

January 26, 2023

<u>Coronavirus Food Assistance Program Update – Additional</u> <u>Assistance for Underserved Producers</u>

Earlier this month, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) sent a notice to all FSA State Offices regarding additional assistance through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) for underserved producers. These CFAP 2 payments will be equal to 15% of a producer's previous CFAP 2 payments. Payments through the CFAP 2 for underserved farmers will come from Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funds. Payments for tobacco, though, will utilize the remaining funds authorized under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). According to the FSA notice, County Offices should have begun certifying and signing payments around January 11, 2023.

<u>Note:</u> Contract producers are *not* eligible for these additional payments as previous CFAP 2 payments for them were authorized under a different law.

Eligibility: FSA will make determinations based upon the 2020 program certification on CCC-860, which must be on file with FSA, fitting one of the below listed categories. If producers have not previously certified their status for the 2020 program, they must do so by **February 10, 2023**, in order to be eligible for the additional payments.

- Socially Disadvantaged Farmer (including women, as well as racial and ethnic minorities)
- Limited Resource Farmer
- Beginning Farmer
- Veteran Farmer

If you have questions regarding payments or your eligibility, please contact your local FSA County Office.

Additional Information:

To read the entire FSA notice, visit: https://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_Notice/cfap_28.pdf?utm_medium=email& utm_source=govdelivery

To review or fill out the CCC-860 form, visit: https://www.fsa.usda.gov/Assets/USDA-FSA-Public/usdafiles/Farm-Loan-Programs/pdfs/ccc0860 200721v01.pdf

To find your local FSA County Office, visit: https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=ky&agency=fsa