
DATE: December 23, 2022

TO: Brenda Aguilar
Branch Chief

THROUGH: Ruth Brown
USDA Information Collection Officer

FROM: Scott Marlow
Deputy Administrator Farm Programs

SUBJECT: Request for Emergency Approval for a New Information Collection
Package—Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP)

This request is for OMB review and emergency approval of a collection of information necessary to implement the Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP). USDA determined that there are available funds from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (CAA; Pub. L. 116-260) that remain available until expended to use to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus by providing support for impacted agricultural producers. FSA is directed by USDA to implement PARP to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic by assisting producers of agricultural commodities who had revenue losses in 2020, compared to 2018 or 2019. These producers faced continuing market disruptions and reduced farm-level prices due to the COVID-19 pandemic. FSA's use of a producer's total allowable gross revenue for the PARP payment calculation will streamline the application process by reducing the amount of information an applicant must provide, since applicants are not required to submit loss data separately for each eligible agricultural commodity. The final rule will be published in the Federal Register to provide guidance and notify applicants of the sign-up period.

This collection of information is essential to the mission of FSA because it is part of the safety net to help producers continue farming despite suffering losses that are outside of their control and need to provide additional assistance quickly to agricultural producers for PARP. FSA also cannot reasonably comply with the normal PRA clearance procedures under 5 CFR part 1320 because public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal PRA clearance procedures are followed – that public harm would be to the producers who have suffered losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many of whom may not be able to absorb those losses and any additional delay in assistance could cause them to have to consider making business decisions that they would not otherwise choose to make, which could result in changes that could extend the harm to consumers and others in the line of business (5 CFR 1320.13(a)(2)(i)). If FSA had published a notification estimating the burden sooner, it would have preannounced the program before policy decisions were finalized and set expectations for payments sooner than would have been possible.

Up to 313,901 applicants are expected to apply for PARP payment by completing the PARP applications (FSA-1122). To determine eligibility and calculate payments, FSA needs to collect the applicant's 2020 allowable gross revenue and historic allowable gross revenue

(for either 2018 or 2019, as elected by the applicant) on form FSA-1122. Applicants must also submit the following forms if applicable and if not previously filed with FSA: CCC-860, Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, Beginning and Veteran Farmer or Rancher Certification; CCC-901, Member Information for Legal Entities; CCC-902, Farm Operating Plan; CCC-941, Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certification and Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information; and AD-1026- Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELC) and Wetland Conservation Certification. The form FSA-1123, Certification of 2020 Adjusted Gross Income, will also be used for those who exceed the standard \$900,000 average AGI limitation. Applicants who did not have a full year of revenue in 2018 or 2019, expanded their operation size in 2020, or began farming in 2020 will also submit form FSA-1122A, Continuation Sheet for Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP) Application, to adjust their historic allowable gross revenue for payment calculation purposes.

If there are any questions or concerns, please call Deirdre Holder at 202-205-5851 or Mary Ann Ball.