

Regulatory Analysis Template

TEXT BOXES WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE

Agency Name IDALS **Rule #** 21 IAC 50 WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN/FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM AND SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM

Iowa Code Section Authorizing Rule Chapter 175B - IOWA FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM

State or Federal Law(s) Implemented by the Rule 7 CFR Part 249 and 7 CFR Part 250

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

Date/Time: 03/ 12/ 2024 9:00am

Location: Wallace Building, 2nd floor conference room

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this regulatory analysis. Written comments in response to this regulatory analysis must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on the date of the public hearing. Comments should be directed to:

Contact Name

Colin Tadlock

Address

502 E 9th St, Des Moines, IA 50319

Email and/or phone number

Colin.tadlock@iowaagriculture.gov

Purpose and summary of proposed rule:

The proposed rule will update the language around voucher redemption to allow IDALS to transition from bank-deposited checks to app-deposited vouchers.

Furthermore, the rule provides farmers with more flexibility on when and where they can accept Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) vouchers as payment.

Furthermore, the rule clarifies noncompliance sanction procedures for farmers and for FMNP participants.

Analysis of Impact of Proposed Rule

Regulatory Analysis Template

1. Persons affected by the proposed rule

- Classes of persons that will bear the costs of the proposed rule:

None

- Classes of persons that will benefit from the proposed rule:

Farmers, senior, and WIC families, participating in Iowa FMNP.

Regulatory Analysis Template

2. Impact of the proposed rule, economic or otherwise, including the nature and amount of all the different kinds of costs that would be incurred

- Quantitative description of impact:

There is no economic cost to participate, the rule change will have no impact.

- Qualitative description of impact:

The rule change will make voucher redemption more convenient for some farmers. But generally, the proposed rule change will not have a qualitative impact.

3. Costs to the state

- Implementation and enforcement costs borne by the agency or any other agency:

The state contributes around \$35,000 annually in required matching funds for the program, with most funding (e.g., a \$1,187,761 grant for FFY23) coming from the USDA. The proposed rule change will not have an effect on state agency costs. Matching funds do contribute to personnel costs of 1 FTE.

- Anticipated effect on state revenues:

The program does not contribute to state revenues, and the proposed rule change will have no impact.

4. Comparison of the costs and benefits of the proposed rule to the costs and benefits of inaction

The current rules only address voucher redemption via bank deposit. Inaction would complicate IDALS' effort to modernize our voucher redemption system.

5. Determination if less costly methods or less intrusive methods exist for achieving the purpose of the proposed rule

None - no additional costs will be incurred

6. Alternative methods considered by the agency

- Description of any alternative methods that were seriously considered by the agency:

None

- Reasons why they were rejected in favor of the proposed rule:

Small Business Impact

Regulatory Analysis Template

If the rule will have a substantial impact on small business, include a discussion of whether it would be feasible and practicable to do any of the following to reduce the impact of the rule on small business:

- Establish less stringent compliance or reporting requirements in the rule for small business.
- Establish less stringent schedules or deadlines in the rule for compliance or reporting requirements for small business.
- Consolidate or simplify the rule's compliance or reporting requirements for small business.
- Establish performance standards to replace design or operational standards in the rule for small business.
- Exempt small business from any or all requirements of the rule.

If legal and feasible, how does the rule use a method discussed above to reduce the substantial impact on small business?

The proposed rule changes will reduce the substantial impact on small businesses (participating farmers) by providing greater flexibility on when and where they can accept FMNP vouchers as payment.

Text of Proposed Rule: