

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Department certifies that this proposed rule will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act, Public Law No. 96-354 (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*). Accordingly, a regulatory flexibility analysis is not required for this proposed rule.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance

The programs affected by this proposed rule are listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under 10.205, Payments to the 1890 Land-Grant Institutions and Tuskegee University and West Virginia State College, and No. 10.500, Cooperative Extension Service.

Paperwork Reduction Act

In accordance with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations (5 CFR part 1320) which implement the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the information collection and recordkeeping requirements that will be imposed in the implementation of this proposed rule will be submitted to OMB for approval. These requirements would not become effective prior to OMB approval.

Title: Section 1449 Matching Funds Requirements for Research and Extension Activities at Eligible Institutions.

Summary: The purpose of this information collection is to implement the requirements of section 1449 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (NARETPA). This provision establishes the matching requirements for the 1890 land-grant institutions," including Tuskegee University and West Virginia State College. This information collection had previously been approved by OMB as No. 0524-0038 and expires on 04/30/2003. Section 7212 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (FSRIA) amended section 1449 of NARETPA. The existing information collection needs revision to reflect the amended requirements. In order to be in compliance with the Government Paperwork Elimination Act (44 U.S.C. 3504 note), CSREES will develop and implement an electronic option for submitting this information as soon as a robust eAuthentication solution is available. CSREES is expectant that this could occur by June 2004.

Need for the Information: This information is needed by CSREES to determine if the matching requirements under section 1449 of NARETPA have

been met by the 1890 land-grant institutions including Tuskegee University and West Virginia State College. CSREES intends to require the eligible institutions to complete Form CSREES-2103, "Section 1449 Matching Funds Requirement for Research and Extension Activities at Eligible Institutions," up to three times per year for research activities and three times per year for extension activities to provide information on the projected funds, the actual funds, and any revisions to the actual funds.

Respondents: Respondents will be the eighteen 1890 land-grant institutions, including Tuskegee University and West Virginia State College, which will provide information to USDA on the amount and source of non-Federal funds made available by the States to the eligible institutions for agricultural research, extension, and qualifying educational activities to meet the matching requirements of section 1449 of NARETPA.

Estimate of the Burden: The estimated burden on the respondents for Form CSREES-2103, "Section 1449 Matching Funds Requirement for Research and Extension Activities at Eligible Institutions" is 3.6 hours per response. This burden estimate is based on a small survey of eligible institutions who have experience completing the current Form CSREES-2103, "Section 1449 Matching Funds Requirement for Research and Extension Activities at Eligible Institutions."

Estimated Number of Respondents: 18.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses: 108.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 388.8 hours.

Frequency of Responses: Three times a year.

Copies of this information collection can be viewed at <http://www.reeusda.gov/part/areera> or can be obtained from Ellen Danus, Policy and Program Liaison Staff, Office of Extramural Programs, CSREES, USDA, (202) 401-4325, e-mail: edanus@reeusda.gov.

Comments: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the

collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: CSREES-USDA; Office of Extramural Programs; Policy and Program Liaison Staff; Mail Stop 2299; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW.; Washington, DC 20250-2299 by July 3, 2003, or to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20502. Reference should be made to the volume, page, and date of this **Federal Register** publication.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 3419

Agricultural extension, Agricultural research, Colleges and universities.

For reasons set forth in the preamble, it is proposed to revise part 3419 of title 7, subtitle B, chapter XXXIV, of the Code of Federal Regulations to read as follows:

PART 3419—MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENT FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION FORMULA FUNDS AT 1890 LAND-GRANT INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY AND WEST VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE

Sec.

- 3419.1 Definitions.
- 3419.2 Matching Funds.
- 3419.3 Limited waiver authority.
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- 3419.5 Certification of matching funds.
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Authority: 5 U.S.C. 301, 7 U.S.C. 3222d; sec. 753, Pub. L. 105-277, 112 Stat. 2681-33.

§ 3419.1 Definitions.

As used in this part:

Eligible institution means a college or university eligible to receive funds under the Act of August 30, 1890 (7 U.S.C. 321 *et seq.*) (commonly known as the Second Morrill Act), including Tuskegee University and West Virginia State College. **Formula funds** means agricultural research funds provided to the eligible institutions under section 1445 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (NARETPA), as amended, and agricultural extension funds provided to the eligible institutions under section 1444 of NARETPA.

Matching funds means cash contributions from non-Federal sources made available by the State to the eligible institutions: