



United States Department of Agriculture



Farm Bill Program Overview: Financial Assistance

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USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

HOW TO GET ASSISTANCE FROM NRCS



CONTACT YOUR LOCAL USDA SERVICE CENTER!



TYPES OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM

Programs that protect wetlands and ag lands by purchasing conservation easement rights from the landowner.



CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Emphasizes conservation performance - earn higher payments for higher levels of conservation that address natural resource concerns.



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

Producers receive assistance to implement conservation practices that address natural resource concern outlines in a conservation plan.

Conservation Practices:

- Wildlife Habitat
- Livestock Watering Facilities
- Pastureland Improvement
- Manure Management
- Soil Health Practices
- Water Quality Practices
- Forestry Management
- Filter Strips



General Applicant Eligibility Requirements

- Agricultural producers and owners of non-industrial private forestland and Tribes...
- Eligible land includes cropland, pastureland, non-industrial private forestland and other farm or pasturelands.
- Socially disadvantaged, beginning and limited resource farmers, Indian tribes and veterans are eligible for an increased payment rate.



General Applicant Eligibility Requirements continued:

- Control or own eligible land
- Comply with adjusted gross income limitation (AGI) provisions
- Be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation requirements.



ASSISTANCE TO HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED PRODUCERS



**LIMITED RESOURCE
FARMER**



BEGINNING FARMER



**SOCIALLY
DISADVANTAGED**



MILITARY VETERAN

Dependent on each program, HU producers are eligible for:

- Higher payment rates
- Payment advances
- Priority for funding



PROGRAM DEADLINES

- Applications are accepted on a continual basis
- Dates for each funding cycle are announced each year,
- You can get up-to-date information on deadlines by signing up for GovDelivery.



For more information about NRCS Programs:

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<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/indiana>

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Helping People Help the Land.