

LOCAL TO NATIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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Local to National Funding Opportunities



Image credit: macrovector

Traditional Bank Loans

Local Bank

If you have a long-standing history in your community and have done business with a local lender your bank is a good place to start

Farm Credit

supports rural communities and agriculture by serving every part of agriculture from the smallest operations to the largest



Farm Credit by the Numbers



Source: farmcredit.com/about

USDA FSA Loans for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers



USDA Farm Service Agency
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Loans for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

Overview
Building a successful farm is a significant financial investment and can be especially challenging for beginning farmers who are not financially ready to access credit from commercial lenders. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes and guarantees loans to beginning farmers. While FSA is fully committed to all farmers and ranchers, there is a special focus on the credit needs of farmers and ranchers who are in their first 10 years of operation.

Each year Congress targets a percentage of farm ownership and farm operating loan funds to beginning farmers. Providing loan programs is important as beginning farmers have historically experienced more difficulties obtaining financial assistance.

A beginning farmer is an individual or entity who:

- Has not operated a farm for more than 10 years;
- Substantially participates in the operation;
- For farm ownership loans, the applicant cannot own a farm greater than 30 percent of the average size farm in the county, at time of application.
- If the applicant is an entity, all members must be related by blood or marriage, and all entity members must be eligible beginning farmers.

In addition, beginning farmers must meet the loan eligibility requirements for the program.

Maximum Loan Amounts

- Direct farm ownership: \$600,000
- Direct operating loan: \$400,000
- Microloan: \$50,000 each for operating and farm ownership
- Guaranteed farm ownership or operating loan: \$2,236,000
- EZ Guarantee: \$100,000 (\$50,000 if the lender is a micro lender)

Down Payment Program

FSA has a special loan program to assist beginning farmers in purchasing a farm. Retiring farmers may use this program to transfer their land to future generations.

Requirements:

- Cash down payment of at least 5 percent of the purchase price.
- Loan amount limited to 45 percent of the least of:
 - The purchase price of the farm;
 - The appraised value of the farm; or
 - \$667,000 (\$300,150 maximum).
- 20 years loan term.
- Interest rate is 4 percent below the direct farm ownership rate, but not lower than 1.5 percent.

The remaining balance may be obtained from a commercial lender or private party. FSA can guarantee up to 95 percent of the loan if financing is obtained from a commercial lender. Participating lenders do not have to pay a guarantee fee.

Financing from participating lenders must have an amortization period of at least 30 years and cannot have a balloon payment due within the first 20 years of the loan.

Capital
Farmers may apply for direct loans at their local FSA offices. Your local FSA offices are listed in the telephone directory under U.S. Government, Department of Agriculture or Farm Service Agency or find your local FSA office at farmers.gov.

How to Apply
For guaranteed loans, applicants must apply to a commercial lender who participates in the Guaranteed Loan Program. Contact your local FSA office for a list of participating lenders.

More Information
For more information visit: fsa.usda.gov/farmloans or farmers.gov. Find your local USDA Service Center at farmers.gov/service-locator.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. fsa.usda.gov

SEPTEMBER 2023 fsa.usda.gov

Types of Loans

- ❖ Farm ownership
- ❖ Operating loans
- ❖ Microloans
- ❖ Direct and Guaranteed

Resource

- Loans for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Fact Sheet
- USDA FSA website
- County FSA office

USDA FSA Loans for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

Beginning farmers are defined as an individuals/entity who

- ❖ Who has not operated a farm for more than 10 years.
- ❖ Substantially participates in the operation.

For farm ownership loans

- ❖ The applicant cannot own greater than 30% of the average size farm in the county.

If the applicant is an entity


- ❖ All members must be related by blood or marriage and an eligible beginning farmer.




The screenshot shows the USDA Farm Service Agency website. The header includes the USDA logo, "Farm Service Agency", and "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE". Navigation links include "About FSA", "Ask USDA", "Contact Us", and "Forms". A green navigation bar contains "Home", "Programs & Services", "State Offices", "Online Services", and "Newsroom", along with a search bar. The main content area is titled "Farm Loan Programs". On the left, a "Section Topics" sidebar lists: "Farm Loan Programs Home", "Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Loans", "Emergency Farm Loans", "Farm Loan Servicing", "Farm Operating Loans", "Farm Ownership Loans", "Funding", "Guaranteed Farm Loans", "Guaranteed Loans Lender Toolkit", and "Microloans". The main content area features a video thumbnail titled "Nicole & Nathan Discover FSA Farm Loans" with the subtitle "Using the Online Loan Assistance Tool". Below the video, text states: "The Farm Service Agency offers loans to help farmers and ranchers get the financing they need to start, expand or maintain a family farm." and "Use the [Loan Assistance Tool](#) to check your eligibility for FSA Loans, discover FSA loan types, learn about FSA Loan requirements, and walk through the easy-to-understand instructions when completing the forms." Below this is an "In the News" section with links: "Farm Loans to Finance Climate-Smart Practices or Equipment", "USDA Now Accepting Applications for Farm Loans Online", and "USDA Launches Loan Assistance Tool to Enhance Equity and Customer Service". A "Feedback" button is visible in the bottom right corner of the content area.

<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/index>

USDA FSA Farm Loans



Farm Loans Overview




Overview
The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers direct and guaranteed loans to farmers and ranchers to promote, build, and sustain family farms for a thriving agricultural economy.

Farm ownership, operating, and emergency loans are available under the Direct Loan Program. Farm ownership, operating, and conservation loans are available under the Guaranteed Loan Program. FSA offers two types of guarantees under the Land Contract Guarantee Program.

The goal of FSA's farm loan programs is to help farmers and ranchers obtain commercial credit. Once you are able to obtain credit from a commercial lender, our mission of providing temporary, supervised credit is complete.

Direct Farm Loans
FSA's Direct Loan Program is designed to help farmers start, purchase, or expand their farming operation. From beginning farmers who have limited financial history to qualify for commercial credit to farmers who have suffered financial setbacks from natural disasters, FSA offers a variety of loans to provide additional resources farmers need to establish and maintain profitable farming operations. Farmers may apply for direct loans at their local FSA offices.



Guaranteed Farm Loans
FSA guaranteed loans are available to farmers who may not meet loan qualifications from a commercial lender. Guaranteed loans are made and serviced by commercial lenders, such as banks, Farm Credit System institutions, or credit unions. Under a guaranteed loan, a commercial lender makes and services the loan, and FSA guarantees it against loss up to a maximum of 90 percent in most cases or 95 percent in limited circumstances. FSA approves eligible loan guarantees and provides oversight of lenders' activities. Contact a local FSA office for a list of participating lenders.

Farm Ownership Loans
Farm Ownership Loans may be used to purchase a farm, enlarge an existing farm, construct new farm buildings and/or improve structures, pay closing costs, and promote soil and water conservation and protection. The direct loans are available up to a maximum of \$600,000. Microloans are also available. FSA will guarantee farm ownership loans through a commercial lender up to \$2,236,000. The maximum repayment term is 40 years for both direct and guaranteed farm ownership loans.

Farm Operating Loans
Farm Operating Loans may be used for normal operating expenses, machinery and equipment, minor real estate repairs or improvements, and refinancing debt. The direct loans are available up to a maximum of \$400,000. Microloans are also available. FSA will guarantee farm operating loans through a commercial lender up to \$2,236,000. The repayment term may vary, but it cannot exceed seven years. Annual operating loans are generally repaid within 12 months or when the commodities produced are sold.

SEPTEMBER 2023

“The USDA FSA offers direct and guaranteed loan to farmers and ranchers to promote, build, and sustain farms for a thriving agricultural economy.”

Farm Ownership Loans

- ❖ Max. direct loan amount: \$600,000 (IR of 5.250%)
- ❖ Max. guaranteed loan amount: \$2,236,000
- ❖ Max repayment (both): 40 years

Farm Operation Loans

- ❖ Max direct loan amount: \$400,000 (IR of 4.875%)
- ❖ Max. guaranteed loan amount: \$2,236,000
- ❖ Max repayment (both): 12 years or when the commodities produced are sold

USDA FSA Farm Loans

The screenshot shows the 'FARM LOANS OVERVIEW' page for September 2023. It includes sections for 'Overview', 'Direct Farm', 'Down Payment Program', 'Conservation Loans', and 'Loans for Beginning and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers'. Each section contains detailed text and bullet points. There are also two images: a field of crops and a hand holding a seedling. The page footer includes the USDA logo and the URL fsa.usda.gov/.

Overview
The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) offers farmers and ranchers family farms for a...

Direct Farm
USDA's Direct Loan Program provides financing for the start, purchase, or expansion of a farm. From beginning farm history to qualify for who have suffered from disasters, FSA offers additional resources to maintain profitable apply for direct loan

Down Payment Program
The Down Payment loan assists social and beginning farmers in purchasing a farm. Requirements:
• The applicant must make a cash-down least 5 percent of the purchase price
• The maximum loan amount does not exceed 90 percent of the least of the purchase price to be acquired, the appraised value, or the purchase price (Note: This program has a maximum loan amount of \$300,150).
• The term of the loan is a maximum of 30 years and the interest rate is 4 percent below the commercial rate, but not lower than 4 percent.
• The remaining balance may be obtained from a commercial lender or private party, to a 95 percent guarantee if financing is obtained from a commercial lender. Participating lenders may charge a guarantee fee.
• Financing from participating lender amortization period of at least 30 years with a balloon payment due within 10 years of the loan.

Conservation Loans
Conservation Loans provide access to credit for farmers and ranchers who want to implement conservation measures on their land. These loans are available to both smaller and less financially established farmers and ranchers, and to larger and financially stronger farmers and ranchers. The family farm and test for credit requirements are not applicable to Conservation Loans. Farmers and ranchers may use conservation loans to complete any conservation activity included in a USDA approved conservation plan or Forestry Management Plan. The maximum loan amount is \$2,236,000 with a maximum repayment term of 30 years. Conservation Loans are available as guaranteed loans only.

Loans for Beginning and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers
Each year, Congress targets a percentage of farm ownership and farm operating loan funds to beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers. Providing loan programs is important as these groups of farmers have historically experienced more difficulties obtaining financial assistance. FSA offers several loan programs to assist beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers (refer to the fact sheets titled Loans for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Loans for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers). FSA's Down Payment Program is offered to assist socially disadvantaged and beginning farmers in purchasing a farm with a maximum loan amount of \$300,150.

Land Contract Guarantees
FSA also offers financial guarantees for land sale contracts to a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer. The seller may request either of the following:
• Prompt Payment Guarantee: A guarantee up to the amount of three amortized annual installments plus the cost of any related real estate taxes and insurance.
• Standard Guarantee: A guarantee of 90 percent of the outstanding principal balance under the land contract.
The purchase price of the farm cannot exceed the lesser of \$500,000 or the market value of the property.
The buyer must provide a minimum down payment of 5 percent of the purchase price of the farm. The interest rate is fixed at a rate not to exceed the direct farm ownership loan interest rate in effect at the time the guarantee is issued, plus three percentage points. The guarantee period is 10 years for either plan regardless of the term of the land contract. The contract payments must be amortized for a minimum of 20 years. Balloon payments are prohibited during the 10-year term of the guarantee.

Who is Eligible
Eligibility requirements:
• Be a family farmer;
• Have a satisfactory credit history;
• Be a citizen of the United States, including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Marshall Islands; a U.S. non-citizen national or a qualified alien under federal immigration law;
• Be unable to obtain credit elsewhere at reasonable rates and terms to meet actual needs;
• Have the legal capacity to incur the obligations of the loan;
• Not have outstanding unpaid judgments obtained by the U.S. in any court, excluding judgments filed in U.S. Tax Courts;

Down Payment Program

assists socially disadvantaged and beginning farmers in purchasing a farm.

Youth Loans

for youth between 10-20 years old who need assistance with an educational agricultural program such as 4-H or FFA.

Emergency Loans

help cover damages/losses suffered by natural disaster

Conservation Loans

provide access to credit for farmers who want to implement conservation measures on their land.

Loans Beginning and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers

Loans for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Loans for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Fact Sheet

USDA FSA Microloan

“The Farm Service Agency (FSA) developed the microloan program to better serve the unique financial operating needs of new, niche, and small to mid-sized family farm operations.”

Types of Microloans

- ❖ Farm Operating Loans
- ❖ Farm Ownership Loans

Rates & Terms

- ❖ Farm operating loan: up to \$50,000 (repaid within 12 months)
- ❖ Farm ownership loan: up to \$50,000 (repayment will not exceed 25 years)
- ❖ Combined max: \$100,000
- ❖ Interest rates (effective 3/1/2024): 4.875—5.250%



Overview

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) developed the microloan program to better serve the unique financial operating needs of new, niche, and small to mid-sized family farm operations.

Microloans offer more flexible access to credit and serve as an attractive loan alternative for smaller farming operations, like specialty crop producers and operators of community supported agriculture (CSA). These smaller farms, including non-traditional farm operations, often face limited financing options.

Types Of Microloans


Two types of microloans are available: Farm Operating Loans and Farm Ownership Loans. The microloans are issued to the applicant directly from FSA.

- Operating microloans can be used for all approved operating expenses authorized by the FSA Operating Loan (OL) Program, including but not limited to: initial start-up expenses; annual expenses such as seed, fertilizer, utilities, land rents, marketing and distribution expenses; family living expenses; purchase of livestock, equipment and other materials essential to farm operations; minor farm improvements such as wells and coolers; hoop houses to extend the growing season; essential tools, irrigation; and delivery vehicles.
- Ownership microloans can be used for all approved expenses authorized by the FSA Farm Ownership (FO) Loan Program, such as to purchase a farm or farm land, enlarge an existing farm, construct new farm buildings, improve existing farm buildings, pay closing costs, and implement soil and water conservation and protection practices.

Simplified Application Process

The microloan application process is simpler, requiring less paperwork to complete, consistent with a smaller loan amount. Requirements for managerial experience and loan security have been modified to accommodate veterans, smaller farm operations, and beginning farmers.

- Microloan applicants for operating loans will need to have some farm experience; however, FSA will consider an applicant's small business experience, as well as any experience with a self-guided apprenticeship, as a means to meet the farm management requirement. This will assist applicants who have limited farm skills by providing them with an opportunity to gain farm management experience while working with a mentor during the first production and marketing cycle.
- Microloan applicants for ownership loans need to have three years of farm experience out of the last 10 prior to the date of the application being submitted. One of the years can be substituted with any of the following experience:
 - Post-secondary education, that is at least 16 semester hours in agricultural business, horticulture, animal science, agronomy, or other agriculture-related fields



Rates And Terms

Applicants may apply for microloans totaling a combined maximum of \$100,000. Up to \$50,000 for a farm ownership loan and up to \$50,000 for an operating loan.

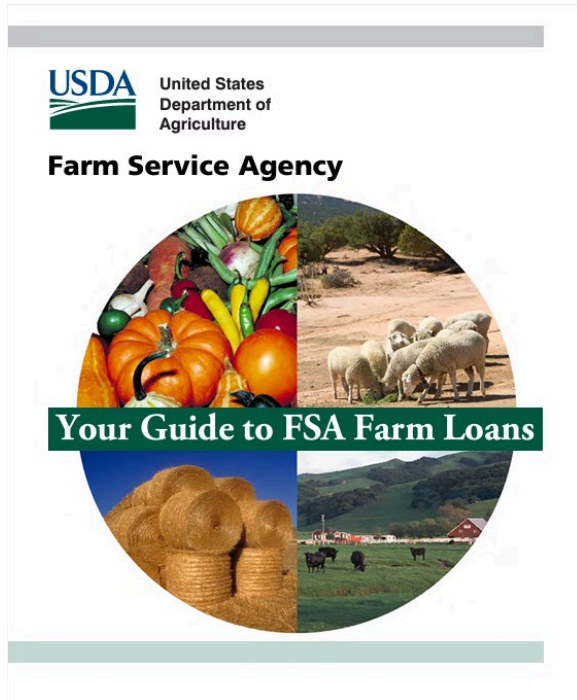
For operating microloans, eligible applicants may obtain up to \$50,000. The repayment term may vary and will not exceed seven years. Annual operating loans are repaid within 12 months or when the agricultural commodities produced are sold. Interest rates are based on the regular FSA operating loan rates that are in effect at the time of the microloan approval or microloan closing, whichever is less.

For ownership microloans, eligible applicants may obtain a microloan for up to \$50,000. The repayment term may vary and will not exceed 25 years. Interest rates are the regular FSA farm ownership rates in effect at the time of the loan approval or closing.

How To Apply

FSA microloan application forms can be obtained from the local FSA office or can be downloaded and printed from the USDA website at fsa.usda.gov/microloans. Applicants who are having problems gathering information or completing forms should contact their local FSA office for help. After completing the required paperwork, an applicant should submit the farm loan application to their local FSA office. To find your local FSA office, visit farmers.gov.

USDA FSA Additional Resources



Your Guide to FSA Farm Loan Guidebook

Links can be found on the USDA FSA's Farm Loan Program page
<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/index>

USDA FSA State Office

8030 Excelsior Dr., Madison, WI 53717
888-361-2000

<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Wisconsin/index>

USDA FSA County Office

To find your local FSA office, visit farmers.gov

USDA NIFA Grants

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)

Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs

offers competitive grants to qualified small businesses to support high quality research related to important scientific problems and opportunities in agriculture that could lead to significant public benefits.

SBIR/STTR Phase I

Range of awards: \$125,000-\$170,000

Project duration: 8 month for SBIR and 12 months for STTR

SBIR/STTR Phase II

Range of award: \$600,000 - \$650,000

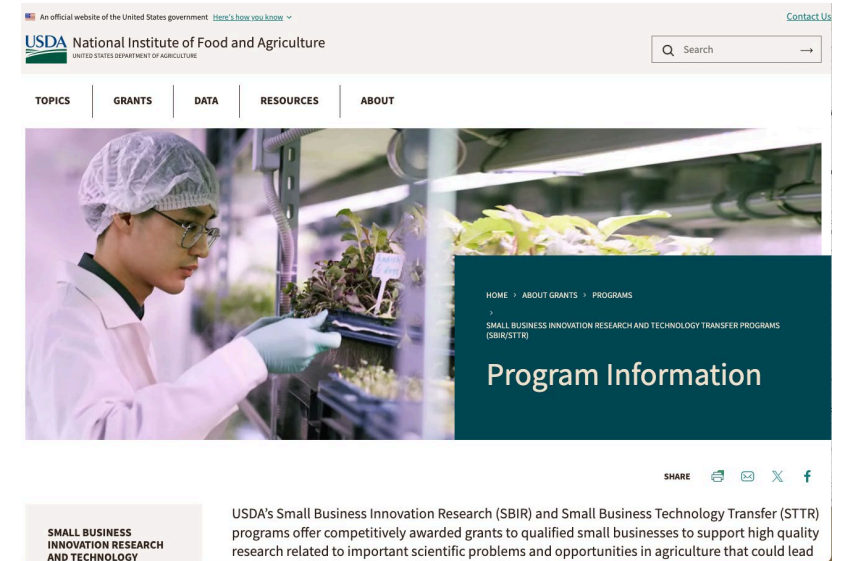
Project duration: 24 months

For more information visit

<https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/programs/sbir-sttr/program-information>

Contact

Dr. Timothy Sullivan @ Timothy.Sullivan@usda.gov



Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (SARE) Grants

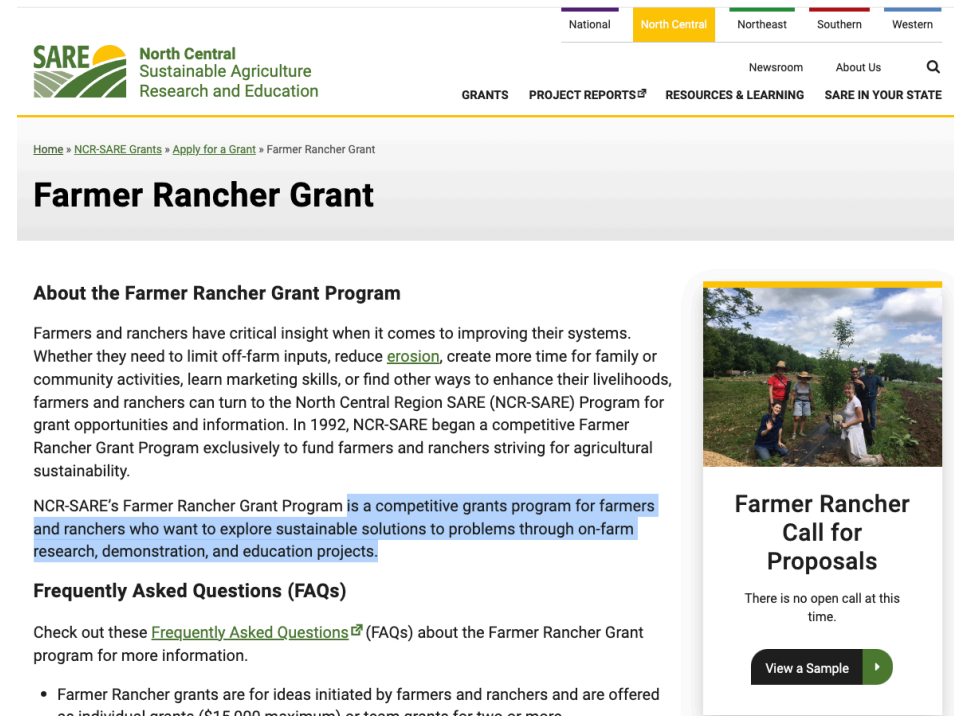
Farmers Rancher Grant Program

is a competitive grants program for farmers and ranchers who want to explore sustainable solutions to problems through on-farm research, demonstration, and education projects.

- ❖ Individual grant (up to \$15,000)
- ❖ Team grants (up to \$30,000)
- ❖ Projects may last up to 23 months

In 2023, NCR-SARE selected 42 out of the 140 proposal that were received.

For for information visit: northcentral.sare.org



The screenshot shows the NCR-SARE website. The header includes the SARE logo and navigation links for National, North Central, Northeast, Southern, and Western regions. The main content area is titled "Farmer Rancher Grant" and includes an "About the Farmer Rancher Grant Program" section. The text describes the program's purpose and provides a link to "Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)". A "Farmer Rancher Call for Proposals" box is also visible, indicating that there is no open call at this time.

Farmer Rancher Grant

About the Farmer Rancher Grant Program

Farmers and ranchers have critical insight when it comes to improving their systems. Whether they need to limit off-farm inputs, reduce [erosion](#), create more time for family or community activities, learn marketing skills, or find other ways to enhance their livelihoods, farmers and ranchers can turn to the North Central Region SARE (NCR-SARE) Program for grant opportunities and information. In 1992, NCR-SARE began a competitive Farmer Rancher Grant Program exclusively to fund farmers and ranchers striving for agricultural sustainability.

NCR-SARE's Farmer Rancher Grant Program is a competitive grants program for farmers and ranchers who want to explore sustainable solutions to problems through on-farm research, demonstration, and education projects.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Check out these [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQs) about the Farmer Rancher Grant program for more information.

- Farmer Rancher grants are for ideas initiated by farmers and ranchers and are offered as individual grants (\$15,000 maximum) or team grants for two or more

Farmer Rancher Call for Proposals

There is no open call at this time.

[View a Sample](#)

SARE

Wisconsin State Contacts



Diane Mayerfeld

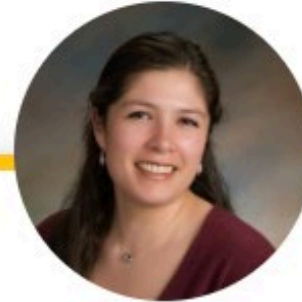
State Coordinator

University of Wisconsin Madison

✉ [Email dbmayerfeld@wisc.edu](mailto:dbmayerfeld@wisc.edu)

☎ [\(608\) 262-8188](tel:(608)262-8188)

BIO +



Emily Proctor

1994 Tribal College Coordinator

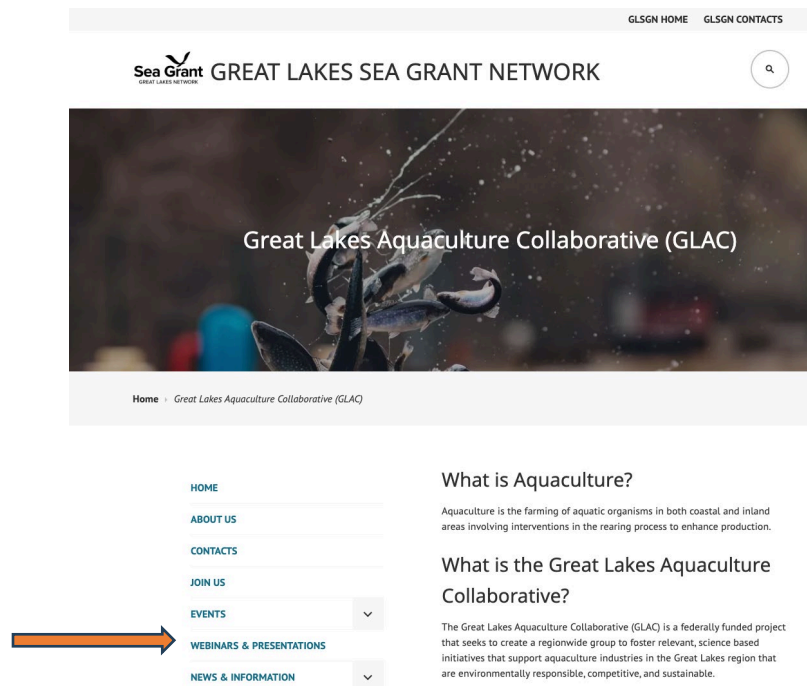
✉ [Email proctor8@msu.edu](mailto:proctor8@msu.edu)

☎ [\(231\) 439-8927](tel:(231)439-8927)

BIO +

To learn about more financing opportunities

Visit the Great Lakes Aquaculture Collaborative website and check out the **WEBINARS & PRESENTATIONS** page



Fishy Finances: Tips for Funding your Fish Farm

Presenter: Joan Benjamin, farmer rancher grant program coordinator and associate regional coordinator, North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE).

Date: November 17, 2021; Steve Nehrig, Farm Credit Mid-America; Tim Sullivan, national program leader of animal production systems, USDA NIFA.

To learn about more financing opportunities

or Ohio Sea Grant's website to read

Resources for Fishy Finances: Tips to Help Fund Your Fish Farm

<https://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/products/l4x9g/resources-for-fishy-finances-tips-to-help-fund-your-fish-farm>





CFAES OHIO SEA GRANT AND STONE LABORATORY OSU-F5-1523

Resources for Fishy Finances: Tips to Help Fund Your Fish Farm

Specialized Financial Services
Farm Credit Mid-America
e-farmcredit.com
Farm Credit Mid-America is a financial services cooperative in Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee that provides loans for real estate, operating costs, equipment, housing and related services for farmers and rural residents. Find a local branch at e-farmcredit.com/find-locations.

Contact a State or Regional Representative About Grant Programs
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)
sare.org
A decentralized competitive grants and education program operating in every state and island protectorate, SARE is divided into four different regions that operate as separate entities and run grant programs for their states. Farmers can directly apply to programs such as the Farmer Rancher grant, Youth Educator grant, and Partnership grant. Search previously funded projects at projects.sare.org/search-projects.
North Central SARE northcentral.sare.org
Northeast SARE northeast.sare.org
Southern SARE southern.sare.org
Western SARE western.sare.org

U.S. Regional Aquaculture Centers
Established by the United States Congress for aquaculture research, development and demonstration and as the vehicle to implement USDA's National Aquaculture Development Plan, each center funds single- and multi- year projects that address critical and regionally important aquaculture issues. Aquaculture program contact Dr. Tim Sullivan can be reached at sullivan@usda.gov.
Center for Tropical & Subtropical Aquaculture ctsa.org
North Central Regional Aquaculture Center ncrac.org
Northeastern Regional Aquaculture Center aqnr.umd.edu/research/research-and-education-centers-locations/northeastern-regional-aquaculture-center
Southern Regional Aquaculture Center srac.msstate.edu
Western Regional Aquaculture Center depts.washington.edu/wracuw
Also contact your state Department of Agriculture to find out what grant programs they have!

go.osu.edu/fishyfinances

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**Farm Service Agency
Overview of Disaster
Assistance Program
Improvements
(ELAP)**

WI/MN - March 22, 2024



Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP

- Effective with the 2021 program year, the Deputy Administrator determined to expand the coverage of losses for farm-raised fish from game and bait fish to include additional farm-raised fish for food, raised in a controlled environment as approved by FSA.
- In May of 2021, FSA rolled out the policy to implement coverage of Farm Raised Fish, including Finfish and Mollusks. Reptiles are still not covered under ELAP.

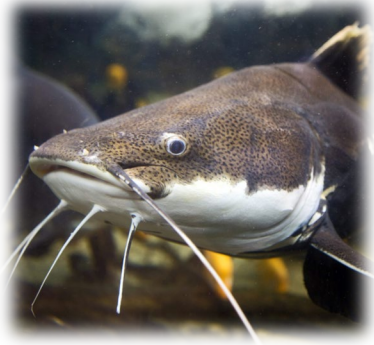




Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP

FSA State Committees were tasked with finding out as much information as possible about the producers that raised farm raised fish in their states. They were obligated to determine the following information:

- Average Fair Market Values for all eligible farm raised eligible aquaculture in their state
- Establish a Normal Mortality for all eligible farm raised eligible aquaculture in their state





Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP

FSA State Committees and the National Office worked with countless Universities, Aquaculture Experts, Aquaculture and Shellfish Associations, Fish and Wildlife Service Experts, NOAA and any other experts that FSA could find, nationally and state by state.

These resources helped establish Average Fair Market Values, and helped update the NAP program pricing as well as the normal morality values that NAP uses





Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP



At a National Level, FSA Continues to work with NAA to improve the ELAP program. Those meetings have yielded the following progress:



- A combination meeting with Catfish Farmers of America, reaching out to our FSA county offices, with training by catfish experts, and FSA to help both parties learn more about the ELAP process



- Working with NAA to produce acceptable prices for Redfish



Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP

At a National Level, FSA Continues to work with NAA to improve the ELAP program. Those meetings have yielded the following progress (Cont.):

- Working to produce a more complete marketing size list for prices for shellfish and finfish
- Helping FSA with outreach to attend events such as this.
- Introducing FSA to the different working groups of aquaculture and establishing relationships with specific species groups





Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP

At a National Level, FSA Continues to work with NAA to improve the ELAP program. Those meetings have yielded the following progress (Cont.):

- Continuing to build understanding of causes of loss to help work with Congress to updates to the ELAP program and inquiries
- Giving examples of understanding when it comes to marketing species and the life cycles to get to a marketable product
- Working with NAA to communicate the importance of supplying acceptable inventory reporting to maximize ELAP benefits

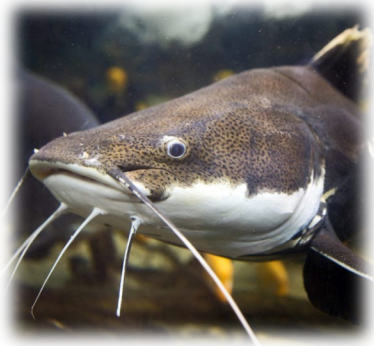




Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP

NAP and ELAP continue to work hand in hand.

- Rates for Average Fair Market Values are set using an Olympic Average, when there is enough data to sustain a 5-year period, otherwise a simple average may be used.
- Producers may earn a payment from NAP and ELAP for the same losses in the same year, as ELAP and NAP are exempt under the Multiple Benefit Exclusion at this time set under Congress.





Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP

Farm Raised Fish Payouts under ELAP since 2021:

- dollars for the 2021 Program Year - *\$111,221,342*
- dollars for the 2022 Program Year - *\$67,175,605*
- dollars so far, for the 2023 Program Year - *\$25,644,120*





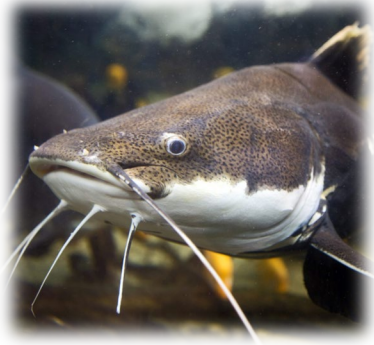
ELAP Farm-Raised Fish Eligibility



Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP

Eligible Losses for Aquaculture are:

- *Eligible Farm Raised Fish Physical Losses*
- *Eligible Farm Raised Fish Feed Losses*





Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP

Eligible Loss Conditions Include, but are not limited to:

- earthquakes
- excessive heat
- excessive wind
- floods
- hurricane
- tidal surge
- tornados
- volcanic eruption
- freeze
- eligible adverse weather





Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP


STC must establish normal mortality rates and average fair market values for all eligible farm-raised fish in their State:

- State Offices will establish average fair market values for the different types and sizes of eligible farm-raised fish produced in the State, with the exception of ornamental fish.
- ELAP compensates eligible farm-raised fish producers for eligible farm-raised fish death losses that occur in excess of normal mortality because of an eligible loss condition during the program year.
- If the State has established NAP mortality rates for the applicable farm-raised fish, the NAP normal mortality rate must be used for ELAP.






Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP



Payment for a specific kind/type of farm-raised fish will be based on the number or pounds or pieces, depending on the STO submission, of fish lost by subtracting the ending inventory from the beginning inventory of the specific kind/type of fish just before the loss condition, and after ensuring normal mortality has been reduced from the number or pounds of fish lost.



Normal Mortality for Farm Raised Fish is not required to be applied under ELAP, if a producer is able to provide a recent Beginning Inventory, that would be considered acceptable by the County Committee.



Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP

A producer may certify their inventory losses, if other producers in the area suffered the same losses. However, if they are unable to support that inventory with some type of acceptable documentation, then a normal mortality rate should be applied.

Producers should work with county offices to provide inventory records, and work to develop a plan for each individual producer of how/when to provide those records to the county office





Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP

Required Documentation to be eligible for ELAP Farm Raised Fish Losses include:

- Acreage Report (surface acres of water, or if that is not available, a geo data location of the Farm Raised Fish)
- Verifiable or Reliable Documentation of Farm Raised Fish
 - Death Loss
 - Beginning Inventory, the Day Prior to the Loss
 - Ending Inventory
- Any documentation requested by the County Committee to determine if an aquaculture facility or environment is eligible.





Farm-Raised Fish - ELAP

National Payment Factors for Farm Raised Fish under ELAP are:

- *75 percent of the calculated payment, or*
- *90 percent of the calculated payment, if a producer certifies to being the definition of a beginning farmer or rancher, limited resource producer, or a qualifying veteran producer*



