

R. Responses to NASS Comments

Food and Nutrition Service

Assessment of Administrative Costs of Electronic Healthy Incentives Projects

Response to NASS Comments

Comment: However, the paper does not address statistical methods to be used and explain why they are not needed currently. It is stated that Westat will conduct the qualitative and quantitative analyses, but there is no mention of statistical methods they will be using. Perhaps, Westat will provide them at a later stage.

Response: Upon completion of the data collection period, the study team will consolidate information from the various sources, including the eHIP project cost data and existing data sources and create a file for analysis using statistical software such as SAS or R. The initial step in the data cleaning process will involve adding a variable to the dataset that identifies any discrepancies. The study team will carefully document all modified values and provide the reasoning behind each decision. The team will also generate and review frequency distributions, particularly for the incentive issuance data. This effort will help ensure that the values for each variable fall within expected parameters and meet predetermined thresholds for completeness. All corrections, revisions, and additions will be thoroughly documented. To gain further insight into distributions, the team will use descriptive analyses such as means, percentages, and cross-tabulations. Using this analytic file, the study team will produce detailed tables and figures to be included in the final report. These tables and figures will address the study objectives. Responses to any open-ended questions will be uploaded into NVivo and coded along with the interview data collection.

Comment: It seems we are expecting a one hundred percent response rate, but we did not notice any methods that will be used should there be a need of response rate adjustment due to non-response.

Response: It is expected that all SNAP State agencies and GusNIP grantees will provide the requested administrative data, and all selected SNAP State agency, EBT processor, retailer, and TPP staff will complete interviews, conducting a nonresponse bias analysis is not applicable. Further, because the goal of the project is not a representative sample but rather an examination of specific State costs, a nonresponse bias analysis would not be appropriate even if the response rate were less than 100 percent. This language was added to section B.3.2. of Supporting Statement B.