



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Trade and Foreign
Agricultural Affairs

Foreign
Agricultural
Service

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TO: Cortney Higgins
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THROUGH: Ruth Brown
Departmental Clearance Officer
Office of the Chief Information Officer

FROM: *50* Ken Isley *Ken*
Administrator
Foreign Agricultural Service

SUBJECT: Request for Emergency Approval for a New Information Collection
Package for the Agricultural Trade Promotion Program

This request is for the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review and emergency approval of a new collection of information for the Agricultural Trade Promotion Program (ATP). The Foreign Agricultural Service is preparing to implement the ATP. FAS is requesting emergency approval by August 15, 2018, to begin accepting applications under this new program.

The ATP is a cost-share program that is designed to reimburse nonprofit U.S. agricultural trade organizations, nonprofit state regional trade groups, U.S. agricultural cooperatives, and state agencies that conduct approved foreign market development activities. When considering eligible nonprofit U.S. trade organizations, FAS gives priority to organizations that have the broadest producer representation and affiliated industry participation of the commodity being promoted. Eligible activities can be generic or branded in nature. U.S. for-profit entities whose size does not exceed 300 percent of the small business size standards published at 13 CFR part 121, Small Business Size Regulations, may participate in an ATP Participant's brand promotion program.

The final rule will be published in the Federal Register to notify applicants of ATP provisions. Up to 70 applicants are expected to apply for funding under the ATP.

We are requesting emergency approval of a new information collection package by August 15, 2018, in order to quickly provide assistance to eligible entities.

If there are any questions or concerns, please call Curt Alt at (202) 690-4784.