

**Supporting Statement for OMB Clearance for the Study of Non-Response to the  
School Meals Application Verification Process**

**Appendix 8**

**The Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act (HHFKA, Public Law 111-296; December 13,  
2010)**

identification of students and their parents by other than the authorized representatives of the Secretary; and

“(ii) any personally identifiable data shall be destroyed when the data are no longer needed for program monitoring, evaluations, and performance measurements.”.

**SEC. 104. ELIMINATING INDIVIDUAL APPLICATIONS THROUGH COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY.**

**(a) UNIVERSAL MEAL SERVICE IN HIGH POVERTY AREAS.—**

(1) **ELIGIBILITY.**—Section 11(a)(1) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1759a(a)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“(F) UNIVERSAL MEAL SERVICE IN HIGH POVERTY AREAS.—**

**“(i) DEFINITION OF IDENTIFIED STUDENTS.**—The term ‘identified students’ means students certified based on documentation of benefit receipt or categorical eligibility as described in section 245.6a(c)(2) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations).

**“(ii) ELECTION OF SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS.—**

**“(I) IN GENERAL.**—A local educational agency may, for all schools in the district or on behalf of certain schools in the district, elect to receive special assistance payments under this subparagraph in lieu of special assistance payments otherwise made available under this paragraph based on applications for free and reduced price lunches if—

**“(aa) during a period of 4 successive school years, the local educational agency elects to serve all children in the applicable schools free lunches and breakfasts under the school lunch program under this Act and the school breakfast program established under section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773);**

**“(bb) the local educational agency pays, from sources other than Federal funds, the costs of serving the lunches or breakfasts that are in excess of the value of assistance received under this Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.);**

**“(cc) the local educational agency is not a residential child care institution (as that term is used in section 210.2 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)); and**

**“(dd) during the school year prior to the first year of the period for which the local educational agency elects to receive special assistance payments under this subparagraph, the local educational agency or school had a percentage of enrolled students who were identified students that meets or exceeds the threshold described in clause (viii).**

Notification.  
Deadline.

“(II) ELECTION TO STOP RECEIVING PAYMENTS.—A local educational agency may, for all schools in the district or on behalf of certain schools in the district, elect to stop receiving special assistance payments under this subparagraph for the following school year by notifying the State agency not later than June 30 of the current school year of the intention to stop receiving special assistance payments under this subparagraph.

“(iii) FIRST YEAR OF OPTION.—

“(I) SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENT.—For each month of the first school year of the 4-year period during which a school or local educational agency elects to receive payments under this subparagraph, special assistance payments at the rate for free meals shall be made under this subparagraph for a percentage of all reimbursable meals served in an amount equal to the product obtained by multiplying—

“(aa) the multiplier described in clause (vii); by

“(bb) the percentage of identified students at the school or local educational agency as of April 1 of the prior school year, up to a maximum of 100 percent.

“(II) PAYMENT FOR OTHER MEALS.—The percentage of meals served that is not described in subclause (I) shall be reimbursed at the rate provided under section 4.

“(iv) SECOND, THIRD, OR FOURTH YEAR OF OPTION.—

“(I) SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENT.—For each month of the second, third, or fourth school year of the 4-year period during which a school or local educational agency elects to receive payments under this subparagraph, special assistance payments at the rate for free meals shall be made under this subparagraph for a percentage of all reimbursable meals served in an amount equal to the product obtained by multiplying—

“(aa) the multiplier described in clause (vii); by

“(bb) the higher of the percentage of identified students at the school or local educational agency as of April 1 of the prior school year or the percentage of identified students at the school or local educational agency as of April 1 of the school year prior to the first year that the school or local educational agency elected to receive special assistance payments under this subparagraph, up to a maximum of 100 percent.

“(II) PAYMENT FOR OTHER MEALS.—The percentage of meals served that is not described in subclause (I) shall be reimbursed at the rate provided under section 4.

“(v) GRACE YEAR.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—If, not later than April 1 of the fourth year of a 4-year period described in clause (ii)(I), a school or local educational agency has a percentage of enrolled students who are identified students that meets or exceeds a percentage that is 10 percentage points lower than the threshold described in clause (viii), the school or local educational agency may elect to receive special assistance payments under subclause (II) for an additional grace year. Deadline.

“(II) SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENT.—For each month of a grace year, special assistance payments at the rate for free meals shall be made under this subparagraph for a percentage of all reimbursable meals served in an amount equal to the product obtained by multiplying—

“(aa) the multiplier described in clause (vii); by

“(bb) the percentage of identified students at the school or local educational agency as of April 1 of the prior school year, up to a maximum of 100 percent.

“(III) PAYMENT FOR OTHER MEALS.—The percentage of meals served that is not described in subclause (II) shall be reimbursed at the rate provided under section 4.

“(vi) APPLICATIONS.—A school or local educational agency that receives special assistance payments under this subparagraph may not be required to collect applications for free and reduced price lunches.

“(vii) MULTIPLIER.—

“(I) PHASE-IN.—For each school year beginning on or before July 1, 2013, the multiplier shall be 1.6.

“(II) FULL IMPLEMENTATION.—For each school year beginning on or after July 1, 2014, the Secretary may use, as determined by the Secretary—

“(aa) a multiplier between 1.3 and 1.6;

and

“(bb) subject to item (aa), a different multiplier for different schools or local educational agencies.

“(viii) THRESHOLD.—

“(I) PHASE-IN.—For each school year beginning on or before July 1, 2013, the threshold shall be 40 percent.

“(II) FULL IMPLEMENTATION.—For each school year beginning on or after July 1, 2014, the Secretary may use a threshold that is less than 40 percent.

“(ix) PHASE-IN.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—In selecting States for participation during the phase-in period, the Secretary shall select States with an adequate number and variety of schools and local educational agencies that could benefit from the option under this subparagraph, as determined by the Secretary.

“(II) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may not approve additional schools and local educational agencies to receive special assistance payments under this subparagraph after the Secretary has approved schools and local educational agencies in—

“(aa) for the school year beginning on July 1, 2011, 3 States; and

“(bb) for each of the school years beginning July 1, 2012 and July 1, 2013, an additional 4 States per school year.

“(x) ELECTION OF OPTION.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—For each school year beginning on or after July 1, 2014, any local educational agency eligible to make the election described in clause (ii) for all schools in the district or on behalf of certain schools in the district may elect to receive special assistance payments under clause (iii) for the next school year if, not later than June 30 of the current school year, the local educational agency submits to the State agency the percentage of identified students at the school or local educational agency.

Deadline.

“(II) STATE AGENCY NOTIFICATION.—Not later than May 1 of each school year beginning on or after July 1, 2011, each State agency with schools or local educational agencies that may be eligible to elect to receive special assistance payments under this subparagraph shall notify—

“(aa) each local educational agency that meets or exceeds the threshold described in clause (viii) that the local educational agency is eligible to elect to receive special assistance payments under clause (iii) for the next 4 school years, of the blended reimbursement rate the local educational agency would receive under clause (iii), and of the procedures for the local educational agency to make the election;

“(bb) each local educational agency that receives special assistance payments under clause (iii) of the blended reimbursement rate the local educational agency would receive under clause (iv);

“(cc) each local educational agency in the fourth year of electing to receive special assistance payments under this subparagraph that meets or exceeds a percentage that is 10 percentage points lower than the threshold described in clause (viii) and that receives special assistance payments under clause (iv), that the local educational agency may continue to receive such payments for the next school year, of the blended reimbursement rate the local educational agency would receive under clause (v), and of the procedures for the local educational agency to make the election; and

“(dd) each local educational agency that meets or exceeds a percentage that is 10 percentage points lower than the threshold described in clause (viii) that the local educational agency may be eligible to elect to receive special assistance payments under clause (iii) if the threshold described in clause (viii) is met by April 1 of the school year or if the threshold is met for a subsequent school year.

“(III) PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—Not later than May 1 of each school year beginning on or after July 1, 2011, each State agency with 1 or more schools or local educational agencies eligible to elect to receive special assistance payments under clause (iii) shall submit to the Secretary, and the Secretary shall publish, lists of the local educational agencies receiving notices under subclause (II).

Deadline.  
Publication.  
Lists.

“(IV) PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF SCHOOLS.—Not later than May 1 of each school year beginning on or after July 1, 2011, each local educational agency in a State with 1 or more schools eligible to elect to receive special assistance payments under clause (iii) shall submit to the State agency, and the State agency shall publish—

Deadline.  
Publication.  
Lists.

“(aa) a list of the schools that meet or exceed the threshold described in clause (viii);

“(bb) a list of the schools that meet or exceed a percentage that is 10 percentage points lower than the threshold described in clause (viii) and that are in the fourth year of receiving special assistance payments under clause (iv); and

“(cc) a list of the schools that meet or exceed a percentage that is 10 percentage points lower than the threshold described in clause (viii).

“(xi) IMPLEMENTATION.—

“(I) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, the Secretary shall issue guidance to implement this subparagraph.

Deadline.

“(II) REGULATIONS.—Not later than December 31, 2013, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations that establish procedures for State agencies, local educational agencies, and schools to meet the requirements of this subparagraph, including exercising the option described in this subparagraph.

Deadline.

“(III) PUBLICATION.—If the Secretary uses the authority provided in clause (vii)(II)(bb) to use a different multiplier for different schools or local educational agencies, for each school year beginning on or after July 1, 2014, not later than April 1, 2014, the Secretary shall publish on the website of the Secretary a table that indicates—

Deadline.  
Web site.

“(aa) each local educational agency that may elect to receive special assistance payments under clause (ii);

“(bb) the blended reimbursement rate that each local educational agency would receive; and

“(cc) an explanation of the methodology used to calculate the multiplier or threshold for each school or local educational agency.

Publication.

“(xii) REPORT.—Not later than December 31, 2013, the Secretary shall publish a report that describes—

“(I) an estimate of the number of schools and local educational agencies eligible to elect to receive special assistance payments under this subparagraph that do not elect to receive the payments;

“(II) for schools and local educational agencies described in subclause (I)—

“(aa) barriers to participation in the special assistance option under this subparagraph, as described by the nonparticipating schools and local educational agencies; and

“(bb) changes to the special assistance option under this subparagraph that would make eligible schools and local educational agencies more likely to elect to receive special assistance payments;

“(III) for schools and local educational agencies that elect to receive special assistance payments under this subparagraph—

“(aa) the number of schools and local educational agencies;

“(bb) an estimate of the percentage of identified students and the percentage of enrolled students who were certified to receive free or reduced price meals in the school year prior to the election to receive special assistance payments under this subparagraph, and a description of how the ratio between those percentages compares to 1.6;

“(cc) an estimate of the number and share of schools and local educational agencies in which more than 80 percent of students are certified for free or reduced price meals that elect to receive special assistance payments under that clause; and

“(dd) whether any of the schools or local educational agencies stopped electing to receive special assistance payments under this subparagraph;

“(IV) the impact of electing to receive special assistance payments under this subparagraph on—

“(aa) program integrity;

“(bb) whether a breakfast program is offered;

“(cc) the type of breakfast program offered;

“(dd) the nutritional quality of school meals; and

“(ee) program participation; and

“(V) the multiplier and threshold, as described in clauses (vii) and (viii) respectively, that the Secretary will use for each school year beginning on or after July 1, 2014 and the rationale for any change in the multiplier or threshold.

“(xiii) FUNDING.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—On October 1, 2010, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary to carry out clause (xii) \$5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2014.

Effective date.

“(II) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—The Secretary shall be entitled to receive, shall accept, and shall use to carry out clause (xii) the funds transferred under subclause (I), without further appropriation.”

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 11(a)(1)(B) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1759a(a)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “or (E)” and inserting “(E), or (F)”.

(b) UNIVERSAL MEAL SERVICE THROUGH CENSUS DATA.—Section 11 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1759a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) UNIVERSAL MEAL SERVICE THROUGH CENSUS DATA.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall identify alternatives to—

“(A) the daily counting by category of meals provided by school lunch programs under this Act and the school breakfast program established by section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773); and

“(B) the use of annual applications as the basis for eligibility to receive free meals or reduced price meals under this Act.

“(2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—

“(A) CONSIDERATIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In identifying alternatives under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider the recommendations of the Committee on National Statistics of the National Academy of Sciences relating to use of the American Community Survey of the Bureau of the Census and other data sources.

“(ii) SOCIOECONOMIC SURVEY.—The Secretary shall consider use of a periodic socioeconomic survey of households of children attending school in the school food authority in not more than 3 school food authorities participating in the school lunch program under this Act.

“(iii) SURVEY PARAMETERS.—The Secretary shall establish requirements for the use of a socioeconomic survey under clause (ii), which shall—

“(I) include criteria for survey design, sample frame validity, minimum level of statistical precision, minimum survey response rates, frequency



of data collection, and other criteria as determined by the Secretary;

“(II) be consistent with the Standards and Guidelines for Statistical Surveys, as published by the Office of Management and Budget;

“(III) be consistent with standards and requirements that ensure proper use of Federal funds; and

“(IV) specify that the socioeconomic survey be conducted at least once every 4 years.

“(B) USE OF ALTERNATIVES.—Alternatives described in subparagraph (A) that provide accurate and effective means of providing meal reimbursement consistent with the eligibility status of students may be—

“(i) implemented for use in schools or by school food authorities that agree—

“(I) to serve all breakfasts and lunches to students at no cost in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary; and

“(II) to pay, from sources other than Federal funds, the costs of serving any lunches and breakfasts that are in excess of the value of assistance received under this Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) with respect to the number of lunches and breakfasts served during the applicable period; or

“(ii) further tested through demonstration projects carried out by the Secretary in accordance with subparagraph (C).

“(C) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of carrying out demonstration projects described in subparagraph (B), the Secretary may waive any requirement of this Act relating to—

“(I) counting of meals provided by school lunch or breakfast programs;

“(II) applications for eligibility for free or reduced priced meals; or

“(III) required direct certification under section 9(b)(4).

“(ii) NUMBER OF PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall carry out demonstration projects under this paragraph in not more than 5 local educational agencies for each alternative model that is being tested.

“(iii) LIMITATION.—A demonstration project carried out under this paragraph shall have a duration of not more than 3 years.

“(iv) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall evaluate each demonstration project carried out under this paragraph in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary.

“(v) REQUIREMENT.—In carrying out evaluations under clause (iv), the Secretary shall evaluate, using comparisons with local educational agencies with similar demographic characteristics—

“(I) the accuracy of the 1 or more methodologies adopted as compared to the daily counting

by category of meals provided by school meal programs under this Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) and the use of annual applications as the basis for eligibility to receive free or reduced price meals under those Acts;

“(II) the effect of the 1 or more methodologies adopted on participation in programs under those Acts;

“(III) the effect of the 1 or more methodologies adopted on administration of programs under those Acts; and

“(IV) such other matters as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.”

**SEC. 105. GRANTS FOR EXPANSION OF SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS.**

The Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 23. GRANTS FOR EXPANSION OF SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS.**

42 USC 1793.

“(a) **DEFINITION OF QUALIFYING SCHOOL.**—In this section, the term ‘qualifying school’ means a school in severe need, as described in section 4(d)(1).

“(b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Subject to the availability of appropriations provided in advance in an appropriations Act specifically for the purpose of carrying out this section, the Secretary shall establish a program under which the Secretary shall provide grants, on a competitive basis, to State educational agencies for the purpose of providing subgrants to local educational agencies for qualifying schools to establish, maintain, or expand the school breakfast program in accordance with this section.

“(c) **GRANTS TO STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.**—

“(1) **APPLICATION.**—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a State educational agency shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

“(2) **ADMINISTRATION.**—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall—

“(A) develop an appropriate competitive application process; and

“(B) make information available to State educational agencies concerning the availability of funds under this section.

“(3) **ALLOCATION.**—The amount of grants provided by the Secretary to State educational agencies for a fiscal year under this section shall not exceed the lesser of—

“(A) the product obtained by multiplying—

“(i) the number of qualifying schools receiving subgrants or other benefits under subsection (d) for the fiscal year; and

“(ii) the maximum amount of a subgrant provided to a qualifying school under subsection (d)(4)(B); or  
“(B) \$2,000,000.

“(d) **SUBGRANTS TO QUALIFYING SCHOOLS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A State educational agency receiving a grant under this section shall use funds made available