of \$1,000 or more must vest in SJI, which will direct the disposition of the property.

IX. Financial Requirements

The purpose of this section is to establish accounting system requirements and offer guidance on procedures to assist all grantees, subgrantees, contractors, and other organizations in:

- Complying with the statutory requirements for the award, disbursement, and accounting of funds.
- Complying with regulatory requirements of SJI for the financial management and disposition of funds.
- Generating financial data to be used in planning, managing, and controlling projects.
- Facilitating an effective audit of funded programs and projects.

a. Supervision and Monitoring Responsibilities

All grantees receiving awards from SJI are responsible for the management and fiscal control of all funds. Responsibilities include accounting for receipts and expenditures, maintaining adequate financial records, and refunding expenditures disallowed by audits. If the project includes subawards, the grantees' responsibilities also include:

1. Reviewing Financial Operations.

The grantee or its designee must be familiar with, and periodically monitor, its subgrantee's financial operations, records system, and procedures. Particular attention should be directed to the maintenance of current financial data.

2. Recording Financial Activities. The subgrantee's grant award or contract obligation as well as cash advances and other financial activities must be recorded in the financial records of the grantee or its designee in summary form. Subgrantee expenditures must be recorded on the books of the State supreme court or evidenced by report forms duly filed by the subgrantee. Matching contributions provided by subgrantees must likewise be recorded, as should any project income resulting from program operations.

3. Budgeting and Budget Review. The grantee or its designee must ensure that each subgrantee prepares an adequate budget as the basis for its award commitment. The State supreme court must maintain the details of each project budget on file.

4. Accounting for Match. The grantee or its designee will ensure that subgrantees comply with the match requirements specified in this guideline.

5. Audit Requirement. The grantee or its designee is required to ensure that subgrantees meet the necessary audit requirements set forth by SJI.

6. Reporting Irregularities. The grantee, its designees, and its subgrantees are responsible for promptly reporting to SJI the nature and circumstances surrounding any financial irregularities discovered.

b. Accounting System

The grantee is responsible for establishing and maintaining an adequate system of accounting and internal controls and for ensuring that an adequate system exists for each of its subgrantees and contractors. An acceptable and adequate accounting system:

- Properly accounts for receipt of funds under each grant awarded and the expenditure of funds for each grant by category of expenditure, including matching contributions and project income.
- Assures that expended funds are applied to the appropriate budget category included within the approved grant.
- Presents and classifies historical costs of the grant as required for budgetary and evaluation purposes.
- Provides cost and property controls to assure optimal use of grant funds.
- Is integrated with a system of internal controls adequate to safeguard the funds and assets covered, check the accuracy and reliability of the accounting data, promote operational efficiency, and assure conformance with any general or special conditions of the grant.
- Meets the prescribed requirements for periodic financial reporting of operations.
- Provides financial data for planning, control, measurement, and evaluation of direct and indirect costs.

c. Total Cost Budgeting and Accounting

Accounting for all funds awarded by SJI must be structured and executed on a total-project-cost basis. That is, total project costs, including SJI funds, State and local matching shares, and any other fund sources included in the approved project budget, serve as the foundation for fiscal administration and accounting. Grant applications and financial reports require budget and cost estimates based on total costs.

1. Timing of Matching Contributions. Matching contributions should be applied at the same time as the obligation of SJI funds. Ordinarily, the full matching share must be obligated during the award period; however, with the written permission of SJI, contributions made following approval of the grant by the SJI Board of Directors but before the beginning of the grant may be counted as a match. If a

proposed cash or in-kind match is not fully met, SJI may reduce the award amount accordingly to maintain the ratio of grant funds to matching funds stated in the award agreement.

2. Records for Match. All grantees must maintain records that clearly show the source, amount, and timing of all matching contributions. In addition, if a project has included, within its approved budget, contributions that exceed the required matching portion, the grantee must maintain records of those contributions in the same manner as it does SJI funds and required matching shares. For all grants made to State and local courts, the State supreme court has primary responsibility for grantee/subgrantee compliance with the requirements of this section.

3. Maintenance and Retention of Records. All financial records—including supporting documents; statistical records; and all other information pertinent to grants, subgrants, cooperative agreements, or contracts under grants—must be retained by each organization participating in a project for at least 3 years for purposes of examination and audit. State supreme courts may impose record retention and maintenance requirements in addition to those prescribed in this section.

4. Coverage. The retention requirement extends to books of original entry, source documents supporting accounting transactions, the general ledger, subsidiary ledgers, personnel and payroll records, canceled checks, and related documents and records. Source documents include copies of all grant and subgrant awards, applications, and required grantee/subgrantee financial and narrative reports. Personnel and payroll records must include the time and attendance reports for all individuals reimbursed under a grant, subgrant, or contract, whether they are employed full time or part time. Time and effort reports are required for consultants.

5. Retention Period. The 3-year retention period starts from the date of the submission of the final expenditure report.

6. Maintenance. Grantees and subgrantees are expected to see that records of different fiscal years are separately identified and maintained so that requested information can be readily located. Grantees and subgrantees are also obligated to protect records adequately against fire or other damage. When records are stored away from the grantee's or subgrantee's principal office, a written index of the location of stored records should be on

hand, and ready access should be assured.

7. *Access.* Grantees and subgrantees must give any authorized representative of SJI access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, and documents related to an SJI grant.

8. *Project-Related Income.* Records of the receipt and disposition of project-related income must be maintained by the grantee in the same manner as required for the project funds that gave rise to the income and must be reported to SJI (see section VII.a.2, *Financial Reporting*, of this guideline). The policies governing the disposition of the various types of project-related income are listed below.

i. *Interest.* A State and any agency or instrumentality of a State, including institutions of higher education and hospitals, will not be held accountable for interest earned on advances of project funds. When funds are awarded to subgrantees through a State, the subgrantees are not held accountable for interest earned on advances of project funds. Local units of government and nonprofit organizations that are grantees must refund any interest earned. Grantees must ensure minimum balances in their respective grant cash accounts.

ii. *Royalties.* The grantee or subgrantee may retain all royalties received from copyrights or other works developed under projects or from patents and inventions unless the terms and conditions of the grant provide otherwise.

iii. *Registration and Tuition Fees.* Registration and tuition fees may be considered as a cash match with prior written approval from SJI. Estimates of registration and tuition fees and any expenses to be offset by the fees should be included in the application budget forms and narrative.

iv. *Income from the Sale of Grant Products.* If the sale of products occurs during the project period, the income may be treated as a cash match with the prior written approval of SJI. The costs and income generated by the sales must be reported on the Quarterly Progress and Financial Status Reports and documented in an auditable manner. Whenever possible, the intent to sell a product should be disclosed in the application or reported to SJI in writing once a decision to sell products has been made. The grantee must request approval to recover its costs for product development, reproduction, and dissemination (see section VIII.k.2, *Charges for Grant-Related Products/Recovery of Costs*, of this guideline).

v. *Other.* Other project income will be treated in accordance with disposition

instructions set forth in the grant's terms and conditions.

d. Payments and Financial Reporting Requirements

The procedures and regulations set forth below are applicable to all SJI grant funds and grantees.

1. *Request for Reimbursement of Funds.* Grantees will receive funds on a reimbursable, U.S. Department of the Treasury check-issued or EFT basis. Upon receipt, review, and approval of a Request for Reimbursement (Form R) by SJI, payment will be issued directly to the grantee or its designated fiscal agent. The Form R, along with the instructions for its preparation and the SF 3881 (Automated Clearing House [ACH] Vendor/Miscellaneous Payment Enrollment Form) for EFT, is available for download and submission in the SJI GMS.

2. Financial Reporting

i. *General Requirements.* To obtain financial information concerning the use of funds, SJI requires that grantees/subgrantees submit timely reports for review.

ii. *Due Dates and Contents.* A Financial Status Report is required from all grantees for each active quarter on a calendar-quarter basis. This report is due within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter. It is designed to provide financial information relating to SJI funds, State and local matching shares, project income, and any other sources of funds for the project, as well as information on obligations and outlays. The Financial Status Report (Form F), along with instructions, is accessible in the SJI GMS. If a grantee requests substantial payment for a project prior to the completion of a given quarter, SJI may request a brief summary of the amount requested, by object class, to support the Request for Reimbursement.

iii. *Consequences of Noncompliance with Submission Requirement.* Failure of the grantee to submit required Progress and Financial Status Reports may result in suspension or termination of grant reimbursement.

e. Allowability of Costs

1. Costs Requiring Prior Approval

i. *Preagreement Costs.* The written prior approval of SJI is required for costs that are considered necessary but that occur prior to the start date of the project period.

ii. *Equipment.* Grant funds may be used to purchase or lease only that equipment essential to accomplishing the goals and objectives of the project. The written prior approval of SJI is required when (1) the amount of

automated data processing equipment to be purchased or leased exceeds \$10,000 or (2) the amount of software to be purchased exceeds \$3,000.

iii. *Consultants.* The written prior approval of SJI is required when the rate of compensation to be paid to a consultant exceeds \$800 a day. SJI funds may not be used to pay a consultant more than \$1,100 per day.

iv. *Budget Revisions.* Prior SJI approval is required for budget revisions among direct-cost categories that (1) transfer grant funds to an unbudgeted cost category or (2) individually or cumulatively exceed 5 percent of the approved original budget or the most recently approved revised budget.

2. *Travel Costs.* Transportation and per diem rates must comply with the policies of the grantee. If the grantee does not have an established written travel policy, then travel rates must be consistent with those established by the U.S. General Services Administration. Grant funds may not be used to cover the transportation or per diem costs associated with a member of a national organization attending an annual or other regular meeting or conference of that organization.

3. *Indirect Costs.* Indirect costs are only applicable to organizations that are not State courts or government agencies. These are costs of an organization that are not readily assignable to a particular project but are necessary to the operation of the organization and the performance of the project. The costs of operating and maintaining facilities, depreciation, and administrative salaries are examples of the types of costs that are usually treated as indirect costs. Although SJI's policy requires all costs to be budgeted directly, SJI will accept indirect costs if a grantee has an indirect-cost rate approved by a Federal agency; however, recoverable indirect costs are limited to no more than 75 percent of a grantee's direct personnel costs (salaries plus fringe benefits).

i. Approved Plan Available.

- A copy of an indirect-cost rate agreement or allocation plan approved for a grantee during the preceding 2 years by any Federal granting agency on the basis of allocation methods substantially in accord with those set forth in the applicable cost circulars must be submitted to SJI.

- Where flat rates are accepted in lieu of actual indirect costs, grantees may not also charge expenses normally included in overhead pools (e.g., accounting services, legal services, building occupancy and maintenance, etc.) as direct costs.

f. Audit Requirements

1. *Implementation.* Grantees must provide for an annual fiscal audit. This requirement also applies to a State or local court receiving a subgrant from the State supreme court. Audits conducted using generally accepted auditing standards in the United States will satisfy the requirement for an annual fiscal audit. The audit must be conducted by an independent certified public accountant or a State or local agency authorized to audit government agencies. The audit report must be made available to SJI electronically, if requested.

2. *Resolution and Clearance of Audit Reports.* Timely action on recommendations by responsible management officials is an integral part of the effectiveness of an audit. Each grantee must have policies and procedures for acting on audit recommendations by designating officials responsible for:

- Following up.
- Maintaining a record of the actions taken on recommendations and time schedules.
- Responding to and acting on audit recommendations.
- Submitting periodic reports to SJI on recommendations and actions taken.

3. *Consequences of Nonresolution of Audit Issues.* Ordinarily, SJI will not make a subsequent grant award to an applicant that has an unresolved audit report involving SJI awards. Failure of the grantee to resolve audit questions may also result in the suspension or termination of payments for active SJI grants to that organization.

g. Closeout of Grants

1. *Grantee Closeout Requirements.* Within 90 days of the end date of the grant or any approved extension thereof, the following documents must be submitted to SJI by grantees:

i. *Financial Status Report.* The final report of expenditures must have no unliquidated obligations and must indicate the exact balance of unobligated funds. Any unobligated or unexpended funds will be deobligated from the award by SJI. Final payment requests for obligations incurred during the award period must be submitted to SJI prior to the end of the 90-day closeout period.

ii. *Final Progress Report.* This report should describe the project activities during the final calendar quarter of the project and the closeout period, including to whom project products have been disseminated; provide a summary of activities during the entire project; specify whether all the

objectives set forth in the approved application or an approved adjustment have been met and, if any of the objectives have not been met, explain why not; and discuss what, if anything, could have been done differently that might have enhanced the impact of the project or improved its operation. These reporting requirements apply at the conclusion of every grant.

2. *Extension of Closeout Period.* Upon the written request of the grantee, SJI may extend the closeout period to assure completion of the grantee's closeout requirements. Requests for an extension must be submitted at least 14 days before the end of the closeout period and must explain why the extension is necessary and what steps will be taken to assure that all the grantee's responsibilities will be met by the end of the extension period. Extensions must be submitted via the SJI GMS as Grant Adjustments.

X. Grant Adjustments

All requests for programmatic or budgetary adjustments requiring SJI approval must be submitted by the project director in a timely manner (ordinarily 30 days prior to the implementation of the adjustment being requested). All requests for changes from the approved application will be carefully reviewed for both consistency with this guideline and the enhancement of grant goals and objectives. Failure to submit adjustments in a timely manner may result in the termination of a grantee's award.

a. Grant Adjustments Requiring Prior Written Approval

The following Grant Adjustments require the prior written approval of SJI:

- Budget revisions among direct-cost categories that (1) transfer grant funds to an unbudgeted cost category or (2) individually or cumulatively exceed 5 percent of the approved original budget or the most recently approved revised budget.
- A change in the scope of work to be performed or the objectives of the project.
- A change in the project site.
- A change in the project period, such as an extension of the grant period or an extension of the Final Financial Report or Final Progress Report deadline.
- Satisfaction of special conditions, if required.
- A change in or temporary absence of the project director.
- The assignment to a key staff position of an employee or consultant whose qualifications were not described in the application or a change in a

person assigned to a key project staff position.

- A change in or temporary absence of the person responsible for managing and reporting on the grant's finances.
- A change in the name of the grantee organization.
- A transfer or contracting out of grant-supported activities.
- A transfer of the grant to another recipient.
- Preagreement costs.
- The purchase of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) equipment and software.
- Consultant rates.
- A change in the nature or number of the products to be prepared or the way a product would be distributed.

b. Requests for Grant Adjustments

All grantees must promptly notify SJI, in writing, of events or proposed changes that may require adjustments to the approved project design. In requesting an adjustment, the grantee must set forth the reasons and basis for the proposed adjustment and any other information the program manager determines would help SJI's review. All requests for Grant Adjustments must be submitted via the SJI GMS.

c. Notification of Approval or Disapproval

If the request is approved, the grantee will be sent a Grant Adjustment signed by the SJI executive director. If the request is denied, the grantee will be sent a written explanation of the reasons for the denial.

d. Changes in the Scope of the Grant

Major changes in scope, duration, training methodology, or other significant areas must be approved in advance by SJI. A grantee may make minor changes to methodology, approach, or other aspects of the grant to expedite achievement of the grant's objectives with subsequent notification to SJI.

e. Date Changes

A request to change or extend the grant period must be made at least 30 days in advance of the end date of the grant. A revised task plan must accompany a request for an extension of the grant period, along with a revised budget if shifts among budget categories will be needed. A request to change or extend the deadline for the Final Financial Report or Final Progress Report must be made at least 14 days in advance of the report deadline.

f. Temporary Absence of the Project Director

Whenever an absence of the project director is expected to exceed a continuous period of 1 month, the plans for the conduct of the project director's duties during such absence must be approved in advance by SJI. This information must be provided in a letter signed by an authorized representative of the grantee or subgrantee at least 30 days before the departure of the project director or as soon as it is known that the project director will be absent. The grant may be terminated if arrangements are not approved in advance by SJI.

g. Withdrawal of or Change in Project Director

If the project director relinquishes or expects to relinquish active direction of the project, SJI must be notified immediately. In such cases, if the grantee or subgrantee wishes to terminate the project, SJI will forward procedural instructions upon notification of such intent. If the grantee wishes to continue the project under the direction of another individual, a statement of the candidate's qualifications should be sent to SJI for review and approval. The grant may be terminated if the qualifications of the proposed individual are not approved in advance by SJI.

h. Transferring or Contracting Out of Grant-Supported Activities

No principal activity of a grant-supported project may be transferred or contracted out to another organization without specific prior approval by SJI. All such arrangements must be formalized in a contract or other written agreement between the parties involved. Copies of the proposed contract or agreement must be submitted for prior approval to SJI at the earliest possible time. The contract or agreement must state, at a minimum, the activities to be performed, the time schedule, the policies and procedures to be followed, the dollar limitation of the agreement, and the cost principles to be followed in determining what costs, both direct and indirect, will be allowed. The contract or other written agreement must not affect the grantee's overall responsibility for the direction of the project and accountability to SJI.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2020–0171]

Hours of Service of Drivers: Association of American Railroads and American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association; Application for Exemption Renewal

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of final disposition; grant of modified renewal of exemption.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its final decision to renew and modify the exemption granted to the Association of American Railroads and the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association and member railroads (the Associations) from the hours-of-service (HOS) prohibitions against driving after the 14th hour after coming on duty (the 14-hour rule) and against driving after accumulating 60 hours of on duty time within 7 consecutive days, or 70 hours of on duty time within 8 consecutive days (the 60-hour/70-hour rule). The exemption will enable covered drivers to respond to unplanned events that occur outside of, or extend beyond, their normal work hours. FMCSA modifies the previous exemption to limit the categories of unplanned events during which the exemption may be used and

to add reporting requirements. In addition, only drivers operating for motor carriers listed in the Appendix to this decision may operate under the exemption. FMCSA has analyzed the exemption application and has determined that the exemption renewal, subject to the terms and conditions set forth below, is likely to achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to or greater than the level that would be achieved in the absence of the exemption.

DATES: The exemption is effective October 20, 2026, and expires October 18, 2030.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Richard Clemente, FMCSA Driver and Carrier Operations Division; Office of Carrier, Driver and Vehicle Safety Standards; richard.clemente@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation

Viewing Comments and Documents

To view any documents mentioned as being available in the docket, go to <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/FMCSA-2020-0171/document> and choose the document to review. To view comments, click this notice, then click “Browse Comments.” If you do not have access to the internet, you may view the docket online by visiting Dockets Operations in the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, W58–213, Washington, DC 20590–0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

II. Legal Basis

FMCSA has authority under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b) to grant exemptions from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs). FMCSA must publish a notice of each exemption request in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(a)). The Agency must provide the public an opportunity to inspect the information relevant to the application, including the applicant's safety analysis. The Agency must provide an opportunity for public comment on the request.

The Agency reviews the application, safety analyses, and public comments submitted and determines whether granting the exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved absent such exemption, pursuant to the standard set forth in 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(1). The Agency must publish its decision in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(b)). If granted, the notice will identify the regulatory provision from which the applicant will be exempt, the effective period, and all terms and conditions of the exemption

(49 CFR 381.315(c)(1)). If the exemption is denied, the notice will explain the reason for the denial (49 CFR 381.315(c)(2)). The exemption may be renewed (49 CFR 381.300(b)).

III. Background

Current Regulatory Requirements

Under 49 CFR 395.3(a)(2), a driver may not drive after a period of 14 consecutive hours after coming on-duty following 10 consecutive hours off-duty. Under 49 CFR 395.3(b), no motor carrier shall permit or require a driver of a property-carrying commercial motor vehicle (CMV) to drive, nor shall any driver drive a property-carrying CMV, regardless of the number of motor carriers using the driver's services, for any period after having been on duty 60 hours in any period of 7 consecutive days or 70 hours in any period of 8 consecutive days.

Applicant's Request

The exemption application was described in detail in a **Federal Register** notice published on December 19, 2025 (90 FR 59648) and will not be repeated as the facts have not changed. FMCSA initially granted the exemption effective December 23, 2020, through December 18, 2025 (85 FR 84096). On December 19, 2025, FMCSA provisionally renewed the exemption for six months (90 FR 59648). FMCSA announced its decision to renew the exemption provisionally again for four months on June 24, 2026, stating that the Agency had requested additional information from the Associations (91 FR 38075). Specifically, FMCSA requested a list of the USDOT numbers that would be covered by the exemption, information on the frequency with which motor carriers had operated under the exemption, and the list of crashes involving any motor carriers operating under the exemption. The responses provided to FMCSA by the Associations on August 26, 2026 are available in the docket to this notice.

IV. Public Comments

The Agency received only one misfiled comment to the applicants' request for an exemption renewal. The misfiled comment was subsequently removed from the docket.

V. FMCSA Decision

The Agency has analyzed the exemption renewal application and believes there is a public interest in ensuring that railroads clear blocked tracks and rights-of-way and restore service as quickly as possible. The Agency conducted a comprehensive review of the safety performance history

of each of the motor carriers included in the list submitted by the Associations on August 26, 2026. Of the 257 motor carriers in the list submitted by the Associations, 26 had inactive USDOT numbers. FMCSA therefore includes 231 motor carriers that may operate under this exemption in the Appendix attached to this notice.

The Agency does not believe the requested relief would compromise safety when used occasionally to respond to unplanned events. The exemption would enable the Associations' members to reach the site of such events within a limited distance from their drivers' normal work-reporting location and provide flexibility for the Associations to address urgent situations that disrupt rail services. Once the crews arrive at the scene, they must record all time working as on-duty, not driving time. When normal rail operations have been restored, drivers would be required to comply with the HOS requirements during the return trip.

The Agency has modified the terms and conditions of this exemption from the original exemption to narrow the circumstances under which the exemption may be used. Specifically, eligible "unplanned events" are limited to events affecting the main track. This modified list of unplanned events aligns more closely with the emergency provisions applicable to train employees under the Federal Railroad Administration's hours-of-service requirements in 49 U.S.C. 21103(d).

Because the relief is limited to the trip to the scene of the unplanned event and such events would happen only occasionally and not a predictable number of times per week or per month, drivers would not operate CMVs after the 14th hour of coming on duty as a part of their planned schedules. Similarly, drivers would not regularly operate CMVs after accumulating 60 hours or 70 hours of on-duty time during seven or eight consecutive days. Drivers' standard schedules would include adherence to the 14-hour rule and adherence to the 60- and 70-hour rules.

FMCSA believes the exemption renewal, subject to the terms and conditions set forth below, is likely to achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to or greater than the level that would be achieved in the absence of the exemption.

VI. Exemption

A. Applicability of Exemption

This exemption is restricted to individuals employed by the 231

member railroads of the Associations listed in the Appendix to this decision while driving a CMV to the site of an "unplanned event." Unplanned events are limited to the following events:

- A main track train derailment;
- A bridge strike affecting main track operations;
- A train collision occurring on main track;
- Weather- and storm-related events affecting main track operations including hurricanes, tornados, blizzards, rock and mudslides, track washouts, earthquakes, and wildfires.

B. Terms and Conditions of the Exemption

1. When operating under this exemption, drivers:

- May extend the 14-hour rule in § 395.3(a)(2) to no more than 17 hours;
- May not exceed 11 hours of driving time, following 10 consecutive hours off-duty;
- May extend the 60-hour/70-hour rule in § 395.3(b) by no more than 6 hours; and
- May not travel more than 300 air miles from the normal work-reporting location or terminal;

2. Drivers must comply with the applicable hours-of-service (HOS) limits after arriving at the site, including that drivers must record all time working to restore rail service as on-duty, not driving time;

3. Drivers may take advantage of the Agency's personal conveyance regulatory guidance when traveling between the unplanned event work site and nearby lodging or dining facilities (83 FR 26377 (June 7, 2018)). If that guidance is not applicable to the trip, CMV drivers who have reached the HOS limits must be transported from the work site by an individual who is not subject to HOS restrictions or use a vehicle that does not meet FMCSA's definition of a CMV (49 CFR 390.5T) when they leave the site;

4. Drivers must complete the Driver Education Module 3 and the Driver Sleep Disorders and Management Module 7 of the North American Fatigue Management Program (NAFMP) (www.nafmp.org) prior to operating under the exemption; railroads subject to the exemption could direct CMV drivers to the DOT's FRA website, the "Railroaders' Guide to Healthy Sleep" (<https://railroadersleep.fra.dot.gov/>) as an alternative resource if NAFMP's website is unavailable;

5. Motor carriers and drivers must comply with all other provisions of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations;

6. Upon request, the Associations and their motor carrier members must provide to FMCSA a list detailing the frequency with which each motor carrier operated under the exemption, including the number of days, drivers, and CMVs for each motor carrier that used the exemption;

7. Motor carriers must maintain a record of when the exemption is used, along with the driver's records of duty status, supporting documents, and a description of the unplanned event that prompted use of this exemption and must provide those records to FMCSA upon request.

8. Notification to FMCSA. The Associations must notify FMCSA within five business days of any accident, as defined in 49 CFR 390.5T, involving any of the motor carrier's CMVs operating under the terms of this exemption. Reports filed under this provision shall be emailed to MCPSPD@DOT.GOV. The notification must include the following information:

a. Identifier of the Exemption: "Association of American Railroads and American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association;"

- b. Name of operating carrier and USDOT number;
- c. Date of the crash;
- d. City or town, and State, in which the accident occurred, or closest to the crash scene;
- e. Driver's name and license number;
- f. Co-driver's name (if any) and license number;
- g. Vehicle number and State license number;
- h. Number of individuals suffering physical injury;
- i. Number of fatalities;
- j. The police-reported cause of the crash, if provided by the enforcement agency;
- k. Whether the driver was cited for violation of any traffic laws or motor carrier safety regulations; and
- l. The total on-duty time accumulated during the seven consecutive days prior to the date of the crash, and the total on duty time and driving time in the work shift prior to the crash.

C. Preemption

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(d), as implemented by 49 CFR 381.600, during the period this exemption is in effect, no State shall enforce any law or regulation that

conflicts with or is inconsistent with this exemption with respect to a firm or person operating under the exemption. States may, but are not required to, adopt the same exemption with respect to operations in intrastate commerce.

D. Termination

FMCSA does not believe the drivers covered by this exemption will experience any deterioration in their safety performance. However, the exemption will be rescinded if: (1) the Associations or the drivers operating under the exemption fail to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained before it was granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b).

Derek D. Barrs,
Administrator.

Appendix to Hours of Service of Drivers: Association of American Railroads and American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association; Application for Exemption Renewal

Motor carrier	DOT No.
1. CSX Transportation Inc	29619
2. Union Pacific Railroad Company	53433
3. Gary Railway Company	76389
4. Illinois Central Railroad Company	76784
5. Chattahoochee Industrial Railroad	97662
6. Soo Line Railroad Company	108106
7. Consolidated Rail Corporation	135778
8. Grand Trunk Western Railroad Co	165783
9. New England Central Railroad Inc	202153
10. National Railroad Passenger Corp	240318
11. Providence and Worcester Company	251299
12. Great Western Railway of Colorado LLC	256551
13. Escanaba and Lake Superior RR Co	274731
14. BNSF Railway Company	281683
15. Copper Basin Railway Inc	311051
16. Norfolk Southern Railway Company	322521
17. Iowa Interstate Railroad LLC	343798
18. Wisconsin Central Ltd	345516
19. The K.C. Southern Railway Company	378038
20. Bessemer and Lake Erie RR Co	388151
21. Terminal RR Assn. of St. Louis	401000
22. Union Railroad	403638
23. M & B Railroad LLC	405541
24. Chicago Southshore & South Bend RR	427577
25. Kiamichi Railroad Company LLC	431315
26. The Indiana Railroad Company	431375
27. Toledo Peoria & Western Railway Co	442614
28. Columbia Basin Railroad Co. Inc	445076
29. Delaware & Hudson Railway Co. Inc	470355
30. Kyle Railroad Company	481302
31. Arkansas & Missouri Railroad	488433
32. Georgia & Florida Railway LLC	498252
33. Red River Valley & Western RR Co	501218
34. Arizona & California RR Company	505993
35. Tenneken RR Company Inc	526294
37. Missouri and Northern Arkansas RR	533914
38. Idaho Northern & Pacific Railroad	575608
39. Wisconsin & Southern Railroad LLC	590986
40. Lake State Railway Company	592248

Motor carrier	DOT No.
41. Ann Arbor Railroad Inc	626752
42. Vermont Railway Inc	642066
43. TransKentucky Transportation RR In	646131
44. Paducah & Louisville Railway Inc. LLC	648271
45. Housatonic Railroad Company	664836
46. Wheeling and Lake Erie Railway Co	669242
47. Central Oregon & Pacific Railroad	669730
48. Tennessee Southern Railroad Co	699516
49. Alabama & Gulf Coast Railway LLC	722972
50. Twin Cities and Western Railroad	735568
51. North Carolina & VA RR Co. LLC	740754
52. Willamette & Pacific RR Inc	767853
53. Border Pacific Railroad Company	779632
54. Salt Lake Garfield & Western Railway	801333
55. Nebraska Central Railroad Company	805701
56. Savannah Port Terminal RR Inc	809363
57. Dakota MO Valley & Western RR Inc	816546
58. Georgia Northeastern RR Company	826516
59. Grainbelt Corporation	828791
60. Florida Central Railroad	829751
61. Indiana & Ohio Railway Inc	861178
62. Columbus & Greenville Railway	885413
63. Albany & Eastern RR Company	890575
64. MD Midland Railway Inc	892326
65. Delaware Lackawanna RR Co. Inc	900444
66. Kankakee Beaverville & Southern RR	921138
67. RJ Corman RR Services LLC	923465
68. RJ Corman RR Co. Material Sales	933168
69. Keokuk Junction Railway Company	955840
70. St. Lawrence & Atlantic RR Co	977944
71. Indiana & Southern RR LLC	991028
72. Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad	1006369
73. Georgia Southwestern RR Inc	1010082
74. Timber Rock Railroad LLC	1012752
75. Wichita Tillman & Jackson Rwy. Co	1024213
76. Delta Southern Railroad Inc	1040332
77. South Central Florida Express Inc	1054246
78. Canton Railroad Company	1079527
79. Rochester & Southern Railroad	1073596
80. Indiana Northeastern Railroad Co	1082097
81. Sappi Fine Paper	1088568
82. Minnesota Northern Railroad	1090631
83. Seminole Gulf Railway LP	1101630
84. Morristown & Erie Railway Inc	1109220
85. Otter Valley Railroad Co. Inc	1123446
86. Finger Lakes Railway Corp	1133150
87. South Buffalo Railway Company	1137169
88. Arkansas-Oklahoma RR Inc	1141229
89. Livonia Avon & Lakeville RR Corp	1141907
90. Heart of Georgia Railroad Inc	1180695
91. The Great Walton Railroad Co. Inc	1182351
92. Rock and Rail Inc	1190319
93. Georgia Central Railway LP	1248279
94. Central Montana Rail Inc	1268397
95. SMS Rail Service Inc	1333775
96. Southwest Railway Services Inc	1340958
97. AT&L Railroad Company	1389800
98. The Bayline Railroad LLC	1451108
99. Burlington Shortline Railroad	1452846
100. Evansville Western Railway Inc	1479411
101. Northern Plains Railroad Inc	1507487
102. Ontario Midland RR Corporation	1530047
103. Denver Rock Island Railroad	1532355
104. Progressive Rail Inc	1534350
105. Appalachian & Ohio RR Inc	1535106
106. B&H Rail Corporation	1545951
107. Western NY & PA Railroad LLC	1545982
108. Rio Valley Switching Company	1572639
109. Youngstown & Southeastern RR Co	1591668
110. Allegheny Valley Railroad	1663179
111. Great Lakes Central Railroad	1665268
112. St. Mary's Railway West LLC	1732715
113. Rail Link	1776928
114. Dallas Garland & Northeastern RR	1784767

Motor carrier	DOT No.
115. Ellis and Eastern Company	1788281
116. York Railway Company	1813528
117. Delray Connecting Railroad	1827194
118. Minnesota Commercial Railway	1861391
119. Arizona Eastern Railway	1891316
120. Alabama & Tennessee River Railway	1902517
121. South Kansas & Oklahoma RR LLC	1906371
122. Kaw River Railroad LLC	1906405
123. South Carolina Central RR Co. LLC	1908780
124. Texas & Northern Railway	1917408
125. Kansas & Oklahoma RR LLC	1919961
126. Huron & Eastern Railroad	1921125
127. Puget Sound & Pacific Railroad	1928196
128. New York & Atlantic Railway Co	1945588
129. Cascade & Columbia River RR	1952534
130. Grand Elk Railroad LLC	1965729
131. Port Terminal Railroad Assn	1968330
132. Stillwater Central Railroad LLC	1974397
133. Mid-Michigan Railroad	1975303
134. Louisiana Southern RR, LLC	1985163
135. Marquette Rail LLC	1985688
136. Pickens Railway Company Inc	1987254
137. Alabama Southern Railroad LLC	2010127
138. Eastern Idaho Railroad LLC	2027486
139. Boise Valley Railroad LLC	2027645
140. Great Northwest Railroad LLC	2038093
141. Arkansas Southern Railroad LLC	2043397
142. Yellowstone Valley RR LLC	2061052
143. Dequeen & Eastern RR LLC	2106762
144. Louisiana & North West RR LLC	2106768
145. Cornucopia & Cowlitz Railway LLC	2106799
146. Illinois Railway LLC	2113160
147. Panhandle Northern RR LLC	2125675
148. Indiana Eastern Railroad LLC	2158828
149. Autauga Northern Railroad LLC	2172305
150. Cape Rail Inc	2173558
151. Reading Blue Mtn. & Northern RR Co	2196098
152. Eastern Penn Railroad LLC	2198718
153. North Shore Railroad Company	2250181
154. Lycoming Valley RR Company	2250191
155. Ark. LA & Mississippi RR Co	2263905
156. Big Horn Divide & WY RR Inc	2289539
157. Georgetown Railroad Company	2305490
158. Birmingham Terminal Railway LLC	2313928
159. Chicago Rail Link LLC	2420466
160. Adrian & Blissfield RR Company	2427658
161. Maine Northern Railway	2430579
162. Florida East Coast Railway LLC	2498129
163. Florida East Coast Railway LLC	2499665
164. Rapid City Pierre & Eastern RR Inc	2507771
165. Tomahawk Railway LP	2522204
166. Blue Ridge Southern RR LLC	2527795
167. Portland/Vancouver Junction RR LLC	2532906
168. Central RR of Indianapolis	2571472
169. First Coast Railroad Inc	2571797
170. Illinois & Midland Railroad	2591858
171. Sandersville Railroad Company	2633890
172. California Northern RR Company	2646275
173. Coast Belle Rail Corporation	2746467
174. San Joaquin Valley Railroad	2750277
175. Central California Traction Co	2755570
176. Pacific Harbor Line Inc	2770837
177. San Diego & Imperial Valley RR Co	2774944
178. Lubbock & Western Railway LLC	2778943
179. Texas & Mexico Railway LLC	2778949
180. Sierra Northern Railway	2805837
181. Eastern Alabama Railway LLC	2855152
182. Kanawha River Railroad LLC	2897893
183. Buffalo Southern Railroad Inc.	2901088
184. Middletown & NJ RR LLC	2906889
185. Baton Rouge Southern LLC	2908400
186. Vicksburg Southern RR LLC	2911459
187. Delmarva Central RR Co. Inc	2964874
188. Alaska Railroad Corporation	2971818

Motor carrier	DOT No.
189. Vermillion Valley RR Company Inc	2980221
190. Goose Lake Railway LLC	3063473
191. The Apache Railway Co	3084991
192. Kettle Falls Intl. Railway LLC	3086953
193. Decatur & Eastern Illinois RR LLC	3173029
194. Aberdeen Carolina & Western Rwy	3183704
195. Fulton County Railway LLC	3221694
196. Ithaca Central RR LLC	3222063
197. Brownsville & Rio Grande Intl. Railway LLC	3236431
198. Arkansas Midland Railroad	3257693
199. CWW LLC	3268108
200. Florida Gulf & Atlantic RR LLC	3278715
201. WRL LLC	3287732
202. Washington Eastern RR LLC	3287907
203. Sand Springs Railway Company	3291042
204. Savannah & Old Fort RR LLC	3318762
205. Spokane & Spangle Palouse Rwy. LLC	3319958
206. Cleveland & Cuyahoga Rwy. LLC	3357429
207. Fort Worth & Western RR Company	3378076
208. Grafton & Upton Railroad	3379495
209. Columbus & Chattahoochee RR	3446448
210. KWT Railway Inc	3476670
211. Louisiana & Delta RR Inc	3479019
212. The Clarendon & Pittsford RR Co	3562650
213. Ring Neck & Western RR LLC	3595720
214. Fox Valley & Lake Superior Rail Sys	3639339
215. Golden Isles Terminal RR Inc	3857085
216. Carolina Piedmont RR	3876787
217. Jaguar Rail Holdings LLC	4030012
218. Berkshire & Eastern RR	4122840
219. Omnitrax SBVR LLC	4158575
220. Great Lakes Central RR	4228055
221. Michigan Southern RR Company	4297736
222. Aberdeen & Rockfish Railroad	4308280
223. Cincinnati Eastern Railroad	4310590
224. Watco Transportation Svcs. LLC	4342290
225. Tazewell & Peoria RR Inc	4452653
226. RR Maintenance Svcs. LLC	4497292
227. Carolina Coastal Railway LLC	4502369
228. Squaw Creek Southern RR Inc	4506641
229. Central Texas & CO River Rwy LLC	4515131
230. Atlantic Railways Company LLC	4580288
231. Everett Railroad Company	9190629

[FR Doc. 2026–21488 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–EX–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2026–3334]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Renewal of an Approved Information Collection: Training Certification for Entry-Level Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, FMCSA announces its plan to submit the Information Collection Request (ICR)

described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval and invites public comment. FMCSA requests approval to renew an ICR titled, “Training Certification for Entry-Level Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators,” which will continue to be used to register providers of entry-level driver training and to provide State Drivers’ Licensing Agencies with information on individuals who have completed said training. If approved, this renewal will allow FMCSA to continue to collect information on registered training providers and entry-level driver training certification information until 2030.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before December 21, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Docket Number FMCSA–2026–3334 using any of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- **Mail:** Dockets Operations; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, W58–213, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

- **Hand Delivery or Courier:** Dockets Operations, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, W58–213, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- **Fax:** (202) 493–2251.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. See the “Public Participation and Request for Comments” portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rebecca Rehberg, Commercial Driver’s License Division, DOT, FMCSA, 1200

New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001; 850–728–2034;
Rebecca.Rehberg@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Instructions

All submissions must include the Agency name and docket number. For detailed instructions on submitting comments, see the Public Participation heading below. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act heading below.

Public Participation and Request for Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (FMCSA–2026–3334), indicate the specific section of this document to which your comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so FMCSA can contact you if there are questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/FMCSA-2026-3334/document>, click on this notice, click “Comment,” and type your comment into the text box on the following screen.

If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing.

FMCSA will consider all comments and material received during the comment period.

Privacy Act

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its regulatory process. DOT posts these comments, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov as described in the system of records notice DOT/ALL 14 (Federal Docket Management System (FDMS)), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/individuals/privacy/privacy-act-system-records-notices>. The comments are posted without edits and are searchable by the name of the submitter.

Background

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety regulations require minimum training standards for entry-level drivers, and include two separate information collection actions: (1) Training providers must electronically submit information to FMCSA’s Training Provider Registry (TPR) to ensure that they meet the new training provider eligibility requirements and may therefore be listed on a new TPR; and (2) after an individual driver-trainee completes training administered by a training provider listed on the TPR, that training provider must electronically submit training certification information regarding the driver-trainee to the TPR. While there have been a number of regulatory actions delaying compliance with these requirements, all have been in effect since February 7, 2022. The information collection estimates included in this renewal action are based on actual data from the TPR and from training certification transactions over the past year.

Title: Training Certification for Entry-Level Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators.

OMB Control Number: 2126–0028.

Type of Request: Renewal of a currently-approved ICR.

Respondents: Training Providers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 26,284.

Estimated Time per Response: 0.55 hours.

Expiration Date: February 28, 2027.

Frequency of Response: All training providers will need to initially register once. Additionally, all registered training providers must update their information at least biennially. They are also required to provide an update if any key information (company name, address, phone number, types of training offered, etc.) changes prior to their biennial update. After an individual driver-trainee completes training administered by a training provider listed on the TPR, that training provider must submit training certification information regarding the driver-trainee to the TPR.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 198,730 hours.

Public Comments Invited: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) whether the proposed collection is necessary for the performance of FMCSA’s functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways for FMCSA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized without

reducing the quality of the collected information. The Agency will summarize or include your comments in the request for OMB’s clearance of this ICR.

Issued under the authority of 49 CFR 1.87.

Jonathan Mueller,

Acting Associate Administrator, Office of Research and Registration.

[FR Doc. 2026–21514 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–EX–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA–2025–0055]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance and Notice of Public Hearing

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Announcement of public hearing and extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On July 3, 2025, FRA published notice that Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited (CPKC) petitioned FRA for relief from certain regulations concerning air brake testing. In this notice, FRA is announcing a public hearing to allow interested persons the opportunity to provide comments on the petition. FRA is also reopening the comment period to allow time for interested parties to submit comments on the petition or in response to views or information provided at the public hearing.

DATES: (1) A public hearing will be held on November 18, 2026, from 1 p.m. (CDT) to 5 p.m. (CDT) in St. Paul, Minnesota, and through one or more internet links.

(2) Comments: FRA must receive comments on the petition, or in response to views or information provided at the public hearing, by December 18, 2026. FRA will consider comments received after that date to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES:

Public Hearing: The public hearing will allow for participation in person or virtually. For those appearing in person, the public hearing will be held at the CPKC Battle Creek Operations Building, 1010 Shop Road, St. Paul, MN 55106. For those participants wishing to make a statement at the public hearing, either in person or virtually, please contact FRA as described under the Public Participation Procedures heading in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

Comments: Comments related to this docket may be submitted by going to <https://www.regulations.gov> and following the online instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions must include the agency name and docket number. All comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>; this includes any personal information. Please see the Privacy Act heading in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document for Privacy Act information related to any submitted comments or materials.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for accessing the docket.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kar Gazarov, Deputy Staff Director, FRA Motive Power & Equipment Division, telephone: 904-776-5697, email: kar.gazarov@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this hearing is to receive comments in response to a petition, received under part 211 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), from CPKC for a waiver related to certain air brake testing regulations. By letter dated April 4, 2025, CPKC petitioned FRA for a waiver of compliance from §§ 232.5, *Definitions*; 232.15, *Movement of defective equipment*; 232.103(f), *General requirements for all train brake systems*; 232.205(a), *Class I brake test—initial terminal inspection*; and 232.213(a)(6)(ii), *Extended haul trains*. CPKC also requests an exemption from the requirements of title 49, United States Code (U.S.C.), section 20303, which states that a rail vehicle with defective or insecure equipment may be moved to the nearest available place “at which the repairs can be made.”

The petitioner (CPKC) should be present at the hearing and prepared to present evidence to justify its request. Interested parties are invited to present statements and to offer information and views at the hearing. The hearing will be an informal, non-adversarial proceeding conducted by a representative FRA designates under FRA’s Rules of Practice (49 CFR 211.25). Therefore, there will be no cross-examination of persons presenting statements or offering information. An FRA representative will make an opening statement outlining the scope of the hearing. Interested parties will then be provided with an opportunity to make initial statements. After all initial statements are completed, those persons

wishing to make a brief rebuttal will be given the opportunity to do so, in the same order in which they made the initial statements. FRA will announce any additional procedures at the hearing.

There will be a court reporter to record and transcribe comments presented at the hearing. FRA will add the verbatim transcript of the discussions to the public docket in this proceeding.

Public Participation Procedures

Any person: (1) wishing to attend the hearing in person or virtually, (2) make a statement at the hearing either in-person or virtually, or (3) both, should notify FRA by contacting Kar Gazarov, Deputy Staff Director, FRA Motive Power & Equipment Division, by email at kar.gazarov@dot.gov, no later than Thursday, November 12, 2026 providing the following information, as applicable:

(a) The name, affiliation or party represented, email address, and phone number of the participant.

(b) Whether the participant is attending in person or virtually.

(c) The subject(s) of the statement and/or presentation the participant wishes to make, and the amount of time requested.

(d) A copy of the oral statement and/or presentation, if available.

FRA reserves the right to limit participation in the hearing of persons who fail to follow the public participation procedures as outlined above, or additional procedures announced at the hearing. FRA also reserves the right to limit the duration of presentations, as necessary, to afford all persons the opportunity to speak, or to limit participation in the hearing of persons who exceed their allotted time or who discuss topics or issues outside the scope of the petition. Further, FRA reserves the right to limit in-person attendance at the hearing, as space is limited; preference in attendance will be provided to persons requesting to present statements in person.

FRA is committed to providing equal access to this meeting for all participants. If you need alternative formats or other reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting, either in-person or virtually, please contact Kar Gazarov, Deputy Staff Director, FRA Motive Power & Equipment Division, by email at kar.gazarov@dot.gov, no later than Thursday, November 12, 2026.

Extension of Comment Period

FRA is extending the comment period to December 18, 2026 to allow time for interested parties to submit written

comments on the proposal or in response to views or information provided at the public hearing.

Privacy Act

In accordance with FRA Order 1100.14G, FRA solicits comments from the public to inform its disposition of waivers, exemptions, block signal applications, and other special approvals under the Federal railroad safety laws and regulations and in accordance with 49 CFR part 211. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. To facilitate comment tracking and response, we encourage commenters to provide their name, or the name of their organization; however, submission of names is optional. Whether or not commenters identify themselves, all timely comments will be fully considered. If you wish to provide comments containing proprietary or confidential information, please contact the agency for alternate submission instructions.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,
Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.

[FR Doc. 2026-21515 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Agency Information Collection Activities; Requesting Comment on Qualified Contributions to a Scholarship Granting Organization Under Section 25F

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the IRS is inviting comments on the information collection request outlined in this notice.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 21, 2026 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Andres Garcia, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6526, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20224, or by email to pra.comments@irs.gov.

Include "OMB Control No. 1545–2335" in the subject line of the message.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of this collection should be directed to Jason Schoonmaker, (801) 620–6008.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The IRS, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the IRS assess the impact and minimize the burden of its information collection requirements. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record, and viewable on relevant websites. For this reason, please do not include in your comments information of a confidential nature, such as sensitive personal information. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the 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 collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Title: Qualified Contributions to a Scholarship Granting Organizations Under Section 25F.

OMB Control Number: 1545–2335.

Form Number: 15714.

Regulation Project Number: Treasury Decision 10057, Revenue Procedure 2026–6.

Abstract: Section 25F of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) allows States to voluntarily elect to participate in the Federal Scholarship Tax Credit (FSTC) program. States must provide the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) with a list of the scholarship granting organizations (SGOs) located in their State that meet the requirements of IRC section 25F(c)(5). Form 15714 provides an authorized State representative with a method to elect participation under IRC section 25F. Revenue Procedure 2026–6 provides guidance regarding a procedure for a State to voluntarily elect

to participate under IRC section 25F. T.D. 10057 provides rules for State elections to participate under section 25F, including the registration process on the IRS State section 25F portal; rules for information and certifications a State is required to provide for each organization included on the State SGO list; and procedures a State must use in determining whether organizations meet the requirements of section 25F(c)(5). In addition, T.D. 10057 provides procedures for registering SGOs through an IRS electronic SGO portal; reporting, recordkeeping, and third-party disclosure of qualified contributions received by SGOs; and providing timely written acknowledgments to donors.

Current Actions: There is no change to the previously approved information collection.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, state governments, not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Responses: 22,002,210.

Estimated Time per Response: 22 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 8,258,885.

Dated: October 16, 2026.

Jason M. Schoonmaker,

Tax Analyst.

[FR Doc. 2026–21477 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4831–GV–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; RESTORE Act Grants

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, U.S. Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other federal agencies to comment on the proposed information collections listed below, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before December 21, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the burden estimate, or any other aspect of the information collection, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to U.S. Department of the Treasury, Attention: Treasury PRA Clearance

Officer, 1500 Suite #8100, JBAB, 250 Murray Lane SW, Bldg. 410/Door 123, Washington, DC 20222, or email at PRA@treasury.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Copies of the submissions may be obtained from Spencer W. Clark by emailing PRA@treasury.gov, calling (202) 927–5331, or viewing the entire information collection request at www.reginfo.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application, Reports, and Recordkeeping for the Direct Component and the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program under the RESTORE Act.

OMB Control Number: 1505–0250.

Type of Review: Extension without change to the currently approved collection.

Description: The Department of the Treasury administers the Direct Component and the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Programs authorized under the RESTORE Act. Treasury makes grants to eligible entities under these two programs with proceeds from administrative and civil penalties paid after July 6, 2012, under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act relating to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and deposited into the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund. Direct Component grants are awarded to the States of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, and 23 Florida counties and 20 Louisiana parishes. Centers of Excellence Research grants are awarded to the States of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. The information collection for both programs identifies the eligible entities; describes proposed activities; determines an appropriate amount of funding; ensures compliance with the RESTORE Act, Treasury's implementing regulations at 31 CFR part 34, other applicable Federal laws, and Treasury's guidance for the programs; tracks recipients' progress; and reports on the effectiveness of the programs.

Treasury invites comments on the proposed renewal, without change, of existing information collection requirements. The application forms and supplemental information may be obtained on Treasury's RESTORE Act website at <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-markets-financial-institutions-and-fiscal-service/restore-act>.

Form: None.

Affected Public: State and Local Governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 52.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Number of Annual Responses: 563.

Estimated Time per Response: 11.2 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 6,310.

Request For Comments: Comments submitted in response 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. Comments are invited on: (a) whether the 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 collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services required to provide information.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*)

Juliana L. Pearson,

Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2026-21502 Filed 10-20-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-AK-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0770]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery (VBA, VHA, NCA)

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden, and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments and recommendations for the proposed

information collection should be sent by November 20, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To submit comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection, please type the following link into your browser: www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain, select “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments”, then search the list for the information collection by Title or “OMB Control No. 2900-0770.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: VA PRA information: Dorothy Glasgow, 202-461-1084, VAPRA@va.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery (VBA, VHA, NCA).

OMB Control Number: 2900-0770.
https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRASearch.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Order 12862 directs Federal agencies to provide service to the public that matches or exceeds the best service available in the private sector. In order to work continuously to ensure that our programs are effective and meet our customers' needs, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) seeks to obtain OMB approval of a generic clearance to collect qualitative feedback on our service delivery for Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA); Veterans Health Administration (VHA); and National Cemetery Administration (NCA). By qualitative feedback, we mean information that provides useful insights on perceptions and opinions, but not statistical surveys that yield quantitative results that can be generalized to the population of study.

The proposed information collection activity provides a means to garner qualitative customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner, in accordance with the Administration's commitment to improving service delivery. This feedback will provide insights into customer or stakeholder perceptions, experiences and expectations, provide an early warning of issues with service, or focus attention on areas where communication, training, or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. These collections will allow for ongoing, collaborative, and actionable communications between the VA and its customers and stakeholders. They will also provide feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of program management.

The solicitation of feedback will target areas such as timeliness, appropriateness, accuracy of

information, courtesy, efficiency of service delivery, and resolution of issues with service delivery. Responses will be assessed to plan and inform efforts to improve or maintain the quality of service offered to the public. If this information is not collected, vital feedback from customers and stakeholders on the provision of services will be unavailable to the Agency.

The Agency will only submit information collections for approval under this generic clearance if they meet the following conditions:

- The collections are voluntary;
- The collections are low-burden for respondents (based on considerations of total burden hours, total number of respondents, or burden-hours per respondent) and are low-cost for both the respondents and the Federal Government;
- The collections are noncontroversial and do not raise issues of concern to other Federal agencies;
- Any collection is targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with the program or may have experience with the program in the near future;
- Personally identifiable information (PII) is collected only to the extent necessary and is not retained;
- Information gathered will be used only internally for general service improvement and program management purposes and is not intended for release outside of the agency;
- Information gathered will not be used for the purpose of substantially informing influential policy decisions; and
- Information gathered will yield qualitative information; the collections will not be designed or expected to yield statistically reliable results or used as though the results are generalizable to the population of study.

The types of collections that this generic clearance covers include, but are not limited to, Program Satisfaction Surveys; Focus Groups; Customer Comment Cards; Small Discussion Groups of customers, potential customers, delivery partners, or other stakeholders; Qualitative Customer Satisfaction Surveys, such as post-transaction surveys and opt-out web surveys; In-person Observation Testing, such as website or software usability tests; and Patient Surveys. As a general matter, information collections under this clearance will not result in any new system of records containing privacy information and will not ask questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly

considered private. There is an overall decrease in the anticipated number of respondents and burden hours due to adjustments based on agency program data.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households; Businesses and Organizations; State, Local or Tribal Government.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at 91 FR 48508, July 31, 2026.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households; Businesses and Organizations; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 201,250 total hours.

Program Satisfaction Surveys: 62,500.

Focus Groups: 35,000.

Customer Comment Cards: 3,750.

Small Discussion Groups: 5,000.

Qualitative Customer Satisfaction Surveys: 62,500.

In-Person Observation Testing: 7,500.

Patient Surveys: 25,000.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:

Program Satisfaction Surveys: 30 minutes.

Focus Groups: 60 minutes.

Customer Comment Cards: 15 minutes.

Small Discussion Groups: 30 minutes.

Qualitative Customer Satisfaction Surveys: 30 minutes.

In-Person Observation Testing: 30 minutes.

Patient Surveys: 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Once.

Estimated Number of Responses: 425,000 total.

Program Satisfaction Surveys: 125,000.

Focus Groups: 35,000.

Customer Comment Cards: 15,000.

Small Discussion Groups: 10,000.

Qualitative Customer Satisfaction Surveys: 125,000.

In-Person Observation Testing: 15,000.

Patient Surveys: 100,000.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

Lanea Haynes,
Alternate, VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Information and Technology, Office of Data Governance and Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026–21483 Filed 10–20–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P



FEDERAL REGISTER

Vol. 91

Wednesday,

No. 202

October 21, 2026

Part II

The President

Executive Order 14436—Implementing the Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026

Presidential Documents

Title 3—

Executive Order 14436 of October 16, 2026

The President

Implementing the Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026 (22 U.S.C. 10802 *et seq.*) (Graham Act), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, I hereby determine and order:

Section 1. *Background.* On September 18, 2026, I signed the Graham Act into law. The Graham Act provides for the imposition of certain sanctions with respect to foreign persons, restrictions with respect to persons, and duties with respect to goods imported into the United States from the Russian Federation and certain other countries.

Section 115 of the Graham Act authorizes the President to waive the application of any sanctions provision with respect to a foreign person, any restriction with respect to a person, and any duty under the Graham Act, subject to the submission to the Congress of a written certification that such a waiver is in the national interests of the United States and a report explaining the basis for the certification.

As described further in section 4 of this order, I am hereby waiving the application of such sanctions, restrictions, and duties provided for in the Graham Act. I have submitted to the Congress a certification that the issuance of such a waiver at this time is in the national interests of the United States.

Sec. 2. *Increases in Rate of Duty.* (a) The rate of duty on goods from the Russian Federation shall be increased by 500 percent *ad valorem*, subject to the exceptions set forth in section 114 of the Graham Act and the waivers issued in section 4 of this order.

(b) The rate of duty on goods from the largest 5 importers of crude oil and natural gas that originated in the Russian Federation shall be increased by 100 percent *ad valorem* if the country knowingly makes new purchases of crude oil or natural gas that originated in the Russian Federation on or after October 18, 2026, subject to the exceptions set forth in section 114 of the Graham Act and the waivers issued in section 4 of this order. The United States Trade Representative (Trade Representative), in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Energy, and any other senior executive branch official that the Trade Representative determines appropriate, shall monitor the circumstances related to the importation and purchases by countries of crude oil and natural gas of Russian Federation origin, regularly inform the President of any such activity, and provide recommendations for further action, as provided for in section 3 of this order.

(c) The rate of duty on goods from the top 5 facilitators of Russian oil sanctions evasion shall be increased by 100 percent *ad valorem*, subject to the exceptions set forth in section 114 of the Graham Act and the waivers issued in section 4 of this order. The Trade Representative, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Energy, and any other senior executive branch official that the Trade Representative determines appropriate, shall monitor the activities of countries that facilitate Russian oil sanctions evasion, as defined in section 113(i)

of the Graham Act, and report to the President on which countries are among the top 5 such facilitators.

(d) The increases in the rates of duty provided by this order shall apply in addition to any other duty, fee, tax, exaction, or charge applicable with respect to the good, including any duty imposed under title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1671 *et seq.*), sections 122, 201, or 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2132, 2251, and 2411), or section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (19 U.S.C. 1862).

Sec. 3. Monitoring. The Trade Representative, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Energy, and any other senior executive branch official that the Trade Representative determines appropriate, shall monitor the circumstances related to the importation and purchases by countries of crude oil and natural gas of Russian Federation origin, as well as the facilitation of Russian sanctions evasion by countries, and regularly report to the President on those circumstances. The Trade Representative, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Energy, and any other senior executive branch official that the Trade Representative determines appropriate, shall promptly inform the President of any circumstance that, in his opinion, might indicate the need for further action by the President, including with respect to the waivers.

Sec. 4. Waiver. (a) Pursuant to section 115(a) of the Graham Act, I hereby waive the application of any duties provided for in sections 112 and 113 of the Graham Act or this order. I have submitted to the Congress a certification that the issuance of such a waiver is in the national interests of the United States and a report explaining the basis for the certification, consistent with section 115(b) of the Graham Act.

(b) Pursuant to section 115(a) of the Graham Act, I hereby waive the application of the sanctions provision provided for in section 102(d) of the Graham Act with respect to foreign persons and the restrictions provided for in section 102(d) of the Graham Act with respect to persons. For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this order affects any sanctions or other measures provided for under any Executive Order issued to address the national emergency that I continued on March 24, 2026, with respect to specified harmful foreign activities of the Government of the Russian Federation (91 *Fed. Reg.* 15515), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Graham Act, including with respect to all persons sanctioned under any such Executive Order. I have submitted to the Congress a certification that the issuance of such a waiver is in the national interests of the United States and a report explaining the basis for the certification, consistent with section 115(b) of the Graham Act.

(c) Pursuant to section 115(a) of the Graham Act, I hereby waive the application of the following sanctions provisions with respect to foreign persons and restrictions with respect to persons: sections 102(a), 102(e), 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, and 117 of the Graham Act. I have submitted to the Congress a certification that the issuance of such a waiver is in the national interests of the United States and a report explaining the basis for the certification, consistent with section 115(b) of the Graham Act.

(d) The waivers described in subsections (a) through (c) of this section shall remain in effect until such time as the President or the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Trade Representative, as appropriate, determine that further action is appropriate.

Sec. 5. Delegation of Authorities. (a) I hereby delegate the functions and authorities vested in the President by the Graham Act as follows:

(i) sections 102(a), 102(b), 102(c), 104(a), 108(b), 111(b), and 114(a)(2), to the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, and to the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State;

- (ii) section 115 to the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Trade Representative, as appropriate;
 - (iii) sections 102(e)(1), 103(a), 103(b), 103(d), 104(b), 110(a), 110(c), and 116(a) to the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State;
 - (iv) section 111(a) to the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary of the Treasury;
 - (v) section 112 to the Trade Representative, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury;
 - (vi) section 113(a) to the Trade Representative, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of Energy;
 - (vii) section 117(a), with respect to the termination of the application of any sanction with respect to a foreign person or any restriction with respect to a person, to the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury; and to the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State; and
 - (viii) section 117(a), with respect to the termination of any duty, to the Trade Representative, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Energy, and the Secretary of the Treasury.
- (b) The delegations in this section shall apply to any provisions of any future public laws that are the same or substantially the same as the provisions referenced in this section.

(c) The Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Trade Representative, and the Secretary of Energy may, consistent with applicable law, redelegate within their respective departments any of the functions or authorities delegated to them by this order. All executive departments and agencies shall take all appropriate measures within their authority to carry out the provisions of this order.

(d) Any reference in this section to the Graham Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the Graham Act as amended from time to time.

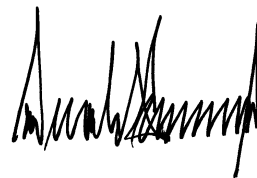
Sec. 6. Severability. If any provision of this order or the application of any provision of this order to any individual or circumstance is held to be invalid, the remainder of this order and the application of its provisions to any other individuals or circumstances shall not be affected.

Sec. 7. General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

- (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or
 - (ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.
- (b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

(d) The costs for publication of this order shall be borne by the Department of State.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly "Donald Trump", written in a cursive, slanted style.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
October 16, 2026.

[FR Doc. 2026-21599
Filed 10-20-26; 11:15 am]
Billing code 4710-05-P

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Federal Register

Vol. 91, No. 202

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

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