



# Coronavirus Food Assistance Program

## Toolkit for Stakeholders

Agricultural producers can now apply for USDA's Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), which provides direct payments to offset impacts from the coronavirus pandemic. The [application](#) and a [payment calculator](#) are now available online, and USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) has launched a call center to help answer questions. FSA staff members are available via phone, fax and online tools to help producers complete applications.

**We need your help.** We want to ensure producers are aware of available online tools and the call center, as well as how FSA is working virtually with producers to complete applications. This toolkit is meant for producers and agricultural organizations to use to share information in their networks. This toolkit includes:

- Key messages
- Newsletter article
- Social media posts
- Social media story posts

Other available resources include:

- **CFAP Fact Sheets:** FSA offers a variety, including a [general CFAP fact sheet](#), commodity-specific fact sheets for [non-specialty crops](#), [wool](#), [livestock](#), [dairy](#), and [specialty crops](#), and a [consideration of additional commodities fact sheet](#).
- **Frequently Asked Questions:** These include recent questions that we have received from producers.

If you have questions, you can reach us at [fpac.bc.press@usda.gov](mailto:fpac.bc.press@usda.gov).



## Key Messages

- USDA is now taking applications for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program.
  - The application, additional forms, and online calculator are available on [farmers.gov](https://farmers.gov).
- The online calculator is an Excel workbook to help producers understand the sales and inventory records needed to apply and to calculate potential payments.
  - This tool allows producers to enter information specific to their operation and will generate a completed application form that can be signed and submitted to their local FSA office for review and processing.
- Producers who are interested in filling out the application manually can also [download the application form, AD-3114](#). An [AD-3114A continuation form](#) is available for producers who need additional space.
- FSA set up a call center in order to simplify how we serve new customers across the nation. The CFAP Call Center is available for producers who would like additional one-on-one support with the CFAP application process. Please call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer assistance.
  - This is a good first step before a producer engages the team at the FSA county office at their local USDA Service Center.
- Producers should apply through their local Farm Service Agency. While USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only, FSA is working with our agricultural producers by phone and using email and online tools to process applications.
  - Please call your FSA county office to schedule an appointment. You can find contact information for your local USDA Service Center at [farmers.gov/cfap](https://farmers.gov/cfap).
- Those who use the online calculator tool will be able to print off a pre-filled CFAP application, sign, and submit to your local FSA office either electronically or via hand delivery through a drop box. Please contact your local office to determine the preferred method.
- CFAP is structured to ensure the availability of funding for all eligible producers who apply.
  - In order to do this, producers will receive 80 percent of their maximum total payment upon approval of the application. The remaining portion of the payment, not to exceed the payment limit, will be paid at a later date nationwide, as funds remain available.
- Eligible commodities and additional information can be found on [farmers.gov/cfap](https://farmers.gov/cfap).



- USDA will consider additional commodities to be eligible for CFAP by collecting information that is not currently available to USDA on potentially eligible commodities.
- You are encouraged to submit data and information for consideration if you are a producer of an agricultural commodity that you believe have either:
  - suffered a five percent-or-greater price decline between mid-January and mid-April as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic,
  - shipped but subsequently spoiled due to loss of marketing channel, or
  - not left the farm or remained unharvested as mature crops.
- The deadline to submit comments is June 22, 2020.
- The additional commodities USDA determines eligible will be announced late summer 2020.



## Newsletter Article

### Farmers and Ranchers Can Now Apply for Financial Assistance through USDA's Coronavirus Food Assistance Program

#### *Online Tools and Toll-Free Number Available to Assist Producers*

Agricultural producers can now apply for USDA's Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), which provides direct payments to offset impacts from the coronavirus pandemic. The application and a payment calculator are now available online, and USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) staff members are available via phone, fax and online tools to help producers complete applications. The agency set up a call center in order to simplify how they serve new customers across the nation.

Applications will be accepted through August 28, 2020. Through CFAP, USDA is making available \$16 billion for vital financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a five-percent-or-greater price decline due to COVID-19 and face additional significant marketing costs as a result of lower demand, surplus production, and disruptions to shipping patterns and the orderly marketing of commodities.

FSA wants to remind producers that the program is structured to ensure the availability of funding for all eligible producers who apply.

In order to do this, producers will receive 80 percent of their maximum total payment upon approval of the application. The remaining portion of the payment, not to exceed the payment limit, will be paid at a later date nationwide, as funds remain available.

Producers can download the CFAP application and other eligibility forms from [farmers.gov/cfap](https://farmers.gov/cfap). Also, on that webpage, producers can find a payment calculator to help identify sales and inventory records needed to apply and calculate potential payments.

Additionally, producers in search of one-on-one support with the CFAP application process can call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer assistance. This is a good first step before a producer engages the team at the FSA county office at their local USDA Service Center.

#### **Applying for Assistance**

Producers of all eligible commodities will apply through their local FSA office. Those who use the online calculator tool will be able to print off a pre-filled CFAP application, sign, and submit to your local FSA office either electronically or via hand delivery



through a drop box. Please contact your local office to determine the preferred method. Find contact information for your local office at [farmers.gov/cfap](https://farmers.gov/cfap).

Documentation to support the producer's application and certification may be requested after the application is filed. FSA has streamlined the signup process to not require an acreage report at the time of application and a USDA farm number may not be immediately needed.

### **Additional Commodities**

USDA is also establishing a process for the public to identify additional commodities for potential inclusion in CFAP. Specifically, USDA is looking for data on agricultural commodities, that are not currently eligible for CFAP, that the public believes to have either:

1. suffered a five percent-or-greater price decline between mid-January and mid-April as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic,
2. shipped but subsequently spoiled due to loss of marketing channel, or
3. not left the farm or remained unharvested as mature crops.

More information about this process is available on [farmers.gov/cfap](https://farmers.gov/cfap).

### **More Information**

To find the latest information on CFAP, visit [farmers.gov/cfap](https://farmers.gov/cfap) or call 877-508-8364.

USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only, and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. More information can be found at [farmers.gov/coronavirus](https://farmers.gov/coronavirus).

## Sample Posts for Facebook and Twitter

Below are social media posts for use on Facebook, Twitter, and other platforms. Be sure to tag us: @USDA, @FarmersGov, @usdaFSA, and @USDA\_AMS.

- Farmers & ranchers can now apply for financial assistance through @USDA's Coronavirus Food Assistance Program. [farmers.gov/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/CFAP) [+ graphic option below]
- @USDA is now accepting applications for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program through August 28, 2020. [farmers.gov/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/CFAP) [+ graphic option below]
- @USDA has a call center available to help with producers' CFAP questions. Call 877-508-8364. [+ graphic option below]



- @USDA has an online calculator to help producers understand the sales & inventory records needed to apply & calculate potential payments. [farmers.gov/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/CFAP) [+ one of two graphic options below]
- @USDA's online calculator tool will enable producers to print off a pre-filled CFAP application, sign, and submit to your local FSA office. [farmers.gov/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/CFAP) [+ one of two graphic options below]



**CFAP Payment Calculator and AD-3114 Generator**

State: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Producer: \_\_\_\_\_ 5/26/2020

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** 100% of the estimated gross payment before reductions is \$0. Your payment may not exceed \$250,000, except if you are a corporation, limited liability company or limited partnership and 2 or 3 members each contribute 400 hours of labor and/or management, then your payment limit is \$500,000 or \$750,000, respectively. You will receive an initial payment of 80% of the gross payment, not to exceed 80% of the payment limit. Subsequent payments may be issued at a later date.

**Part 1: Dairy Production Information**

	January 2020 Production	February 2020 Production	March 2020 Production	80% Estimated CARES Gross Payment before payment limits and other reductions	80% Estimated CCC Gross Payment before payment limits and other reductions	80% Estimated Total CARES & CCC Gross Payment before payment limits and other reductions
Pounds of Production:				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

**Part 2: Non-Specialty Crop and Wool**

	2019 Total Production	2019 Production Not Sold (as of Jan 15, 2020)	80% Estimated CARES Gross Payment before payment limits and other reductions	80% Estimated CCC Gross Payment before payment limits and other reductions	80% Estimated Total CARES & CCC Gross Payment before payment limits and other reductions
Commodity			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

**farmers.gov/CFAP**



# CORONAVIRUS FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Our CFAP Payment Calculator is available to assist with the CFAP application process.

[farmers.gov/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/CFAP)



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Our CFAP Payment Calculator is available to assist with the CFAP application process.

[farmers.gov/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/CFAP)





## Sample Posts for Instagram Story and Facebook Story

Below are graphics for use on Instagram Story and Facebook Story. If your account is enabled to include links, please include [farmers.gov/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/CFAP). Be sure to tag us: @USDA, @FarmersGov, @USDA\_AMS.

We recommend a story with three graphics.



**CORONAVIRUS  
FOOD ASSISTANCE  
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Now accepting applications  
through August 28, 2020



Learn More



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Our online calculator helps producers  
understand the sales and inventory  
records needed to apply and calculate  
potential payments.



Sign Up Now



**CORONAVIRUS  
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We have a call center available to  
help with producers' questions.



Call us at 877-508-8364