**SUPPORTING STATEMENT - PART A for**

**OMB Control Number 0584-NEW:**

**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Demonstration Projects and State Options Report**

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**A1. Circumstances that make the collection of information necessary.**

**Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection. Attach a copy of the appropriate section of each statute and regulation mandating or authorizing the collection of information.**

This is a new information collection request. Demonstration projects allow State agencies to conduct approved pilot or experimental projects that waive requirements of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (the Act) (7 U.S.C. 2011, et seq.) and SNAP regulations to test program changes to improve program administration, increase the self-sufficiency of SNAP recipients, and improve the delivery of benefits to eligible households. Section 17(b) of the Act authorizes the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to set the terms and conditions for—and oversee the conduct of — demonstration projects proposed by State agencies. The Act limits the provisions that FNS may waive and requires that approved demonstration projects must include an evaluation component. FNS must also ensure that demonstration projects do not lead to increase program costs, called cost neutrality, in accordance with [OMB Memorandum 05-13](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/legacy_drupal_files/omb/memoranda/2005/m05-13.pdf).

The SNAP State Options Report summarizes a variety of critical SNAP policy options and waivers and categorizes the 53 SNAP State agencies according to the options and waivers they have implemented. FNS produces the report on an annual basis and posts it on its public website. SNAP statutes, regulations, and FNS waiver authority provide State agencies with the ability to adapt the program to best meet the needs of eligible households in their jurisdictions. These policy options, waivers, and administrative choices help State agencies simplify program administration and operations while promoting program access, service delivery, effective stewardship of government resources, and program integrity. The report is designed for a wide range of audiences, including SNAP State agencies, State and federal policymakers, other social service programs, advocacy groups, and researchers.

FNS developed the two most recent editions of the State Options Report using data already otherwise reported by State agencies or maintained by FNS (extant data), such as the State SNAP Plans of Operation (OMB Control #0584-0083, expiration 9/30/2026). Therefore, FNS will not duplicate data already approved by OMB in other collections. FNS seeks to expand upon the information included in the report through contacting State agencies directly for additional policy information that is unavailable in extant data and to contact State agencies directly to confirm the ongoing accuracy of extant data when necessary. In total, this would entail up to 30 questions for State agency response annually. FNS seeks to account for the new burden these activities would place on State agencies through this information collection.

**A2.** Purpose and Use of the Information

*Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.*

*In the response, identify the instrument by appendix reference/title with the activity described. How will this data be collected? Linking the data collection tools with the activities the respondents will complete.*

State agencies voluntarily conduct demonstration projects that waive any requirements of the Act and any SNAP regulations to test program changes to improve program administration, increase the self-sufficiency of SNAP recipients, or improve the delivery of benefits to eligible households.

To operate a demonstration project, State agencies must prepare and submit new project requests, project modifications, and project renewal requests to FNS for approval (Appendices C, D, and E). After review, FNS may issue a demonstration project approval, outlining the terms and conditions of the demonstration project. States must also prepare and submit data reports as part of the evaluation component to measure the project’s intended outcomes and benefits (Appendices F, G, H, I, and J). Previously, this information has been collected without an OMB control number. This information collection seeks to come into compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act for demonstration projects.

State agencies must complete and submit new, modification, and extension requests (Appendices C, D, and E) in the SNAP Waiver Information Management System (WIMS) (OMB Control #0584-0083, expiration 9/30/2026). FNS uses the information provided by State agencies to evaluate and determine whether to approve or deny the demonstration project. Utilizing the templates in the virtual library, State agencies specify the following information in their request, including:

▪ The type of demonstration project request (e.g., Standard Medical Deduction (SMD), Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP), Community Partner Interview (CPI), Combined Application Project (CAP), non-merit projects, or novel projects, among others).

▪ The statutory and regulatory citations the demonstration project would waive.

▪ The justification for requesting the demonstration project (e.g., lessen administrative burden and increase program access).

▪ The description of alternative procedures that differ from regular SNAP, like eligibility, verification, and evaluation components for the demonstration project, among others.

▪ An evaluation plan.

After the demonstration project is approved, State agencies must submit data reports to assess the project's overall performance (Appendices F, G, H, I, and J). Data report requirements are detailed in the evaluation section of the demonstration project approval and may include, but is not limited to, selecting a case sample, conducting case reviews, and validating the findings. States complete demonstration project data reports using a combination of caseload-level data, SNAP Quality Control (QC) case review data, and, if needed, additional case reviews of client circumstances. Additional case reviews may be necessary if the minimum sample size for statistical analysis is not met through other means and involves a State reaching out to a household using the QC review process. For additional information on the estimated burden on households, please see Answer 12.

Data reports vary for each type of demonstration project. The most common types of reports are annual and cost neutrality reports. Annual reports allow FNS to monitor demonstration project trends such as average caseload size, demographic data (e.g., older adults and people with disabilities) of the population participating in the demonstration project, timeliness, and payment error rates. Cost neutrality reports ensure that the implementation of a demonstration project does not significantly increase SNAP benefit costs. FNS must analyze program costs associated with demonstration projects to determine if any offsets are needed to protect Federal spending and maintain cost neutrality as required by [OMB Memorandum 05-13](file:///C:\Users\kstewart\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\1Q73FSYD\to%20protect%20Federal%20spending%20and%20maintain%20cost%20neutrality%20as%20required%20by%20OMB%20Memorandum%2005-13).

FNS finalized the latest edition of the State Options Report in June 2024. It includes 21 distinct policy options, waivers, and administrative choices. For example, the report includes policy options such as certification period lengths for households, waivers implemented such as the Elderly Simplified Application Demonstration Project, and administrative choices such as whether a State agency administers SNAP at the State, regional, or county level. The latest edition of the report includes a full list of the policy options, waivers, and administrative choices therein and is available via the following link: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/waivers/state-options-report>.

FNS has developed the two most recent editions of the State Options Report using extant data. Moving forward, FNS seeks to contact State agencies directly to confirm the accuracy of extant data and to add up to nine new policy options, waivers, and administrative choices to the report to reach a total of 30 (the latest report included 21.) FNS intends to request that State agencies respond to up to 30 clarifying questions via an online survey (Appendix K). There is a lag of up to eight months between when States submit extant data and the finalization of the State Options Report. The majority of the questions in the online survey will confirm the ongoing accuracy of extant data. Other questions will seek new information that FNS cannot otherwise obtain via extant data. Appendix K provides a summary list of all 30 option profiles and example questions. The questions asked may change each year as new policies and options are introduced or discontinued but will not exceed 30 questions in any year.

**A3. Use of information technology and burden reduction.**

**Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.**

**Burden Reduction Efforts**

FNS makes every effort to comply with the E-Government Act, 2002 (E-Gov) and to provide for alternative submission of information collections. As noted in A2, States submit pending demonstration requests, modification requests, extension requests, and data reports to FNS via WIMS. As such, we anticipate 100 percent of responses will be submitted electronically. FNS has NAtemplates for these documents, and reduced reporting frequency to reduce the burden on State agencies and individual SNAP households participating in demonstration projects.

To provide information for the State Options Report, FNS plans to ask a set of no more than 30 specific questions to State agencies concerning their State’s implementation of various existing SNAP policy options. State agencies would respond to FNS’s set of questions with answers via an online form. As such, we anticipate 100 percent of responses will be submitted electronically. Appendix K provides a summary list of all 30 option profiles and example questions. As noted above, FNS seeks to expand upon the information included in the report by contacting State agencies directly for additional policy information that is unavailable in extant data and to contact State agencies directly to confirm the ongoing accuracy of extant data when necessary.

**A4. Efforts to identify duplication.**

**Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purposes described in Question 2.**

Every effort has been made to avoid duplication and to utilize existing data sources wherever possible. FNS has reviewed USDA reporting requirements, state administrative agency reporting requirements, and special studies by other government and private agencies. There is no similar information collection process that exists to collect the information necessary for demonstration projects. FNS monitors State performance to ensure that the program is being efficiently and economically operated.

FNS has developed the two most recent editions of the State Options Report using extant data. FNS seeks to expand upon the information included in the report by contacting State agencies directly for additional policy information that is unavailable in extant data. In addition, , FNS seeks to contact State agencies directly to confirm the ongoing accuracy of extant data when necessary. In total, this would entail up to 30 questions for State agency response. FNS will not duplicate existing reporting requirements for SNAP State agencies as a result of this information collection other than to confirm extant data. FNS seeks to account for the new burden these activities would place on State agencies through this information collection.

**A5. Impacts on small businesses or other small entities.**

**If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities (Item 5 of OMB Form 83-I), describe any methods used to minimize burden.**

Information being requested or required for both the demonstration projects and the State Options Report has been held to the minimum required for the intended use. No small entities are impacted by this collection of information.

**A6. Consequences of collecting the information less frequently.**

**Describe the consequence to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted, or is conducted less frequently, as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.**

Section 17(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act allows FNS to set the terms and conditions for, and oversee the conduct of, demonstration projects proposed by State agencies to test changes to aspects of SNAP’s benefit structure and delivery system with the aim of increasing the efficiency of SNAP and improving delivery of SNAP benefits to eligible households. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum 05-13, Budget Discipline for Agency Administrative Actions, requires that any discretionary administrative action that would increase mandatory spending include a spending offset. If this collection was not conducted or was conducted less frequently, FNS would not be able to monitor approved demonstration projects effectively and may not be able to comply with OMB cost neutrality requirements.

The 16th Edition of the SNAP State Options Report, released June 14, 2024, summarizes 21 SNAP policy options and waivers and categorizes the 53 SNAP State agencies according to the options and waivers they have implemented. The report illustrates the degree of flexibility that Federal law and regulations provide to State SNAP agencies to tailor SNAP according to their respective operational considerations and policy preferences. The report is a valuable resource for SNAP policy development and improved implementation for the 53 State agencies responsible for directly administering SNAP. The report also supports SNAP research and policy development for various other stakeholders in federal and state government, the advocacy community, public policy institutes, and researchers. SNAP develops the report to support these stakeholders in their various activities to improve SNAP operations and consider policy innovations and changes. If this collection was not conducted or was conducted less frequently, FNS would be unable to expand and adapt the report as new policy and operational approaches change and would be unable to update the report with current data as frequently. These effects would significantly diminish the report’s utility as a reliable, up to date resource for SNAP operations support, policy development, and research for the aforementioned stakeholders.

**A7. Special circumstances relating to the Guidelines of 5 CFR 1320.5.**

There are no special circumstances. The collection of information is conducted in a manner consistent with the guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5.

**Collection of Race/Ethnicity Data**

FNS does not collect race and/or ethnicity data in this activity.

**A8. Comments to the Federal Register Notice and efforts for consultation.**

**If applicable, provide a copy and identify the date and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the agency's notice, required by 5 CFR 1320.8 (d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB. Summarize public comments received in response to that notice and describe actions taken by the agency in response to these comments. Specifically address comments received on cost and hour burden.**

FNS published a 60-day notice in the Federal Register on April 8, 2024. FNS received three comments. One comment was not germane to the content in this information collection. Two comments were relevant to the information collection. One comment, from the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) (Appendix M), regarded the demonstration project portion of the information collection. This comment encouraged FNS to be transparent about the demonstration project approval process, including timelines for approval or denial, identifying which agency within USDA handles demonstration project requests, determining what information needs to be included in the request, the required components for the project evaluation, and the process for submitting and receiving feedback from USDA about the request, and a lack of clarity around USDA’s timeline for reviewing the request. FNS is committed to transparency with its State partners and the general public but has historically focused efforts on improving the State experience. For instance, FNS provides support to State agencies via the SNAP Waiver Information Management System (WIMS) in the form of guidance, training, and technical assistance. WIMS facilitates the request and response process between State agencies and FNS, allows State agencies and FNS to communicate critical information about specific waivers in a central location, and contains a virtual library which holds all the demonstration project request templates (e.g., initial, modification and extension), data report templates, and guidance documents, which State agencies use to request projects and submit data reports. Information about demonstration projects is also available in public documents, such as the State Options Report and on the USDA website. The comment also encouraged FNS to explore offering grant opportunities to support demonstration projects. FNS is unable to explore offering grant opportunities to support demonstration projects without Congressional approval and appropriations.

The other comment, from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) (Appendix L), regarded the State Options Report portion of the information collection. CDSS expressed concerns about potential costs if FNS required CDSS to report new data and requested that FNS send any questions related to the new process for completing the SNAP State Options Report at least 90 days before the federal fiscal year begins. FNS appreciates CDSS’s concerns and seeks to account for the new burden these activities would place on State agencies through this information collection. As noted in A4, FNS seeks to improve the report through expanding the information included to better serve interested audiences. To do so, FNS needs to collect a limited amount of new information from State agencies that is not otherwise available or current. FNS intends to request that State agencies respond to up to 30 questions via an online survey. Some of these questions will seek new information that FNS cannot otherwise obtain via extant data. Others will seek merely to confirm the ongoing accuracy of extant data. Appendix K provides a summary list of all 30 option profiles and example questions. The questions asked may change each year as new policies and options are introduced or discontinued.

FNS cannot commit to communicating all questions at least 90 days before the federal fiscal year begins. Communicating questions at least 90 days before the federal fiscal year begins approach would introduce an approximately 10-month lag between data collection and finalization of the State Options Report the subsequent spring. This approach would likely introduce unnecessary follow-up to ensure the data remains accurate when the State Options Report is finalized each spring. However, FNS will strive to communicate data requirements to State agencies as early as possible, balancing the need for the data to be recent and accurate while minimizing requests of State agencies.

**Describe efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.**

**Consultation with representatives of those from whom information is to be obtained or those who must compile records should occur at least once every 3 years even if the collection of information activity is the same as in prior years. There may be circumstances that may preclude consultation in a specific situation. These circumstances should be explained.**

FNS consulted with State SNAP agencies in Massachusetts, Arizona, Illinois, and Michigan to determine the amount of time State agency staff spend initiating a demonstration project, fulfilling operational requirements, and requesting project renewals. FNS consulted with State SNAP agencies in South Carolina, Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, South Dakota, and Alabama to determine the time State agency staff would spend providing information for the SNAP State Options Report.

**A9. Explain any decisions to provide any payment or gift to respondents. Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.**

No payment or gift will be provided to respondents.

**A10. Assurances of confidentiality provided to respondents.**

**Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.**

The Department complies with the Privacy Act of 1974. No confidential information is associated with this collection of information. This information collection request has been reviewed and cleared by FNS Privacy Officer, Deea Coleman, on 8/27/2024.

**A11. Justification for any questions of a sensitive nature.**

**Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior or attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private. This justification should include the reasons why the agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.**

There are no questions of a sensitive nature included in this information collection.

**A12. Estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information.**

**Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information. Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated.**

**A. Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated. If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form and aggregate the hour burdens in Item 13 of OMB Form 83-I.**

To estimate burden for demonstration project requirements, FNS consulted with four State agencies to estimate the time State agency staff spent initiating a demonstration project, fulfilling operational requirements, and requesting project renewals. Based on this consultation, FNS estimates it would take approximately 1,105 hours for State agency staff to initiate a demonstration project, approximately 24 hours to prepare and submit a modification and/or extension request, and approximately 81 hours to prepare and submit required data reports. After consulting with internal stakeholders, FNS changed the way it represents the estimated annual burden to SNAP State agencies from that in the 60-Day notice associated with this ICR. FNS estimates that 10 SNAP State agencies would initiate a demonstration project, 39 SNAP State agencies would submit a modification and/or extension request, and 39 SNAP State agencies would submit a data report each year. The annual estimate for State agency demonstration project reporting is approximately 16,633 hours.

States complete demonstration project data reports using a combination of caseload-level data, SNAP Quality Control (QC) case review data, and additional case reviews, when there are too few demonstration project cases in the QC review sample to meet the demonstration project evaluation requirements. Therefore, the burden of demonstration project requirements for individual households is the burden of the additional case reviews in which SNAP households would have to participate.

In the 60-Day notice associated with this ICR, FNS erroneously did not include the burden on individual households associated with providing data for cost neutrality reports when estimating the costs of this information collection. States use the Quality Control (QC) review process to conduct reviews of supplemental cases to collect the data required for cost neutrality reports. To calculate the burden on individual households, FNS used 2022 data on the number of supplemental case reviews States with either an SMD or CAP needed to meet 200 minimum sample size for all cost neutrality reports. FNS estimates that 6,277 additional households would be subject to the QC review process for States to meet the minimum sample size for cost neutrality reports than would be expected under normal SNAP rules. These households are randomly selected from the universe of SMD or CAP participants needed to meet the minimum sample size for cost neutrality reports. Using historical data from OMB Control Number 0584-0074 (expiration 7/31/2025), FNS estimated it would take approximately one half-hour for a household to complete the QC review process. The annual estimate for household reporting is 3,139 hours.

To estimate burden for the State Options Report, FNS consulted with six State agencies to estimate the time State agency staff would spend providing information for inclusion in the SNAP State Options Report. Based on this consultation, FNS estimates it would take two hours for State agency staff to complete the FNS State Options Report question set. There are 53 State agencies required to respond to the FNS State Options Report question set. The annual estimate for State agency reporting is 106 hours. The estimated burden for this information collection including the number of respondents, frequency of response, average time to respond, and annual hour burden are shown in the attached Burden Table (Appendix B). A summary of the burden appears below.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Respondent** | **Burden Activity** | **Estimated Number of Respondents** | **Responses per Respondent** | **Total Annual Responses** | **Estimated Hours Per Response** | **Estimated Total Burden Hours** | **Base Hourly Wage Rate (See BLS)** | **Fully-Loaded Wage Rate** | **Total Annualized Cost of Respondent Burden** |
| **Reporting** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Households** | | | | | | | | | |
| SNAP Households | Number of supplemental cases needed to meet 200 minimum sample size for all cost neutrality reports | 6277 | 1 | 6277 | 0.5000 | 3138.5000 | $ 7.25 | $ 7.25 | $ 22,754.13 |
| **Subtotal Individuals/Households** | | 6277 | 1 | 6277 | 0.5000 | 3139 | $ 7.25 | $ 7.25 | $ 22,754.13 |
| **State Agencies** | | | | | | | | | |
| SNAP State Agencies | Preparing and submitting a new demonstration project request | 10 | 1 | 10 | 1105 | 11050 | $ 23.22 | $ 30.88 | $ 341,324.01 |
| SNAP State Agencies | Preparing and submitting modifications and extensions | 39 | .5 | 20 | 24 | 480 | $ 23.22 | $ 30.88 | $ 12,906.94 |
| SNAP State Agencies | Preparing and submitting data reports. | 39 | 1.5921 | 62 | 81 | 5022 | $ 23.22 | $ 30.88 | $ 156,161.75 |
| SNAP State Agencies | Responding to the FNS State Options Report question set | 53 | 1 | 53 | 2.0000 | 106.0000 | $ 23.22 | $ 30.88 | $ 3,273.56 |
| **Subtotal State Agencies** | | 53 | 2.6847 | 142.2911 | 116.8932 | 16,660 | $ 23.22 | $ 23.22 | $ 30.88 |
| **Grand Total Households + State Agencies** | | 6330 | 1.0141 | 6419.2911 | 3.0800 | 19,797 |  |  | $ 536,420.38 |

**B. Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens for collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage rate categories.**

The estimate of respondent cost is based on the burden estimates and utilizes the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2023 National Occupational and Wage Statistics, Occupational Group (43-4061 Eligibility Interviewers, Government Programs) (http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\_nat.htm). The hourly mean wage for functions performed by a State agency eligibility worker is estimated at $23.22 per staff hour for each associated burden activity. The overall estimated cost to the respondent for the data collection with fully loaded wages for State agencies is $536,420.38, which includes fringe benefits. FNS adds 33 percent to the State agency’s overall respondent cost to account for the fringe benefits. The estimated annualized, fully loaded cost to respondents after 50 percent reimbursement from the Federal government is $268,210.19. In addition, the cost to households is based on the U.S. federal minimum wage of $7.25 per hour. Based on this rate, the total estimated burden cost to households is $22,754.13 for reporting. The estimate for household reporting cost was estimated by using the U.S. Department of Labor’s most recent Federal minimum wage found at https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/minimum-wage. See table in A12A for details.

**A13. Estimates of other total annual cost burden.**

**Provide estimates of the total annual cost burden to respondents or recordkeepers resulting from the collection of information, (do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in questions 12 and 14). The cost estimates should be split into two components: (a) a total capital and start-up cost component annualized over its expected useful life; and (b) a total operation and maintenance and purchase of services component.**

There are no capital/start-up or ongoing operation/maintenance costs associated with this information collection.

**A14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government.**

**Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government. Provide a description of the method used to estimate cost and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information.**

The annual respondent cost for demonstration projects is $284,560.80. FNS estimates that one SNAP program analyst, GS grade 13 step 1 ($42.41/hour) will take approximately two hours to analyze the cost neutrality data reports received from this information collection, totaling $1,472.67. FNS estimates that one SNAP program analyst, GS grade 13 step 1 ($42.41/hour) will take approximately two hours to review all the data reports received from this information collection, totaling $6,573.14. FNS estimates that one SNAP program analyst, GS grade 13 step 1 ($42.41/hour) will take approximately six hours to review new demonstration project requests received from this information collection, totaling $3,232.70. FNS estimates that one SNAP program analyst, GS grade 13 step 1 ($42.41/hour) will take approximately six hours to review new demonstration project requests received from this information collection, totaling $3,232.70. FNS estimates that one SNAP Branch Chief, GS grade 14 step 1 ($50.12/hour) will take approximately two hours to review new demonstration project requests received from this information collection, totaling $1,273.34. FNS estimates that one SNAP program analyst, GS grade 13 step 1 ($42.41/hour) will take approximately two hours to review modification and extension requests received from this information collection, totaling $1,853.31. FNS estimates that one SNAP Branch Chief, GS grade 14 step 1 ($50.12/hour) will take approximately one hour to review modification and extension requests received from this information collection, totaling $1,095.01. The Federal share of State reimbursable costs is $268,210.19.

To assist in analyzing data from the State Plans of Operations and compile the State Options Report, FNS procures an annual contract at a cost of $84,152.00. Additionally, a team of SNAP program analysts, GS grade 13 step 1 ($42.41/hour) spend approximately 160 hours to analyze data and compile the State Options Report. One Senior Technical Analyst, GS grade 14 step 1 ($50.12/hour), spends approximately 38 hours leading the team, compiling the State Options Report, and preparing it for publishing. Six SNAP Regional Office Branch Chiefs, GS grade 14 step 1 ($50.12/hour) spend two hours each reviewing the State Options Report. The estimate of annualized staff costs to the Federal Government was estimated by using the U.S. Office of Personnel Management’s most recent 2024 General Schedule (GS) Hourly Pay Table found at https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/pdf/2024/GS\_h.pdf.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Estimates of Annualized Cost to Federal Government** | | | | | | |
| **Activities** | **Hours Spent on Collection** | **Number of Collections** | **Costs or Hourly Wage Rate** | **Total Cost** | **Fringe Benefits Cost for Staff (0.33)** | **Overall Cost w/ Fringe Benefits for Staff** |
| 50% Reimbursement Cost to States for reporting administrative cost | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | $268,210.19 |
| Program Analyst GS 13 Step 1 Estimates of Annualized Cost to Federal Government for analyzing data reports | 2 | 13.6667 | $42.41 | $1,159.21 | $382.54 | $1,541.74 |
| Program Analyst GS 13 Step 1 Estimates of Annualized Cost to Federal Government for reviewing data reports | 2 | 62.0921 | $42.41 | $5,266.65 | $1,738.00 | $7,004.65 |
| Program Analyst GS 13 Step 1 Estimates of Annualized Cost to Federal Government for reviewing new demonstration project requests | 6 | 10 | $42.41 | $2,544.60 | $839.72 | $3,384.32 |
| Branch Chief GS 14 Step 1 Estimates of Annualized Cost to Federal Government for reviewing new demonstration project requests | 2 | 10 | $50.12 | $1,002.40 | $330.79 | $1,333.19 |
| Program Analyst GS 13 Step 1 Estimates of Annualized Cost to Federal Government for reviewing modification and extension requests | 2 | 17.199 | $42.41 | $1,458.82 | $481.41 | $1,940.23 |
| Branch Chief GS 14 Step 1 Estimates of Annualized Cost to Federal Government for reviewing modification and extension requests | 1 | 17.199 | $50.12 | $862.01 | $284.46 | $1,146.48 |
| **Sub Total Cost to Government of Demonstration Projects** | **15** | **89.2911** | **$44.98** | **$12,293.69** | **$4,056.92** | **$284,560.80** |
| Contract Cost for analyzing data and compiling State Options Report | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | $84,152.00 |
| Senior Technical Analyst & Branch Chiefs GS-14 Step 1 Estimates of Annualized Cost to Federal Government for analyzing data and compiling State Options Report | 50 | 1 | $42.41 | $2,120.50 | $699.77 | $2,820.27 |
| Program Analysts GS 13 Step 1 Estimates of Annualized Cost to Federal Government for analyzing data and compiling State Options Report | 160 | 1 | $50.12 | $8,019.20 | $2,646.34 | $10,665.54 |
| **Subtotal Cost to Federal Government for analyzing data and compiling State Options Report** | **210** | **1** | **$46.27** | **$10,139.70** | **$3,346.10** | **$97,637.80** |
| **Grand Total Cost to Federal Government** | **225** | **90.2911** | **$45.62** | **$22,433.39** | **$7,403.02** | **$382,198.60** |

**A15. Explanation of program changes or adjustments.**

This submission is a new information collection request as a result of program changes and will add approximately 6,419 responses and 19,797 hours of burden to OMB’s inventory.

**A16. Plans for tabulation, and publication and project time schedule. For collections of information whose results are planned to be published, outline plans for tabulation and publication.**

This collection does not employ statistical methods and there are no plans to publish the results of this collection for statistical analyses.

**A17. Displaying the OMB Approval Expiration Date. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.**

The agency plans to display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection on all instruments.

**A18. Exceptions to the certification statement identified in 83-I, Item 19. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in Item 19 of the OMB 83-I "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act."**

There are no exceptions to the certification statement.