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## **USDA to Mail Additional Pre-Filled Applications to Producers Impacted by 2020, 2021 Disasters**

### ***More than 18,000 producers will receive applications in late August***

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced another installment (phase) in assistance to commodity and specialty crop producers impacted by natural disaster events in 2020 and 2021. More than 18,000 producers will soon receive new or updated pre-filled disaster applications to offset eligible crop losses. Approximately \$6.4 billion has already been distributed to 165,000 producers through USDA's Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Emergency Relief Program (ERP).

FSA will begin mailing pre-filled applications in late August to producers who have potentially eligible losses and:

- Received crop insurance indemnities for qualifying 2020 and 2021 disaster events after May 2, 2022
- Received crop insurance indemnities associated with Nursery, Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO), Stacked Income Protection Plan (STAX), Enhanced Coverage Option (ECO) and Margin Protection (MP) policies.
- New primary policyholders not included in the initial insured producer Phase 1 mailing from May 25, 2022, because their claim records had not been filled.
- Certain 2020 prevent plant losses related to qualifying 2020 disaster events that had only been recorded in crop insurance records as related to 2019 adverse weather events and, as such, were not previously provided in applications sent earlier this year.
- New Substantial Beneficial Interest (SBI) records, including SBIs where tax identification numbers were corrected.

Producers are expected to receive assistance direct deposited into their bank account within three business days after they sign and return the pre-filled application to the FSA county office and the county office enters the application into the system.

Before applying any program payment factors or eligibility criteria, it is estimated that this next installment (phase) may generate about \$756 million in assistance.

### **Emergency Relief Payments to Date**

This emergency relief under ERP complements ERP assistance recently provided to more than 165,000 producers who had received crop insurance indemnities and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) payments for qualifying losses. USDA has processed more than 255,000 applications for ERP, and to date, has made approximately \$6.4 billion in payments to commodity and specialty crop producers to help offset eligible losses from qualifying 2020 and 2021 natural disasters. Also, earlier this year, staff processed more than 100,000 payments through the Emergency Livestock Relief Program (ELRP) and paid eligible producers more than \$601.3 million for 2021 grazing losses within days of the program announcement.

## Phase Two

The second phase of both ERP and ELRP will be aimed at filling gaps and provide assistance to producers who did not participate in or receive payments through the existing risk management programs that are being leveraged for phase one implementation. USDA will keep producers and stakeholders informed as program details are made available.

## More Information

In addition, on Aug. 18, 2022, USDA published a technical correction to the [Notice of Funds Availability](#) for ERP and ELRP to clarify how income from the sale of farm equipment and the provision of production inputs and services to farmers, ranchers, foresters, and farm operations are to be considered in the calculation of average adjusted gross farm income. Producers whose average adjusted gross farm income is at least 75% of the producer's the average Adjusted Gross Income can gain access to a higher payment limitation.

ERP and the previously announced ELRP are authorized by the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act, which President Biden signed into law in 2021. The law provided \$10 billion to help agricultural producers impacted by wildfires, droughts, hurricanes, winter storms and other eligible disasters experienced during calendar years 2020 and 2021.

For more information on ERP and ELRP eligibility, program provisions for historically underserved producers as well as Frequently Asked Questions, producers can visit [FSA's Emergency Relief webpage](#). A [new public-facing dashboard](#) on the ERP webpage has information on ERP payments that can be sorted by crop type – specialty or non-specialty– specific commodities and state. FSA will update the dashboard every Monday.

Additional USDA disaster assistance information can be found on [farmers.gov](#), including the [Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool](#), [Disaster-at-a-Glance fact sheet](#) and [Farm Loan Discovery Tool](#). For FSA and Natural Resources Conservation Service programs, producers should contact their [local USDA Service Center](#). For assistance with a crop insurance claim, producers and landowners should contact their [crop insurance agent](#).

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## USDA Announces First Three Lenders for Heirs' Property Relending Program



### ***Additional Lenders Invited to Apply to Program***

USDA is announcing that Shared Capital Cooperative, Akiptan, Inc. and the Cherokee Nation Economic Development Trust Authority (CNEDTA), have been approved or conditionally approved as intermediary lenders through the Heirs' Property Relending Program (HPRP). Once HPRP loans with these lenders close, these lenders will help agricultural producers and landowners resolve heirs' land ownership and succession issues. Additionally, USDA encourages more intermediary lenders, including cooperatives, credit unions and nonprofit organizations to apply. More information is at [farmers.gov/heirs/relending](http://farmers.gov/heirs/relending).

Heirs may apply directly to the intermediary lenders for loans to resolve land ownership and succession issues. [Learn more in the USDA Press Release.](#)

## **Indiana Farm Service Agency**

5981 Lakeside Blvd  
Indianapolis IN 46278

Phone: 317-290-3315  
Fax: 855-374-4066

### **USDA Service Center Locator**

**Julia A. Wickard**  
State Executive Director  
[julia.wickard@usda.gov](mailto:julia.wickard@usda.gov)

**Joshua Oren**  
Administrative Officer  
[joshua.oren@usda.gov](mailto:joshua.oren@usda.gov)

**Kala Nicholson-Cline**  
Farm Loan  
Program Chief  
[kala.nicholson-cline@usda.gov](mailto:kala.nicholson-cline@usda.gov)

**Susan Houston**  
Price Support/Disaster  
Program Chief  
[susan.houston@usda.gov](mailto:susan.houston@usda.gov)

**Jared Thomas**  
Conservation/Compliance  
Program Chief  
[jared.thomas@usda.gov](mailto:jared.thomas@usda.gov)

**Kaitlin Myers**  
Production Adjustment  
Program Chief  
[kaitlin.myers@usda.gov](mailto:kaitlin.myers@usda.gov)

**Indiana FSA State Committee:**  
Travis Nolcox, Gibson County - STC Chairman  
Amanda Berenda, Newton County  
Emily Dougherty, Johnson County  
Joe Pearson, Grant County  
Beth Tharp, Putnam County

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