

USDA NRCS Assistance for Minority Farmers

What Assistance is Available?

- Short-term contracts to assist farmers and/or land-owners with applying practices and activities, such as: conservation tillage, buffers, nutrient management, animal waste storage, barnyards, and more than 100 other practices.
- Technical assistance to help farmers carry out the practices.
- Practice payments to reduce the cost to the farm operation.

What is the Advantage for Minority Farmers?

- Higher payment rate [Agricultural Management Assistance Program (AMA) and Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)].
- Advance practice payment options in EQIP of up to 50% for materials for construction, when work can begin immediately.

How do I know if I Qualify as a Minority Farmer?

- The applicant or the operator must be an agricultural producer engaged in the production of livestock or other agricultural products.
- Minority farmers include African Americans, American Indians or Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, and Asians or Pacific Islanders.
- Owners of farms who are not the operator may apply for AMA and EQIP.

What Farmers May Not Qualify?

- At least half of the ownership of the operation must meet the minority farmer criteria to qualify for higher payment rates.



How Does a Farmer Apply?

- Contact a local USDA NRCS office, found at www.nrcs.usda.gov, under “Find a Service Center”.
- Request a conservation plan.
- Complete an application for one of the Financial Assistance programs, such as: AMA, CSP, and EQIP.

When Does a Farmer Apply?

- All programs have a continuous sign up.
- Applications are ranked to determine funding priority.
- Apply early; contracts are awarded until funding is gone.



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov

For Spanish language assistance call

1-866-232-0690