



Agricultural Producers Have Until August 1st for Nominations for Farmers to Serve on Local County Committees

Farmers have until August 1, 2022, to nominate candidates to serve on their local County Farm Service Agency (FSA) Committee. Elections will occur in certain Local Administrative Areas (LAA) for members. LAAs are elective areas for FSA committees in a single county or multi-county jurisdiction. This may include LAAs that are focused on an urban or suburban area.

County committee members make important decisions about how Federal farm programs are administered locally. All nomination forms for the 2022 election must be postmarked or received in the local FSA office by August 1, 2022.

Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in a USDA program and reside in the LAA that is up for election this year, may be nominated for candidacy for the county committee. A cooperating producer is someone who has provided information about their farming operation to FSA, even if they have not applied or received program benefits. Individuals may nominate themselves or others and qualifying organizations may also nominate candidates. USDA encourages minority producers, women, and beginning farmers to nominate, vote and hold office.

Nationwide, more than 7,700 dedicated members of the agricultural community serve on FSA county committees. The committees are made up of three to 11 members who serve three-year terms. Producers serving on FSA county committees play a critical role in the day-to-day operations of the agency. Committee members are vital to how FSA carries out disaster programs, as well as conservation, commodity and price support programs, county office employment and other agricultural issues.

More Information

Producers should contact their local FSA office today to register and find out how to get involved in their county's election, including if their LAA is up for election this year. To be considered, a producer must be registered and sign an <u>FSA-669A</u> nomination form. The form and other information about FSA county committee elections are available at <u>fsa.usda.gov/elections</u>.

Election ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning November 7, 2022. Producers can find their local USDA Service Center at farmers.gov/service-locator.

Interactive Webinar on the Business of Farming



USDA Farm Service Agency and the U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Rural Affairs are cohosting an interactive webinar for beginning farmers. This event will provide farmers in the first 10 years of operation the unique opportunity to ask federal experts questions about their agency programs.

Whether you're trying to start an operation or looking to expand your current one, join us:

The Business of Farming and Ranching

Thursday, July 21, 2022

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Eastern)

Register at:

https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN wvo5FpavQsivXRNV 6-IYg

SBA and USDA programs and services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. For reasonable accommodation request please send an email to Rural@SBA.GOV.

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Service Center Locator

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