

FSA
HANDBOOK

Farmer Bridge Assistance Program

For State and County Offices

SHORT REFERENCE

1-FBA

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Farmer Bridge Assistance Program 1-FBA	Amendment 2
---	--------------------

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



Amendment Transmittal

A Reason for Amendment

Subparagraph 98 F has been added to include discrepancy in acreage during a spot check.

Page Control Chart		
TC	Text	Exhibit
	6-5 through 6-7 6-8 (add)	

Table of Contents

Page No.

Part 1 Basic Information

1	Overview.....	1-1
2	Outreach.....	1-4
3	NEPA Requirements.....	1-5
4	Erroneous Information and Misrepresentation.....	1-5
5	Responsibilities.....	1-6
6	FBA General Provisions and Policies.....	1-11
7	Customer Records for FBA Applicants.....	1-12
8-23	(Reserved)	

Part 2 FBA Eligibility Policy and Provisions

24	FBA Eligibility Requirements.....	2-1
25	Eligible Acreage.....	2-3
26-40	(Reserved)	

Part 3 Application Process

41	Signup.....	3-1
42	Reviews and Approvals.....	3-8
43	Revising CCC-555's.....	3-11
44	Late-Filed CCC-555's.....	3-12
45-59	(Reserved)	

Part 4 Payment Eligibility and Payment Limitation

60	Payment Eligibility.....	4-1
61	Payment Limitation.....	4-2
62-77	(Reserved)	

Part 5 Payments

78	Payment Provisions.....	5-1
79	Acreage Disputes for FBA.....	5-5
80-95	(Reserved)	

Part 6 Reviews

96	SED Designee Pre-Payment Reviews.....	6-1
97	Payment Reviews.....	6-2
98	Spot Checks.....	6-4

Table of Contents (Continued)

Exhibits

1	Reports, Forms, Abbreviations, and Redelegations of Authority
2	Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook
3, 4	(Reserved)
5	Letter Notifying Applicant of Approval With Reduced Acreage
6	(Reserved)
7	Letter Notifying Applicant of Disapproval
8	Letter Notifying Applicant of Disapproval for Late-Filed CCC-555
9-24	(Reserved)
25	SED Designee Pre-Payment Review Checklist
26	CED Payment Review Checklist
27	SED Designee Payment Review Checklist
28	Letter Notifying Applicant of Spot Check Selection
29	Letter Notifying Applicant of Failure to Provide Documentation for Spot Check
30	National Spot Check Checklist
31	Letter Notifying Applicant of Spot Check Results
32	Letter Notifying Applicant of Spot Check Results with Reduction Applied

Part 1 Basic Information

1 Overview

A Background

FSA is announcing the availability of FBA, which will provide a 1-time bridge payment to eligible applicants of an eligible commodity for the 2025 crop year in response to temporary trade market disruptions and increased production costs.

B Handbook Purpose

This handbook provides FSA's internal operating guidelines issued by DAFP for carrying out FBA. Handbook provisions are considered interpretive of notices and rules published in the Federal Register (FR). Whenever an unintended conflict appears to exist between any handbook provision and the pertinent applicable provisions published in the FR, the provisions published in the FR will apply.

C Authority and Responsibility

DAFP has the authority and responsibility for FBA.

D Sources of Authority

Following are the sources of authority for FBA:

- Section 5b of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act
- Rule published February 23, 2026.

E Modifying Provisions

Provisions in this handbook **must not** be revised without prior approval from the National Office. Any requests for revisions or amendments must be sent to the applicable program manager through the Safety Net Division.

1 Overview (Continued)

F Related FSA Handbooks

Related FSA handbooks include the following:

- 22-AO for outreach
- 1-APP for appeals
- 32-AS and 32-AS Supplement for records management
- 1-CM for common provisions
- 10-CM for farm, tract, and crop data
- 2-CP for acreage and compliance provisions and determinations
- 6-CP for HELC and WC provisions
- 7-CP for finality rule and equitable relief provisions
- 1-FI for issuing payments
- 58-FI for managing debts and claims
- 62-FI for reporting data to IRS
- 63-FI for assignments and joint payments
- 64-FI for establishing and reporting receipts and receivables in NRRS
- 2-INFO for handling information available to the public in FOIA
- 3-INFO for safeguarding individual privacy from misuse of federal records and public access to these records
- 3-PL (Rev. 2) for web-based subsidiary files for 2009 and subsequent years
- 6-PL for payment limitation and payment eligibility provisions.

1 Overview (Continued)

G Forms

Forms, worksheets, applications, and other documents other than those provided in this handbook or issued by the National Office will **not** be used for FBA.

Any document that collects data from an applicant or handler, regardless of whether their signature is required, is subject to the Privacy Act and information collection procedures, including clearance of these documents by the following offices:

- National Office program area
- MSD, Directives, Forms, and Records Management Branch, Forms Management Section
- OMB.

Forms, worksheets, and documents developed by State or County Offices **must** be submitted to the National Office for review and approval according to 1-CM.

Important: State or County Office-developed forms, worksheets, or other documents will **not** be used for FBA unless approved by the National Office.

2 Outreach

A General Information

Program outreach is a critical component of FSA’s objective in ensuring that access of information and programs to interested applicants and potential applicants is provided. FSA outreach activities are National, State, and County Office informational and educational efforts made to promote program benefits and eligibility criteria. Employees are required to conduct outreach activities on programs that align with FSA’s FY outreach goals, which includes FBA.

The following types of outreach activities may be conducted to market FBA:

- informational meetings
- program workshops and conferences
- stakeholder meetings
- electronic applicant newsletters
- press releases
- web announcements and other broadcast media formats.

Example: Radio and television public service announcements.

Outreach efforts are designed to increase participation from potential and current agricultural applicants. Outreach efforts are not guaranteed to reach all applicants. Employees are encouraged to work with partners to assist with outreach efforts.

State and County Office outreach coordinators will engage closely with partnering stakeholders organizations, non-profit organizations, community-based organizations, associations, and other USDA agencies to participate in and support collaborative outreach activities to promote FBA.

Notes: All State and County Office eligible outreach activity types are required to be recorded in the Outreach Tracking and Information System to report the County Office’s outreach accomplishments that support FSA’s strategic outreach goals.

As resources permit, COC will ensure that specific program provisions are publicized and maintain a record of all public information efforts, including posting in Service Centers, according to public information and program policies.

B FBA Websites

The following table lists websites that provide information used to administer FBA.

Website	Link
FBA Public Website	https://www.fsa.usda.gov/resources/programs/farmer-bridge-assistance-fba-program
FBA SharePoint Site	https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/FPAC-FSA-DAFP-FBA/SitePages/Home.aspx

3 NEPA Requirements

A Background

NEPA of 1969, as amended, requires federal agencies to consider all potential environmental impacts before implementing activities that have the potential to significantly impact the human environment. All environmental processes must be fully completed before an action can be approved. Agencies must consult with and obtain comments from federal agencies that manage or have expertise about resources that are potentially affected. FSA's environmental compliance program's mission is to use all practicable means to ensure FSA compliance with all applicable environmental laws, regulations, and procedures. FSA uses an environmental review process to determine the appropriate level of NEPA analysis and documentation required.

B Programmatic Determination of Environment Compliance

The National Office has determined that FBA does not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively. Therefore, FSA-850 will not be completed.

4 Erroneous Information and Misrepresentation

A Impact of Providing Erroneous Information and Misrepresentation

If an application for an FBA payment resulted from erroneous information reported by the applicant, the payment will be recalculated and the applicant must refund any excess payment to USDA. If the error was the applicant's error, the refund must include interest to be calculated from the date of the disbursement to the applicant.

If corrections to the ownership interest in the crop are made and result in a lower payment, the applicant must refund the difference with interest from date of disbursement.

Required refunds must be resolved according to debt settlement regulations in 7 CFR Part 3.

B Perjury

In either applying for or participating in FBA, or both, the applicant is subject to laws against perjury and any penalties and prosecution resulting therefrom, with these laws including, but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. 1621. If the applicant willfully makes and represents as true any verbal or written declaration, certification, statement, or verification that the applicant knows or believes not to be true, in the course of either applying for or participating in FBA, or both, then the applicant is guilty of perjury and, except as otherwise provided by law, may be fined, imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both, regardless of whether the applicant makes this verbal or written declaration, certification, statement, or verification within or not within the United States.

4 Erroneous Information and Misrepresentation (Continued)

C Joint and Several Liability

All persons and legal entities with a financial interest in an operation or in an application for payment determined to have been paid incorrectly are jointly and severally liable for any refund, including related charges, that is determined to be due CCC for any reason.

5 Responsibilities

A STC Responsibilities

Within the authorities and limitations in this handbook and FR, STC's will:

- direct the administration of FBA
- ensure that State and County Offices follow all FBA provisions
- thoroughly document all actions taken in the STC meeting minutes
- handle appeals according to 1-APP and 7 CFR Parts 11 and 780
- ensure that the State Office representative conducts reviews according to paragraph 96 to ensure that County Offices comply with FBA provisions

Note: STC's may establish additional reviews to ensure that FBA is administered according to FBA provisions.

- take any oversight actions necessary to prevent County Offices from issuing any improper payments
- approve or disapprove any CCC-555 except those in which an STC member has a monetary interest
- comply with all FBA provisions.

5 Responsibilities (Continued)

B SED Responsibilities

Within the authorities and limitations in this handbook and FR, SED's will:

- ensure that County Offices follow all FBA provisions
- ensure that County Office employees and COC's are adequately trained
- thoroughly document all actions taken in the STC meeting minutes
- handle appeals according to 1-APP
- handle requests for equitable relief according to 7-CP
- ensure that DD or designee conducts payment reviews according to paragraph 96 and payment reviews are certified to the National Office

Note: SED's may establish additional reviews to ensure that FBA is administered according to FBA provisions.

- ensure that DD or designee records all internal control results as directed in this handbook
- ensure that FBA provisions are publicized
- immediately notify the National Office of software problems, incomplete or incorrect procedures, specific problems, or findings
- take any oversight actions necessary to ensure that PIIA provisions are met to prevent County Offices from issuing any improper payments
- comply with all FBA provisions.

5 Responsibilities (Continued)

C DD Responsibilities

Within the authorities and limitations in this handbook and FR, DD's will:

- ensure that COC's and County Offices follow FBA provisions
- ensure that CED directs the County Office to follow all FBA provisions
- ensure that CED's or designated employees conduct reviews according to paragraph 96
- complete DD payment reviews according to paragraph 96
- ensure County Offices complete selected spot checks according to paragraph 97
- complete recording of selected spot checks according to paragraph 97
- handle appeals according to 1-APP
- immediately notify SED or designated State Office employee of software problems, incomplete or incorrect procedures, specific problems, or findings
- ensure that all County Offices publicize FBA provisions
- take any oversight actions necessary to ensure that PIIA provisions are met to prevent County Offices from issuing any improper payments
- ensure that FSA assists applicants by providing as much FBA information as possible in a variety of ways.

D COC Responsibilities

Within the authorities and limitations in this handbook and FR, COC's will:

- fully comply with all FBA provisions
- ensure that CED's fully comply with all FBA provisions
- ensure that CED's or designated employees conduct reviews according to paragraph 96
- ensure all selected spot checks are completed according to paragraph 97

5 Responsibilities (Continued)

D COC Responsibilities (Continued)

- review and take action on CCC-555's

Note: COC may redelegate authority to CED to review and approve routine CCC-555's. Redlegation of authority must be documented in the COC meeting minutes. All adverse actions must go to COC for review and action. CED may not redelegate authority to review or approve routine CCC-555's to any other County Office employees.

- thoroughly document all actions taken in the COC meeting minutes
- handle appeals according to 1-APP
- ensure that applicants receive complete and accurate FBA information
- ensure that the County Office publicizes FBA provisions
- take any oversight actions necessary to ensure that PIIA provisions are met to prevent County Offices from issuing any improper payments.

E CED Responsibilities

Within the authorities and limitations in this handbook and FR, CED's will:

- fully comply with all FBA provisions
- ensure that all County Office employees fully comply with all FBA provisions
- if delegated, promptly review and approve routine CCC-555's and document in the COC meeting minutes

Note: All adverse actions must go to COC for review and action. CED may not redelegate authority to review or approve routine CCC-555's to any other County Office employees.

- conduct reviews according to paragraph 96
- conduct selected spot checks according to paragraph 97

5 Responsibilities (Continued)

E CED Responsibilities (Continued)

- handle appeals according to 1-APP
- thoroughly document all actions taken in the COC meeting minutes
- immediately notify SED or designated State Office employee, through DD, of software problems, incomplete or incorrect procedures, specific problems, or findings
- take any oversight actions necessary to ensure that PIIA provisions are met to prevent County Offices from issuing any improper payments
- ensure that applicants receive complete and accurate FBA information.

Notes: Publication may or may not be by direct mail or on an individual basis. FSA meets its publication responsibilities by making broad program announcements in press releases, print and electronic media, FR documents, radio and television announcements, and through posting program information in USDA Service Centers.

COC's will:

- ensure that FBA provisions are publicized
- maintain a record of all publicity efforts.

F Program Analyst Responsibilities

Within the authorities and limitations in this handbook and FR, program analysts will:

- fully comply with all FBA provisions
- immediately notify CED of software problems, incomplete or incorrect procedures, or specific problems
- ensure that all FBA eligibility requirements have been met by applicants before issuing any payment to ensure that PIIA provisions are satisfied
- ensure that applicants receive complete and accurate FBA information.

5 Responsibilities (Continued)

G Applicant Responsibilities

The applicant is responsible for being aware of FBA provisions and accurately certifying to all required information, as applicable, on CCC-555.

Applicants approved for participation in FBA are required to retain documentation in support of their CCC-555 for 3 years after the date of approval. Applicants receiving FBA payments or any other person who provides this information to USDA must permit authorized representatives of USDA or GAO, during regular business hours, to enter the agricultural operation and inspect, examine, and allow representatives to make copies of books, records, or other items for confirming the accuracy of the information provided by the applicant.

Programs administered by DAFP require accurate information from applicants. Applicants must understand that failure to provide complete and accurate information may result in any or all of the following:

- CCC-555 being disapproved or COC adjusted
- the applicant or applicants being determined ineligible for FSA programs for the applicable program year or multiple years
- the applicant or applicants being held liable under civil or criminal fraud statute or other statute or provision of law.

6 FBA General Provisions and Policies

A Equitable Relief and Finality Provisions

Equitable relief and finality provisions in 7-CP apply.

B Controlled Substance Provisions

Controlled substance provisions apply according to 1-CM.

6 FBA General Provisions and Policies (Continued)

C Administrative Offsets

FBA payments issued by FSA are subject to administrative offsets.

D Assignments and Joint Payments

An applicant entitled to an FBA payment may:

- assign the payment according to 63-FI
- use joint payment authorizations according to 63-FI.

The assignment code for FBA is “**25FBA**”.

E Obtaining FSA-325 for Deceased, Disappeared, or Incompetent Producers

Follow 1-CM provisions for producers who have died, disappeared, or been declared incompetent.

F Sequestering FBA Payments

Sequestration does not apply.

7 Customer Records for FBA Applicants

A Overview

All applicants seeking FBA benefits must have a customer record established in CRM Business Partner that includes a valid TIN.

B Collecting Customer Data

Applicants who are:

- new customers must complete AD-2047 to provide information that positively identifies the customer
- existing customers may update their profile by completing AD-2047, as needed.

The customer information must be recorded in CRM Business Partner according to 11-CM.

C Farm Record

An applicant is required to be associated with a farm to be eligible for FBA.

8-23 (Reserved)

Part 2 FBA Eligibility Policy and Provisions

24 FBA Eligibility Requirements

A Applicant Eligibility

To be eligible for FBA, the applicant must:

- have certified acreage of eligible commodities to FSA on FSA-578 by December 19, 2025
- be 1 of the following:
 - citizen of the United States
 - resident alien, which for purposes of FBA means “lawful alien” as defined in 7 CFR 1400.3
 - partnership organized under State law
 - corporation, LLC, or other organizational structure organized under State law
 - Indian Tribe or Tribal organization, as defined in section 4(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

24 FBA Eligibility Requirements (Continued)**B Ineligible Applicants**

The following persons or legal entities are **ineligible**:

- applicants who did not have acreage of a covered commodity certified in their name
- applicants who are not a citizen of the United States or resident alien
- States, including agencies, divisions, or political subdivisions thereof, are ineligible for FBA payments, except as provided in 6-PL, paragraph 310
- federal agencies, with the exception of BIA

Note: BIA may apply for FBA for eligible producers on tribal and allotted land.

- applicants who have been suspended or debarred or otherwise excluded from participating in federal programs, according to 1-CM.

C Deceased Producers

If CCC-555 involving a deceased producer or closed estate is signed by an authorized individual, payments will be issued using the TIN of the eligible individual or individual's estate, as applicable.

Note: See 1-CM for guidance on deceased, missing, or incompetent producers.

D Dissolved Entities

If a producer is a general partnership or joint venture that was dissolved, all members of the general partnership or joint venture at the time of dissolution, or their representatives, must sign CCC-555 and required forms.

Note: See 1-CM for guidance on dissolved entities.

25 Eligible Acreage

A Eligible Commodities, Types, and Intended Uses

The following table shows the eligible commodities, types, and intended uses for FBA.

Crop Name	Crop Code	Type Name	Intended Use
Barley	0091	All	FG, GR, SD
Canola	0711	All	GR, PR, SD
Chickpeas, Large	0047	Garbanzo, Large Kabuli (GAR)	DE, FG, FH, PR, SD
Chickpeas, Small	0047	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garbanzo, Small Kabuli (GAS) • Garbanzo, Desi (GAD) 	
Corn	0041	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White (WHE) • Yellow (YEL) • Amylose (AMY) • Popcorn (POP) • Waxy (WXY) • High Amylase (AMA) 	FH, GR, PR, SD, SG
Cotton	0021 0022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upland • ELS 	
Crambe	0714		GR, SD
Flax	0031	All	GR, OL, PR, SD
Lentils	0401		DE, FG, SD
Mustard	0130	All	GR, PR, SD
Oats	0016	All	FG, GR, SD
Peanuts	0075	All	GP, HP, NP
Peas, Dry	0067	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Austrian (AUS) • Green (GRN) • Wrinkled (WSD) • Yellow (YEL) 	DE, FG, SD
Rapeseed	0129		FG, GR, PR, SD
Rice	0018 0904	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Grain (LGR) • Medium Grain (MGR) • Short Grain (SGR) • Temperate Japonica (JCA) • Sweet 	GR, PR, SD
Safflower	0079		FG, GR, PR, SD
Sesame	0396		GR, PR, SD
Sorghum	0051 0052	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All • Dual-Purpose 	FG, GR, SD, SG
Soybeans	0081	All	FG, FH, GR, PR, SD
Sunflower	0078	All	FG, GR, PR, SD
Wheat	0011	All	FG, GR, SD

Note: Any type or intended use not listed in this table is not eligible for FBA.

25 Eligible Acreage (Continued)

B Acreage Requirements

Eligible acreage must be:

- physically located in the United States or territories
- certified on FSA-578 for program year 2025 by December 19, 2025.

Eligible acres of a commodity are equal to the sum of the acreage planted to an eligible commodity for harvest, haying, silage, or other similar purposes for the 2025 crop year.

Acreage that is certified in CARS will be used to calculate eligible acreage. If determined acres are present on certified fields, the determined acreage will be used in the calculation.

C Acreage Reports

Producers are required to file acreage reports for all crops for which they are requesting FBA benefits for program year 2025 by December 19, 2025. Registers were permitted according to 1-CM for any office that could not complete requested acreage reports by December 19, 2025. The automated CCC-555 will interface with CARS to pre-populate the producer's eligible acres on CCC-555.

Changes to the 2025 CARS data may adversely impact other program payments, such as ARC/PLC, LFP, NAP, or MAL's and LDP's.

D Late-Filed Acreage Reports

Acreage reports filed after December 19, 2025, unless on a register, are **not** accepted for the FBA program, regardless of meeting 2-CP requirements.

Late-filed acreage reports filed before the subsequent year ARD for the crop will be processed according to 2-CP.

Note: The use of CIMS data to support a late-filed acreage report as timely filed, as provided by 2-CP, is not applicable to FBA. Any acreage reported after December 19, 2025, is ineligible for FBA.

Acreage reports filed after the subsequent year ARD for the crop but before December 19, 2025, must meet the same farm visit verification or nonphysical evidence requirements required for late-filed acreage reports under 2-CP. However, no fee will be assessed in these cases, and the report will not be considered certified for all program purposes. A certification date will not be loaded in CARS since the report was filed after the subsequent year ARD and therefore does not fully conform to 2-CP requirements.

25 Eligible Acreage (Continued)

E Revised Acreage Reports

Revisions to acreage reports after December 19, 2025, are limited to share revisions for FBA. Revisions to shares on reports filed by December 19, 2025, will be eligible for FBA and must meet share revision requirements according to 2-CP. Any other revision will make acreage ineligible for FBA.

Example: A timely filed acreage report is revised to change the crop type from yellow corn to white corn on January 5, 2026. Because the report was revised for purposes other than shares, the corn acreage is ineligible for FBA.

F Acreage Report Corrections

Corrections to acreage reports filed by December 19, 2025, that follow correction policy in 2-CP are eligible for FBA.

G Crop Status Codes

To be counted towards eligible acres on CCC-555, all acres must be certified in CARS using 1 of the crop status codes in the following table. For more information on crop status codes, see 2-CP.

Crop Status Code	IF the acreage reported (or determined if present) in CARS has the crop status code of...	THEN FBA eligibility will be limited to...
I	initial-first crop, planted	the planted eligible commodity.
IF	initial crop, failed	the failed eligible commodity.
D	covered commodity followed by a different covered commodity – meets double-cropping definition	both plantings of the eligible commodities.
DF	double-cropped covered commodity followed by a different covered commodity, failed	both plantings of the eligible commodities.
E	covered commodity followed by FAV or wild rice, or vice versa – meets double-cropping definition	the planted eligible commodity.
EF	covered commodity followed by FAV or wild rice, or vice versa – meets double-cropping definition, failed	the failed eligible commodity.
G	noncovered commodity or non-FAV followed by covered commodity or vice versa – meets double-cropping definition	the planted eligible commodity.
GF	noncovered commodity or non-FAV followed by covered commodity or vice versa – meets double-cropping definition, failed	the failed eligible commodity.

25 Eligible Acreage (Continued)

E Crop Status Codes (Continued)

Crop Status Code	IF the acreage reported (or determined if present) in CARS has the crop status code of...	THEN FBA eligibility will be limited to...
H	noncovered commodity/non-FAV followed by FAV or vice versa – meets double-cropping definition	the planted eligible commodity.
HF	noncovered commodity/non-FAV followed by FAV or vice versa – meets double-cropping definition, failed	the failed eligible commodity.
J	covered commodity followed by another covered commodity – does not meet approved double-cropping definition	both plantings of the eligible commodities.
JF	covered commodity followed by another covered commodity – does not meet approved double-cropping definition, failed	both plantings of the eligible commodities.
K	covered commodity followed by FAV/wild rice or vice versa – does not meet double-cropping definition	the planted eligible commodity.
KF	covered commodity followed by FAV/wild rice or vice versa – does not meet double-cropping definition, failed	the failed eligible commodity.
M	noncovered commodity or non-FAV followed by covered commodity or vice versa – does not meet double-cropping definition	the planted eligible commodity.
MF	noncovered commodity or non-FAV followed by covered commodity or vice versa – does not meet double-cropping definition, failed	the failed eligible commodity.
N	noncovered commodity/non-FAV followed by FAV or vice versa – does not meet double-cropping definition	the planted eligible commodity.
NF	noncovered commodity/non-FAV followed by FAV or vice versa – does not meet double-cropping definition, failed	the failed eligible commodity.
O	noncovered commodity/non-FAV followed by a noncovered commodity/ non-FAV – meets double-cropping definition	the planted eligible commodity.
OF	noncovered commodity/non-FAV followed by a noncovered commodity/ non-FAV – meets double-cropping definition, failed	the failed eligible commodity.

Note: Any crop status code not listed in this table is **not** eligible for FBA.

25 Eligible Acreage (Continued)

F Prevented Planted Acreage

Acreage that has been reported as prevented planted does **not** qualify for FBA.

G Failed Acreage

Acreage that is being reported as failed must be reported before the disposition of the crop according to 2-CP. Failed acreage reports, for FBA purposes only, are not allowed.

H Subsequent Acreage

Any acreage of covered commodities that have the following subsequent acreage status code are eligible to be included in the FBA acreage for payment.

H	HF
J	JF
K	KF
M	MF
N	NF
O	OF

26-40 (Reserved)

Part 3 Application Process**41 Signup****A FBA Signup**

Producers must submit a completed CCC-555 for their entire operation nationwide before the end of the application period. The application period for 2025 begins on February 23, 2026, and ends April 17, 2026.

Notes: Producers cannot alter prefilled data items on CCC-555. See paragraph 43 for policy on revising CCC-555's.

The CCC-555 initial data load used acreage reporting information as of January 31, 2026. Applications with acreage reports modified after January 30, 2026, must be refreshed according to 2-FBA before applicant signature.

Applications with acreage that did not meet 2-CP requirements must be modified through the other adjustment process before applicant signature.

B CCC-555 Other Adjustments

An "Other Adjustment" must be made for acreage when an acreage report was filed by December 19, 2025, and did not meet 2-CP requirements, but is eligible for FBA.

Note: All applications containing an "Other Adjustment" must be reviewed by SED designee before application approval.

Follow 2-FBA for instructions on entering adjustments.

C Signing CCC-555

By signing CCC-555, the applicant listed on CCC-555 is:

- applying for an FBA payment
- certifying that all information provided on CCC-555 is true and correct
- agreeing to comply with regulations in 28 U.S.C. and 18 U.S.C.

41 Signup (Continued)

D Required Forms

An application package includes the following for program year 2025:

- AD-1026 for applicants and all affiliates with farming interests
- AD-2047, if not previously filed
- CCC-901, if applicable and not previously filed
- CCC-902, if not previously filed
- CCC-941, if not previously filed
- CCC-555
- FSA-325, if applicable
- SF-3881, if not previously filed.

Note: The policy allowing hardship waivers of the EFT requirement applies to FBA. See 63-FI.

E Submitting CCC-555

A producer may submit one CCC-555 nationwide using any of the following methods:

- in person
- by mail
- electronically by 1 of the following:
 - online application at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/fba>
 - FAX
 - e-mail with a scanned or photocopy of the signed CCC-555
 - BOX and One-Span
 - other authorized method that is provided by supplemental notice or other guidance.

Note: See 1-CM for policy on signature and electronic filing.

Notes: Submitting CCC-555 online requires an active Level 2 eAuthentication account through Login.gov. Individual producers can register for a Login.gov account at <https://login.gov/>.

Once an application has been submitted it is no longer able to be updated in the online application. Producers will have to contact the County Office.

Applications in BOX should use the following standard naming convention: “CCC-555 FBA 2025–Producer name–STCO (code)–application creation date–application number”.

41 **Signup (Continued)**

E Submitting CCC-555 (Continued)

Although CCC-555's may be submitted to any County Office nationwide, if the receiving County Office is not the recording County Office, the receiving County Office must date-stamp CCC-555 and send it by e-mail, FAX, or BOX to the recording County Office listed on the producer's CCC-555. A copy of CCC-555 will be maintained in the receiving County Office according to 1-CM.

F Completing CCC-555

CCC-555 will be prefilled for the County Office and the applicant. The applicant applying for an FBA payment will complete CCC-555, items 14, 15, 16, and 17.

Item	Instructions
1	Populated by the automated system.
2	Populated by the automated system.
3	"2025" will be populated by the automated system.
4	Populated by the automated system.
5A	Populated by the automated system. Information is obtained from FSA records.
5B	Populated by the automated system. Information is obtained from FSA records.
5C	Populated by the automated system. Information is obtained from FSA records.
Part A – Applicant Information	
6	Prepopulated with the full name of the producer applying for 2025 FBA benefits. Information is obtained from FSA records. If changes are needed, contact the County Office listed in item 5A.

41 Signup (Continued)

F Completing CCC-555 (Continued)

Item	Instructions
7	<p>The following items are prepopulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • item 7A with the first address line • item 7B with the second address line, if applicable • item 7C with the city • item 7D with the State • item 7E with the ZIP Code. <p>Information is obtained from FSA records. If changes are needed, contact the County Office listed in item 5A.</p>
8	<p>The following items are prepopulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • item 8A with the primary phone number and indicate “Home” or “Cell” • item 8B with the alternate phone number and indicate “Home” or “Cell” (optional entry). <p>Information is obtained from FSA records. If changes are needed, contact the County Office listed in item 5A.</p>
9	<p>Prepopulated with the producer’s e-mail address (optional entry).</p> <p>Information is obtained from FSA records. If changes are needed, contact the County Office listed in item 5A.</p>
Part B – Applicant Eligible Certified Commodities and Acres	
10	<p>Prepopulated with the eligible commodity.</p> <p>Information is obtained from FSA records as certified on the applicant’s 2025 FSA-578’s.</p>
11	<p>Prepopulated with certified acres.</p> <p>Information is obtained from FSA records on 2025 FSA-578’s. Acreage is calculated using the applicant’s shares reported for each commodity multiplied by the acreage for each field and added together for all fields nationwide.</p>

41 Signup (Continued)

F Completing CCC-555 (Continued)

Item	Instructions
12	Contact the local FSA office for assistance to determine value, if applicable.
13	For COC use only, leave blank.
Part C – Applicant Certification	
14	Check “Yes” or “No” to verify if applicant or all members of an entity are a United States citizen or resident alien
15	Applicant requesting a 2025 FBA payment must sign certifying to the information in Parts A and B.
16	If signing on behalf of an entity or another individual, enter the representative title or relationship to the entity or individual. Note: If not signing in the representative capacity, this field should be left blank.
17	Enter the date the applicant signs in “MM/DD/YYYY” format.
Part D – County Committee (COC) Determination	
18	COC or designee approving CCC-555 must sign.
19	Enter the title of COC or designee who signed in item 17.
20	Enter the date COC or designee signs in “MM/DD/YYYY” format.
21	COC or designee will check “Approved” or “Disapproved”, as applicable.

41 Signup (Continued)

G Example of CCC-555

The following is an example of CCC-555.

<p>CCC-555 (02-23-26)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Commodity Credit Corporation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FARMER BRIDGE ASSISTANCE (FBA) PROGRAM APPLICATION</p>		<p>OMB Approved No: 0503-0028 OMB Expiration Date: 10/31/2027</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FOR COUNTY OFFICE USE ONLY</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">1. Recording State <i>Name Code</i></td> <td style="width: 50%;">2. Recording County <i>Name Code</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Program Year 2025</td> <td>4. Application Number</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">5A. Recording County FSA Office Name and Address</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5B. Recording County Phone Number</td> <td>5C. Recording County Fax Number</td> </tr> </table>		1. Recording State <i>Name Code</i>	2. Recording County <i>Name Code</i>	3. Program Year 2025	4. Application Number	5A. Recording County FSA Office Name and Address		5B. Recording County Phone Number	5C. Recording County Fax Number
1. Recording State <i>Name Code</i>	2. Recording County <i>Name Code</i>										
3. Program Year 2025	4. Application Number										
5A. Recording County FSA Office Name and Address											
5B. Recording County Phone Number	5C. Recording County Fax Number										
PART A – APPLICANT INFORMATION											
6. Applicant's Name <i>(Person or Legal Entity)</i>											
7A. Address Line 1		8A. Primary Phone Number <input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Cell									
7B. Address Line 2		8B. Alternate Phone Number <input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Cell									
7C. City	7D. State	7E. Zip	9. Email Address								
PART B – APPLICANT ELIGIBLE COMMODITIES AND ACRES											
10. COMMODITY	11. 2025 ELIGIBLE PLANTED ACRES	12. OTHER ADJUSTMENT	13. COC ADJUSTMENT								

DATE STAMP

42 **Reviews and Approvals**

A Reviewing and Processing CCC-555

The recording COC is responsible for acting on all CCC-555's timely. Before approving CCC-555's, COC or designee must take the actions in the following table.

Step	Action
1	Confirm the applicant has signed CCC-555 correctly. Follow 1-CM for the applicant's signature.
2	Determine the applicant's overall eligibility according to paragraph 24.
3	Confirm CCC-555 was received or postmarked by the end of the application period.
4	Confirm there are no entries in item 12. If an entry is loaded, SED designee has concurred with adjustment according to 2-FBA.

B SED Designee Reviews for CARS Refresh and Other Adjustments

If a CARS Refresh or Other Adjustment is utilized on CCC-555, a SED designee is required to review the application before COC action is taken.

For CARS Refresh and Other Adjustments, the SED designee must review acreage and verify:

- it was certified by December 19, 2025, or on an FBA register
- any acreage that was updated was because of a correction or share revision only after February 1, 2026.

These reviews should include:

- acreage that was timely filed by the December 19, 2025, deadline or was on a register
- acreage was corrected or revised in CARS correctly
- all acreage that was accepted is eligible to be included
- acreage that was rejected is not eligible for FBA.

If acreage is determined eligible that was rejected, the SED designee must notify the County Office that an upward adjustment is required by COC.

The SED designee will notify the county office when the review is completed and provide the date and any discrepancies that need to be addressed. The review must be documented in the COC minutes.

42 **Reviews and Approvals (Continued)**

C Delegation of Authority

The authority to approve routine CCC-555’s may be redelegated in writing by COC to CED, according to 16-AO, except forms and documents in which CED has a monetary interest.

Routine cases do not include CCC-555’s related to acreage report corrections, acreage reports on file by December 19, 2025, that did not meet 2-CP requirements, or acreage reports on an FBA register.

IF the applicant is...	THEN approval authority is...
federal or non-federal State or County Office employee	CED.
COC member	
DD	
SED	
STC member	
CED	
any producer in a recording County Office	COC.

D Approval Process

If all program eligibility requirements are met and COC or delegate has determined that the information on CCC-555 is reasonable and accurate, COC or delegate will approve CCC-555 and thoroughly document approval in the COC meeting minutes.

Notes: COC may redelegate authority to CED to review and approve routine CCC-555’s. All adverse actions must go to COC for review.

Before approval, any CCC-555 with an “other adjustment” must be reviewed and concurred by DD or State Office designee. This review and concurrence will be entered in the COC minutes with whoever provided concurrence and the date.

Completing eligibility forms (such as AD-1026, CCC-901, CCC-902, and CCC-941) is not a condition of approval. However, these forms must be filed by April 19, 2027, 1 year from the date of the application deadline. Failure to timely provide all eligibility forms may result in no payment or a reduced payment.

42 Reviews and Approvals (Continued)**D Approval Process (Continued)**

If COC determines a COC adjustment is needed for the acreage on CCC-555, COC will enter the adjustment in item 13, document in the COC meeting minutes, and provide notification to the applicant (Exhibit 5). If the acreage is decreased with the adjustment, proper appeal rights must be given.

Example: A producer late files an acreage report before the December 19 deadline. COC does not find the supporting documentation acceptable, and determined that acres were not loaded into CARS. The decreased acreage is loaded into CCC-555, item 13 before COC signs the approval.

E Disapproval Process

COC may disapprove CCC-555 for any of the following reasons:

- person or legal entity applying for FBA is determined to be an ineligible producer according to subparagraph 24 A
- producer did not provide sufficient documentation to support the share of acreage claimed when requested by COC
- signature requirements were not met according to 1-CM
- CCC-555 was submitted or postmarked after the announced signup deadline.

If COC disapproves CCC-555, COC must:

- thoroughly document the reason for the disapproval in the COC meeting minutes
- notify the producer of the disapproval in writing
- provide applicable appeal rights according to 1-APP.

42 Reviews and Approvals (Continued)

F Withdrawing CCC-555

A producer:

- may withdraw CCC-555 any time after submission until the end of the application period; however, copies of all submitted CCC-555's must be kept in the file
- must request a withdrawal in writing and submit the request to the recording County Office.

Note: The recording County Office must date-stamp the request and provide a receipt for service to the applicant.

All actions must be thoroughly documented in the COC meeting minutes. Any payment issued before withdrawing must be refunded.

G Letter Notifying Applicant of Disapproval

Send a letter notifying the applicant that their CCC-555 has been disapproved and provide appeal rights (Exhibit 7). A Microsoft Word version of this letter is available as a template on [SharePoint](#).

43 Revising CCC-555

A CCC-555 Acreage Revisions

CCC-555 may be revised through April 17, 2026. Revisions requested after April 17, 2026, will be considered a late-filed CCC-555. The only allowed manual revisions are to the Other Adjustment field for acreage that was reported before December 19, 2025, and did not meet 2-CP requirements or acreage that was on a register for the December 19, 2025, deadline. All other corrections to acreage must be completed through CARS with modifications to the applicant's FSA-578's.

If an applicant files a revised CCC-555:

- the original CCC-555 must be kept on file
- COC is required to review, document, and take action on the revision.

If a change is made on an applicant's FSA-578 and CCC-555 has already been filed, a revised CCC-555 must be created and signed by the applicant by April 17, 2026. Follow 2-FBA for instructions on revised and suspended CCC-555's.

If a change is made and the producer does not request an updated CCC-555, the County Office should **not** automatically send the producer the updated CCC-555. Any new application sent because of a revision or suspension must be returned by April 17, 2026. Failure to return will result in the producer refunding the entire payment.

44 Late-Filed CCC-555

A Registers

Registers will be authorized according to 1-CM when deemed necessary. The County Office will maintain a copy of the FBA register for future reference.

B CCC-555 Received After the Application Deadline

If CCC-555 is received after the application deadline, notify the applicant with appeal rights included in the example letter (Exhibit 8). Provide appeal rights according to 1-APP.

45-59 (Reserved)

Part 4 Payment Eligibility and Payment Limitation

60 Payment Eligibility

A Payment Eligibility Rules

The following payment eligibility rules apply to FBA applicants:

- actively engaged in farming
- rules for non-family joint operation
- cash rent tenant
- minor child
- conservation compliance
- controlled substance
- adjusted gross income.

B AGI Provisions

The \$900,000 AGI provisions in 6-PL, Part 8 are applicable.

C Deadline for Filing Eligibility Documents

Applicants must file all required and optional eligibility documents by April 19, 2027.

61 **Payment Limitation**

A Payment Limitation Rules

FBA uses the payment limitation provisions that include the total payments received, directly or indirectly, by a person or legal entity (except a joint venture or general partnership) under FBA and may not exceed \$155,000.

Note: The total amount of payments received, directly or indirectly, by a person or legal entity (except a joint venture or general partnership) may not exceed \$155,000.

The following payment limitation rules apply to FBA applicants:

- payments to persons and legal entities will be limited according to the rules for attribution in 7 CFR 1400.105 and 6-PL, Part 3

Note: The total amount of payment received, directly or indirectly, by a public school may exceed \$155,000 combined with other public schools in the same State. Other State or political subdivisions may not receive FBA payments.

- substantive change
- payment limitation adjustments.

62-77 (Reserved)

Part 5 Payments

78 Payment Provisions

A Determined Payment Rates

The payment rates for each commodity are shown in the following table.

Crop Name	Payment Rate
Barley	\$20.51
Canola	\$23.57
Chickpeas, Large	\$26.46
Chickpeas, Small	\$33.36
Corn	\$44.36
Cotton	\$117.35
Crambe	\$0.00
Flax	\$8.05
Lentils	\$23.98
Mustard	\$23.21
Oats	\$81.75
Peanuts	\$55.65
Peas, Dry	\$19.60
Rapeseed	\$0.00
Rice	\$132.89
Safflower	\$25.86
Sesame	\$13.68
Sorghum	\$48.11
Soybeans	\$30.88
Sunflower	\$17.32
Wheat	\$39.35

B Payment Calculations

Payments are calculated using the established payment rate multiplied by the eligible acres per commodity.

78 Payment Provisions (Continued)

C Payment Examples

Example 1: Basic calculation with only 1 farm.

	Eligible Commodity	Reported Acres (Producer Share)	(a) Total Acres for Payment	(b) Eligible Crop Payment Rate	(c) Calculated Payment Amount (a) x (b)
Farm 100	Corn	1000	1000	\$44.36	\$44,360.00
	Soybeans	500	500	\$30.88	\$15,440.00
Producer Total Calculated Payment					\$59,800.00

78 Payment Provisions (Continued)

C Payment Examples (Continued)

Example 2: Basic calculation with more than 1 farm.

The producer has Farm 100 in County A and Farms 200 and 300 in County B. The recording County Office is County B. The payment will be issued out of County B.

	Eligible Planted Crop	Eligible Planted Acres (Producer Share)	(a) Total Acres for Payment
Farm 100	Corn	1000	1000
	Soybeans	500	500
Farm 200	Grain Sorghum	100	100
Farm 300	Soybeans	200	200
	Grain Sorghum	50	50

Eligible Planted Crop	Total Eligible Planted Acres (Producer Share)	(a) Total Acres for Payment	(b) Eligible Crop Payment Rate	(c) Calculated Payment Amount (a) x (b)
Corn	1000	1000	\$44.36	\$44,360.00
Soybeans	700	700	\$30.88	\$21,616.00
Grain Sorghum	150	150	\$48.11	\$7,216.50
Producer Total Calculated Payment				\$73,192.50

78 Payment Provisions (Continued)

C Payment Examples (Continued)

Example 4: Eligible skip row.

	Eligible Planted Crop	Total Eligible Planted Acres (Producer Share)	(a) Total Acres for Payment	(b) Eligible Crop Payment Rate	(c) Calculated Payment Amount (a) x (b)
Farm 100	Corn	500	500	\$44.36	\$22,180.00
	Wheat	125	125	\$30.88	\$3,860.00
Farm 200	Cotton	200	300	\$117.35	\$35,205.00
	Skip Row	100			
Producer Total Calculated Payment					\$61,245.00

79 **Acreage Disputes for FBA**

A Policy

It is the responsibility of producers to:

- determine shares on FSA-578 and acres on CCC-555
- submit all necessary signatures or supportive and necessary contractual documentation by deadlines.

Note: While FSA may assist producers, FSA is **not** responsible for determining correct acreage or for ensuring that producers meet FBA requirements.

COC's must **not** be involved in, settle division of acreage disputes for, or act on disputed acreage for CCC-555's.

B Acreage Share Disputes

Acreage is considered in dispute when there is a disagreement on certified acre shares on FSA-578. A disagreement is evident by having conflicting CCC-555's on file or a producer disputing shares on FSA-578.

79 Division of Payment Disputes (Continued)**C Determining Disputes**

To determine whether an acreage dispute exists, COC's **must**:

- determine whether available documentation supports who shares in acreage on the farm
- determine whether the documentation supports claimed acreage shares
- review lease agreements and use them as a guide in determining who shares in acreage on the farm and what the correct acreage shares should be, unless the lease agreement conflicts with other provisions of this handbook
- compare the previous year's rental agreement to the current year's rental agreement to determine whether input expenses are similar or have changed for the type of acreage being rented.

Disputes may exist when the available evidence does **not** support claimed acreage shares.

Disputes generally do **not** exist when:

- it is obvious that the available evidence supports who should share in acreage
- all provisions of this handbook are met.

Note: Follow 2-CP policy on revising shares because of disputes.

79 Division of Payment Disputes (Continued)

D Documenting a Dispute

If it is determined there is a disputed CCC-555, COC will follow these instructions.

IF...	THEN notify...
<p>CCC-555's containing signatures of all producers claiming a share of the acreage has been approved and are subsequently challenged by another CCC-555</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all producers on approved CCC-555's that COC's approval of CCC-555 is withdrawn because of the dispute and will remain in a disputed status until documentation is provided to COC resolving the dispute • all producers on previously approved CCC-555's, and on the challenging CCC-555, that there is a dispute of acreage and that COC will not approve any CCC-555 that includes the specific farm until the dispute is settled <p>Notes: Send the same letter to all parties concerning this action and copy all parties to this action.</p> <p>COC notification that it will not act on or approve any CCC-555 where there is a dispute of acreage is not an adverse decision that allows an appeal or appealability review. Appeals or appealability reviews only occur if COC renders a decision to approve or disapprove CCC-555.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • producers on all CCC-555's that they are responsible for resolving the dispute of acreage and obtaining all necessary signatures of applicants by the end of the application period.
<p>conflicting CCC-555's show that there is a dispute of acreage and CCC-555's have not yet been approved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all interested producers that COC will not approve any CCC-555 that includes the specific farm until the dispute is settled <p>Notes: To the extent possible, send the same letter and copy all parties asserting shares, operators, landowners, etc., with this notification.</p> <p>COC notification that it will not act on or approve any CCC-555, where there is a dispute of acreage, will not be considered an adverse decision that allows an appeal or appealability review. Appeals or appealability reviews only occur if COC renders a decision to approve or disapprove CCC-555.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • producers on all CCC-555's that they are responsible for resolving the dispute of acreage and obtaining all necessary signatures of applicants by the end of the application period.

79 Division of Payment Disputes (Continued)**E Payment When Disputes Are Resolved for FBA**

Approval of CCC-555 once a dispute is resolved before the end of the application period will be handled the same as for CCC-555's not having a dispute.

If a dispute is resolved after April 17, 2026, CCC-555 may be approved and payments issued accordingly **only** if CCC-555 was filed on or before April 17, 2026, with payment acres and required signatures for all CCC-555's in agreement.

Disputing parties requesting payment must have payment acres greater than zero to receive payment. Approved CCC-555 payment shares will be limited to not more than the payment acres requested on the disputed CCC-555.

Example: Producers A and B both timely file CCC-555 requesting 100 percent of the farm's acreage. After April 17, 2026, Producers A and B agree to shares of 50 percent each. COC may approve the contract for payment to Producers A and B if CCC-555's requesting 50 acres for each producer is timely filed by both producers with required signatures before April 17, 2026.

If there is a dispute that is preventing 1 or more producers from signing, producers are responsible for ensuring that, as a condition of CCC-555 eligibility, CCC-555 with all necessary signatures of producers is submitted to FSA no later than the end of the application period to be considered for approval.

COC will render no determination or action on CCC-555's **not** having all necessary signatures and required supporting contractual documents. FSA cannot approve enrollments of parts of eligible acreage.

80-95 (Reserved)

Part 6 Reviews

96 SED Designee Pre-Payment Reviews

A SED Designee

SED's must designate someone to complete 5 pre-payment reviews for the State. This designee must be able to review any application that they do not have an interest in or have worked on.

B Pre-Payment Reviews

States will conduct 5 payment reviews before the County Office certifies and signs payments in NPS. These 5 reviews:

- are not required to be the first 5 applications in the State
- should **not** be from the same county
- **must** include different commodities.

SED designee will complete the SED Designee Pre-Payment Checklist (Exhibit 25) for each application reviewed and ensure:

- acreage values on CCC-555 match CARS
- gross payment amount manually calculated matches the ECPR.

A PDF version is available on [SharePoint](#).

If issues are discovered, the SED designee must immediately report on the PDD Problem SharePoint and notify their State to hold certification and signing payments until further notice.

Note: If issues are discovered, State Offices will be notified by National Office immediately, and this process must be repeated after the issue is resolved.

If no issues are discovered, SED designee must notify County Offices within the State that payments can be certified and signed in NPS.

C Review Documentation

SED designee will report to the National Office reviews are complete within one week of the start of payments. The certification will be completed on the [FBA SharePoint](#) and all pre-payment review checklists must be attached to the certification.

97 Payment Reviews

A CED Payment Reviews

CED payment reviews:

- ensure that CCC-555's and eligibility forms are completed correctly and documented in the COC minutes as applicable
- demonstrate that the County Office understands and is implementing FBA policy correctly.

CED is required to review **completed CCC-555's** from the **first 5 producers for each Service Center** as part of their supervisory responsibility to ensure that program integrity and accountability requirements are met.

The initial review completed by CED must include all documents required to issue payments, including eligibility documents. If the eligibility documentation is not available for 1 or more of the first 5 producers, CED will select the next available completed CCC-555 payment until five CCC-555 payments are available for review. CED will complete the CED Payment Review Checklist (Exhibit 26). A PDF version is available on [SharePoint](#).

During the initial review, CED will complete the CED Payment Review Checklist and do the following:

- ensure that CCC-555 is completed correctly
- review all signatures obtained, including representative signature authorities
- ensure that all required payment limitation and payment eligibility forms are on file and completed correctly
- review and ensure that all software components are loaded correctly and match paper versions, if applicable, for all documents.

Upon completion, CED will:

- certify to SED designee that the first 5 completed CCC-555 payments have been reviewed
- provide the application package for SED designee review.

Note: CED does not have to wait until all five CCC-555 payments have been reviewed to submit to SED designee.

Any corrective actions must be taken within 30 calendar days and reported to DD to verify completion.

97 Payment Reviews (Continued)**B SED Designee Reviews**

An employee designated by SED will review CCC-555 payments from the first five CCC-555's paid in a Service Center to verify that:

- a signed CCC-555 was filed by the applicant or authorized representative of a legal entity
- all required eligibility documentation is on file and determination is documented in the COC minutes
- the applicant meets FBA requirements.

SED designee will complete the SED Designee Payment Review Checklist (Exhibit 27) for each Service Center and enter results into recording system. A PDF version is available on [SharePoint](#).

Note: DD or State Office designee will ensure that any corrective actions needed are completed within 30 calendar days.

C State Office Reviews

SED will review all SED designee Payment Reviews for each Service Center and verify that:

- SED designee has reviewed the first 5 payments for each Service Center
- any corrective actions identified in the reviews have been completed.

SED will provide a completed report to the National Office through [SharePoint](#) identifying all additional findings and corrective actions taken within 30 calendar days of SED designee reviews.

98 Spot Checks**A National Producer Selection**

A selection of producers eligible to participate in FBA will be made by the National Office using a statistical sampling method developed by EPAD. This selection is based on producer reported acreage data for FBA eligible crops and includes at least 1 application per State, and no more than 5 applications per county. The selection list is posted on [SharePoint](#).

The national producer selection list will display the following:

- recording State code
- recording county code
- CCID
- producer name.

Note: Not all counties will have producers selected for spot check.

B Spot Check Documentation

Applicants will have 30 calendar days to provide the requested information. Applicants may:

- pay for a measurement service per farm included in the CCC-555 acreage if crop residue can be verified
- provide documentation for each commodity on CCC-555.

If an applicant pays for a measurement service, the County Office will follow 2-CP to complete the measurement service.

If an applicant selects to provide documentation, the documentation must support the acreage and commodity on CCC-555.

98 Spot Checks (Continued)**B Spot Check Documentation (Continued)**

Examples of supporting documentation that may be used to support CCC-555 include the following:

- precision planting, spraying, or harvesting geospatial data or maps
- drone photos with location and notable physical boundaries
- other aerial or ground imagery with the ability to determine date, acres, and crop
- seed receipts showing the amount, variety, and date purchased
- receipts for cleaning, treating, etc., seed planted on the farm
- a written contract or documentation of an oral contract to produce a specific crop
- evidence accepted and approved by RMA or another USDA agency
- receipts showing number and units sold if the sale can be positively identified as sale of the crop for the farm for the year represented
- documentation of payment for custom harvesting indicating acreage, location, and crop year
- records showing the crop was fed to livestock.

Note: CMIS data is not acceptable documentation for a spot check and is not authorized.

C Producer Notification of Selection for Spot Check

The County Office will send a notification letter to applicants selected for a spot check within 30 days of application submission (Exhibit 28). A Microsoft Word version of this letter is available as a template on [SharePoint](#).

Selected producers may not apply for the FBA program and notification of spot-checked is not required. Selected producers meeting this criteria must be recorded as not participating at the conclusion of the application signup.

98 Spot Checks (Continued)**D Failure to Provide acceptable Documentation for Spot Check**

Failure to timely provide acceptable documentation within 30 calendar days will result in COC determining the participant ineligible for program benefits and the producer will be required to refund all payments issued under FBA. COC must:

- thoroughly document the decision in the COC minutes
- notify the participant in writing of the ineligibility determination (Exhibit 29)
- afford appeal rights according to 1-APP.

Note: A Microsoft Word version of this letter is available as a template on the FBA [SharePoint](#).

E Conducting the FBA Spot Checks

The County Office will complete the FBA National Spot Check Checklist (Exhibit 30) for each applicant selected. A PDF version is available on the FBA [SharePoint](#).

The County Office will provide the results of the FBA Spot Check Checklists and all documentation to COC within 30 calendar days of applicant providing documentation.

***--F Discrepancy in Acreage**

The following provides guidance when there is a discrepancy in acreage by commodity between the:

- acreage as certified on CCC-555
- actual measurement or documentation as determined from the measurement service or documentation provided by the applicant.--*

98 Spot Checks (Continued)

*--F Discrepancy in Acreage (Continued)

IF determined acreage is...	THEN COC...
<p>equal to or greater than the certified acreage</p> <p>less than but within 5 percent of the certified acreage</p>	<p>has no action required.</p> <p>Note: Do not enter the determined acreage in the “COC Adjustment” fields. No additional payment will be issued.</p>
<p>more than 5 percent of the certified acreage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determine the producer did not comply with FBA provisions • adjust the acreage downward to the acreage determined from the measurement service or documentation provided by the applicant in the “COC Adjustment” field. • will also consider whether there is fraud or abuse according to subparagraph I.

G COC Action on Spot Checks--*

COC will:

- review all spot check findings, facts, and documentation
- issue an administrative determination of eligibility
- afford appeal rights according to 1-APP.

If a spot check finding results in a required adjustment, COC will enter the adjustment on CCC-555, item 13.

Note: Make only downward adjustments resulting from a spot check.

Once administrative determination is made, the County Office will:

- notify the producer of the results of the spot check (Exhibit 31 or Exhibit 32)
- load spot check results into recording system by announced deadline.

Note: A Microsoft Word version of these letters are available as a template on the FBA [SharePoint](#).

98 Spot Checks (Continued)

--H Quality Reviews on Spot Checks--

Once all spot check results have been loaded into the recording system, a quality review will be completed by an SED designee. The quality review samples will be provided by the National Office and must be completed and entered into the recording system by the announced deadline.

--I Discovery of Fraud or Abuse--

COC will follow 1-CM for applications suspected of fraud or abuse with intent to defeat the purpose of FBA.

Reports, Forms, Abbreviations, and Delegations of Authority

Reports

None.

Forms

This table lists all forms referenced in this handbook.

Number	Title	Display Reference	Reference
AD-1026	Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELIC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification		41, 42
AD-2047	Customer Data Worksheet		6, 41
CCC-555	Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) Program Application	41	Text
CCC-901	Member's Information		41, 42
CCC-902	Farm Operating Plan for Payment Eligibility 2009 and Subsequent Program Years		41, 42
CCC-941	Average Adjusted Gross Income		41, 42
FSA-325	Application for Payment of Amounts Due Persons Who Have Died, Disappeared, or Have Been Declared Incompetent		6, 41
FSA-578	Report of Acreage		24, 25, 41, 43, 79
FSA-850	Environmental Screening Worksheet		3
SF-3881	ACH Vendor/Miscellaneous Payment Enrollment Form		41

Reports, Forms, Abbreviations, and Delegations of Authority (Continued)

Abbreviations Not Listed in 1-CM

The following abbreviations are not listed in 1-CM.

Approved Abbreviations	Term	Reference
ARC	Agriculture Risk Coverage	25, Ex. 2
ARD	acreage reporting date	25
CARS	Crop Acreage Reporting System	25, 42, 43, 96
CIMS	Comprehensive Information Management System	25
CRM	Customer Relationship Management	6
FBA	Farmer Bridge Assistance Program	Text
PIIA	Payment Integrity Information Act	5
PLC	Price Loss Coverage	25, Ex. 2

Redelegations of Authority

This table lists redelegations of authority in this handbook.

Redelegation	Reference
COC may redelegate authority to review and approve CCC-555's to CED, in routine cases. Redelegations must be documented in the COC meeting minutes.	5, 42

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook

Application

Application means CCC-555.

ARC

ARC means Agriculture Risk Coverage provided in 7 U.S.C. 9017.

Corn

Corn means only white, yellow, amylose, popcorn (excluding strawberry popcorn), waxy, and high amylase corn.

Cotton

Cotton means ELS cotton and upland cotton.

Crop Year

Crop year means the calendar year in which commodities were intended for harvest.

Deputy Administrator

Deputy Administrator means FSA DAFP.

Determined Acreage

Determined acreage means acreage that is established by an FSA representative by 1 of the following:

- using official acreage
- digitizing areas on a photograph or other imagery
- making computations from scaled dimensions or ground measurements.

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook (Continued)**Double Cropping**

Double cropping means, as determined by the Deputy Administrator on a regional basis, consecutive planting of 2 specific crops that have the capability to be planted and carried to maturity for the intended uses, as reported by the producer, on the same acreage within a 12-month period. To be considered double cropping, the planting of 2 specific crops must be in an area where STC has determined that producers are typically able to repeat the same cycle successfully in a subsequent 12-month period under normal growing conditions.

Dry Peas

Dry peas mean Austrian, green, wrinkled seed, and yellow peas, excluding peas grown for the fresh, canning, or frozen market.

Eligible Commodities

Eligible commodities mean barley, canola, corn, cotton, crambe, dry peas, flax, large chickpeas, lentils, mustard, oats, peanuts, rapeseed, rice, safflower, sesame, small chickpeas, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, and wheat.

ELS Cotton

ELS cotton means cotton that follows the standard planting and harvesting practices of the area in which the cotton is grown, and meets all the following conditions:

- American-Pima, Sea Island, Sealand, all other varieties of the Barbardense species of cotton and any hybrid thereof, and any other variety of cotton in which 1 or more of these varieties is predominant
- acreage is grown in a county designated as an ELS county by the Secretary
- production from the acreage is ginned on a roller-type gin.

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook (Continued)**Legal Entity**

Legal entity means an entity that is created under Federal or State law and that does either of the following:

- owns land or an agricultural commodity
- produces an agricultural commodity.

Legal entities include corporations, joint stock companies, associations, limited partnerships, LLC's, irrevocable trusts, estates, charitable organizations, general partnerships, joint ventures, and other similar organizations created under Federal or State law, including any such organization participating in a business structure as a partner in a general partnership, a participant in a joint venture, a grantor of a revocable trust, or a participant in a similar organization. A business operating as a sole proprietorship is considered a legal entity.

Minor Child

Minor child means a person who is under 18 years of age as of June 1, 2024.

Peanuts

Peanuts mean all peanuts, excluding perennial peanuts.

PLC

PLC means Price Loss Coverage provided in 7 U.S.C. 9016.

Producer

Producer means an owner, operator, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing a crop and is entitled to share in the crop available for marketing from the farm, or would have shared had the crop been produced.

Rice

Rice means long grain rice and medium grain rice, including temperate japonica, short grain, and sweet rice.

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook (Continued)

Secretary

Secretary means the Secretary of Agriculture.

Skip Row

Skip row means a cultural practice in which rows of a crop are alternated with strips of idle land or another crop, as determined by the Secretary.

Sorghum

Sorghum means all grain sorghum and dual-purpose sorghum. Sweet sorghum is not considered sorghum.

United States


United States means all 50 States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any other territory or possession of the United States.

Upland Cotton

Upland cotton means cotton that is produced in the United States from other than pure strain varieties of the Barbados species, any hybrid thereof, or any other variety of cotton in which 1 or more of these varieties predominate. In other words, it means any cotton that is not ELS cotton.

Letter Notifying Applicant of Approval With Reduced Acreage

The following is an example of a letter for approving CCC-555 that COC has reduced acreage.

 **Farm Service Agency**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[State/County Name Here] State Office / County Service Center
Street Address
Street Address
City, State, ZIP Code
PHONE: xxx.xxx.xxxx

TO NAME
Street Address
City, State, ZIP Code

Month XX, 20XX

Dear Name Here,

This letter is in response to your 2025 Farmer's Bridge Assistance (FBA) program application.

FSA has reviewed your application and has approved it with a reduced acreage for [insert commodity]. This reduction was due to [insert description of basis for reduction].

If you believe we have not properly reviewed your application, you may appeal this determination to the County Committee by filing a written request no later than 30 calendar days after you receive this notice in accordance with the FSA appeal procedures found at 7 CFR Part 780. If you appeal to the County Committee, you have the right to an informal hearing which you or your representative may attend either personally or by telephone. If you appeal this determination to the County Committee, you may later appeal an adverse determination of the County Committee to the FSA State Committee or the National Appeals Division or request mediation. To appeal, write to the County Committee at the following address and explain why you believe this determination is erroneous.

Any County FSA Committee
1235 Street Name.
City, State 11111

If you do not timely file an appeal of this determination, this shall be the final administrative determination with respect to this matter in accordance with regulations at 7 CFR Part 780 and 7 CFR Part 11.


Sincerely,

Name
Title

Farm Service Agency
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.


Letter Notifying Applicant of Disapproval

The following is an example of a letter for disapproving CCC-555.

<p> Farm Service Agency U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</p> <p>[State/County Name Here] State Office / County Service Center Street Address Street Address City, State, ZIP Code PHONE: xxx.xxx.xxxx</p> <p>TO NAME Street Address City, State, ZIP Code</p> <p>Month XX, 20XX</p> <p>Dear Name Here,</p> <p>This letter is in response to your 2025 Farmer's Bridge Assistance (FBA) program application.</p> <p>FSA has reviewed your application and has disapproved it due to <u>[insert description of basis for disapproval]</u>.</p> <p>If you believe we have not properly reviewed your application, you may appeal this determination to the County Committee by filing a written request no later than 30 calendar days after you receive this notice in accordance with the FSA appeal procedures found at 7 CFR Part 780. If you appeal to the County Committee, you have the right to an informal hearing which you or your representative may attend either personally or by telephone. If you appeal this determination to the County Committee, you may later appeal an adverse determination of the County Committee to the FSA State Committee or the National Appeals Division or request mediation. To appeal, write to the County Committee at the following address and explain why you believe this determination is erroneous.</p> <p>Any County FSA Committee 1235 Street Name. City, State 11111</p> <p>If you do not timely file an appeal of this determination, this shall be the final administrative determination with respect to this matter in accordance with regulations at 7 CFR Part 780 and 7 CFR Part 11.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Name <i>Title</i></p> <hr/> <p>Farm Service Agency <i>USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.</i></p>

Letter Notifying Applicant of Disapproval for Late-Filed CCC-555

The following is an example of a letter for disapproving CCC-555 that was late-filed after the application deadline.

 **Farm Service Agency**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[State/County Name Here] State Office / County Service Center
Street Address
Street Address
City, State, ZIP Code
PHONE: xxx.xxx.xxxx

TO NAME
Street Address
City, State, ZIP Code

Month XX, 20XX

Dear Name Here,

This letter is in response to your 2025 Farmer's Bridge Assistance (FBA) program application.

FSA has reviewed your application and determined it was filed after the enrollment deadline of April 17, 2026. The County Committee has disapproved the application based on this reasoning.

If you believe we have not properly reviewed your application, you may appeal this determination to the County Committee by filing a written request no later than 30 calendar days after you receive this notice in accordance with the FSA appeal procedures found at 7 CFR Part 780. If you appeal to the County Committee, you have the right to an informal hearing which you or your representative may attend either personally or by telephone. If you appeal this determination to the County Committee, you may later appeal an adverse determination of the County Committee to the FSA State Committee or the National Appeals Division or request mediation. To appeal, write to the County Committee at the following address and explain why you believe this determination is erroneous.

Any County FSA Committee
1235 Street Name.
City, State 11111

If you do not timely file an appeal of this determination, this shall be the final administrative determination with respect to this matter in accordance with regulations at 7 CFR Part 780 and 7 CFR Part 11.

Sincerely,

Name
Title

Farm Service Agency
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

SED Designee Pre-Payment Review Checklist

The following questions are for SED Designee when reviewing five pre-payments.

FBA SED Designee Pre-Payment Reviews

Complete this for 5 approved applications prior to authorizing payments to be certified and signed for the State.

State Name: _____				
County Name: _____				
Application ID: _____				
Name of Reviewer: _____				
Date of Review: _____				
Review ____ of 5				
1. List Commodities and Acreage each below:				
Commodity	CARS Acreage	CCC-555 Acreage	Difference	
2. List Commodities, Acreage, Payment Rate, Calculated Payment, and ECRP Payment for each commodity below:				
Commodity	Acreage	Payment Rate	Calculated Payment	ECPR Payment
3. Were any discrepancies found?				Yes or No
Any Additional Comments:				

CED Payment Review Checklist

The following questions are for CED when reviewing the first five CCC-555 payments.

FBA CED Reviews	
Complete this review on the first 5 payments per Service Center and send to SED Designee within 30 days.	
State: _____ County: _____	
Producer Name: _____ Application Number: _____	
Application Questions	
1. Has Applicant completed Part C of the CCC-555?	Yes or No
2. Did applicant check "Yes" to question 14?	Yes or No
3. Was valid signature authority on file for the producer who signed in item 15 of the CCC-555, if applicable?	Yes, No, or Not Applicable
4. Has the CCC-555 been date stamped?	Yes or No
5. Has COC or designee signed the CCC-555?	Yes or No
6. Are delegations on file and recorded in COC minutes?	Yes or No
6.1 Date of COC minutes or action between minutes	(MM/DD/YYYY)
7. Were there any adjustments entered in items 12 or 13?	Yes or No
7.1 If adjustments were entered did COC approve the CCC-555?	Yes, No, or Not Applicable
8. Does signed application match application loaded in FBA software?	Yes or No
9. Does the approval type match what is loaded (electronic, signed, etc.)	Yes or No
10. Is CCC-902 on file?	Yes or No
10.1 Year 902 was filed?	
11. Is there a completed, signed CCC-903 on file that matches the CCC-902?	Yes or No
12. If a cash rent tenant determination is needed, was it completed and recorded on the CCC-903?	Yes, No, Not Applicable
13. Have there been updates to the CCC-902 since originally filed?	Yes or No
14. Was a new CCC-903 determination needed for any 902 that was updated?	Yes, No, or Not Applicable
14.1 If yes, was a CCC-903 completed, signed, and updated in software?	Yes or No
15. Is AD-1026 on file for the applicant and all affiliates?	Yes or No
15.1 If no, was the missing AD-1026 for the applicant or affiliate?	
16. Is a CCC-941 on file for the applicant for 2025?	Yes or No
County Executive Director Review:	
County Executive Director	Completion Date
CED Notes:	

SED Designee Payment Review Checklist

The following is the DD Payment Review Checklist.

FBA SED Designee Payment Reviews	
Complete this review per Service Center and enter on SharePoint.	
State: _____	
Service Center Name: _____	
County Names: _____	
CED Review Questions	
1. Has CED reviewed 5 payments per service center?	Yes or No
1.1 If no, how many reviews were completed?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
2. Has CED provided all reviewed documentation to SED Designee within 30 days of payments?	Yes or No
2.1 If no, how many applications did not have documentation provided?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
Application Question	
3. Has the CCC-555 been date stamped on all 5 applications reviewed?	Yes or No
3.1 If no, how many CCC-555s were not date stamped?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
COC Action Questions	
4. Has COC or designee completed the CCC-555 Part D on all applications reviewed?	Yes or No
4.1 If no, how many applications did not have Part D of the CCC-555 completed?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
5. Are COC delegations of authority on file and recorded in COC minutes?	Yes or No
5.1 Date of COC minutes or action between minutes	(MM/DD/YYYY)
Comment/Corrective Action:	

DD Payment Review Checklist (Continued)


State: _____	
Service Center Name: _____	
County Names: _____	
6. Were there any adjustments entered in items 12 or 13?	Yes or No
6.1 If adjustments were entered did COC approve the CCC-555?	Yes, No, or Not Applicable
6.2 If 6.1 is no, how many CCC-555's were not approved by the COC?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
Software Questions	
7. Do the signed applications match the applications loaded in the FBA software?	Yes or No
7.1 If no, how many applications did not match?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
8. Does the approval type match what is loaded (electronic, signed, etc.) in the FBA software?	Yes or No
8.1 If no, how many approval types did not match?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
Payment Eligibility Questions	
9. Is a CCC-902 on File for all applications and loaded in Business File?	Yes or No
9.1 If no, how many were not on file?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
10. Is there a completed, signed CCC-903 on file that matches the CCC-902 for all applications and determination date loaded in Business File?	Yes or No
10.1 If no, how many CCC-903s did not match?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
11. If a cash rent tenant determination was needed, was it completed and recorded on the CCC-903s?	Yes, No, Not Applicable
11.1 If no, how many were not completed?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
12. Have there been updates to the CCC-902s since originally filed?	Yes or No
Comment/Corrective Action:	

DD Payment Review Checklist (Continued)

State: _____	
Service Center Name: _____	
County Names: _____	
13. Was a new CCC-903 determination needed, for any 902 that was updated?	Yes, No, or Not Applicable
13.1 If yes, was a CCC-903 completed, signed, and updated in software?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
14. Is AD-1026 on file for participant and all affiliates with farming interest for all applications?	Yes or No
14.1 If no, how many AD-1026's were missing?	
14.2 Were missing AD-1026 for applicant or affiliates?	Applicant, Affiliate, or Both
Comment/Corrective Action:	
15. Is a CCC-941 on file for each participant for each application?	Yes or No
15.1 If no, how many CCC-941s were missing?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
Payment Questions	
16. Were all payments certified and signed in NPS within 30 days?	Yes or No
16.1 If no, how many were not certified and signed?	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
Additional Findings Questions	
17. Were additional findings discovered that are not listed above?	Yes or No
17.1 If yes, please list additional findings and corrective actions.	
Comments/Corrective Actions:	
17.2 Date additional corrective actions are completed	
SED Designee Review:	
SED Designee	Completion Date

Letter Notifying Applicant of Spot Check Selection

The following is an example of a letter for applicant notification of selection for spot check.

 **Farm Service Agency**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[State/County Name Here] State Office / County Service Center
Street Address
Street Address
City, State, ZIP Code
PHONE: xxx.xxx.xxxx

TO NAME
Street Address
City, State, ZIP Code

Month XX, 20XX

Dear Name Here,

This letter is to notify you that you have been randomly selected for spot check of your Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) program application for 2025.

As a condition of applying and receiving an FBA payment, you agreed to provide acceptable documentation in support of your commodities and acreage on the CCC-555. There are two options to choose from to provide this documentation:

- Pay for a measurement service per farm included on the CCC-555 acreage
- Provide documentation for each commodity on the CCC-555

If you choose to provide documentation, the documentation must support the acreage and commodity on the CCC-555. Examples of supporting documentation may include, but are not limited to:

- precision planting, spraying, or harvesting geospatial data or maps
- drone photos with location and notable physical boundaries
- other aerial or ground imagery with the ability to determine date, acres, and crop
- seed receipts showing the amount, variety, and date purchased
- receipts for cleaning, treating, etc., for seed planted on the farm
- a written contract or documentation of an oral contract to produce a specific crop
- evidence that was accepted and approved by RMA or another USDA agency
- receipts showing number and units sold if the sale can be positively identified as sale of the crop for the farm for the year represented
- documentation of payment for custom harvesting indicating acreage, location, and crop year
- records showing the crop was fed to livestock

Farm Service Agency
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Letter Notifying Applicant of Spot Check Selection (Continued)

Please submit your documentation to the (Enter County) FSA office at the following address within 30 calendar days:

Any County FSA Office
Any street or PO Box
City, State, ZIP

You must respond to this request for evidence to support your commodity and acreage certification on the CCC-555. Failure to timely submit a request for measurement services or provide documentation will result in program ineligibility for FBA, requiring a full refund of all payments made, including interest from the date of disbursement.


Sincerely,

Name
Title

Farm Service Agency
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Letter Notifying Applicant of Failure to Provide Documentation for Spot Check

The following is an example of a letter for failure to provide documentation for spot check.

 **Farm Service Agency**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[State/County Name Here] State Office / County Service Center
Street Address
Street Address
City, State, ZIP Code
PHONE: xxx.xxx.xxxx

TO NAME
Street Address
City, State, ZIP Code

Month XX, 20XX

Dear Name Here,

You were previously notified by letter dated (enter date), advising you were selected for spot check of your Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) program application. You were provided 30 calendar days to provide acceptable documentation to the (enter county) FSA office. As of the date of this letter, FSA has not received documentation to support your commodity and acreage on the CCC-555.

As a result, you are determined ineligible for FBA benefits. You will be notified by separate communication of any amount owed as a result of this determination of ineligibility for failing to respond to FSA's request for documents.

If you believe we have not properly reviewed your application, you may appeal this determination to the County Committee by filing a written request no later than 30 calendar days after you receive this notice in accordance with the FSA appeal procedures found at 7 CFR Part 780. If you appeal to the County Committee, you have the right to an informal hearing which you or your representative may attend either personally or by telephone. If you appeal this determination to the County Committee, you may later appeal an adverse determination of the County Committee to the FSA State Committee or the National Appeals Division or request mediation. To appeal, write to the County Committee at the following address and explain why you believe this determination is erroneous.

Any County FSA Committee
1235 Street Name.
City, State 11111

If you do not timely file an appeal of this determination, this shall be the final administrative determination with respect to this matter in accordance with regulations at 7 CFR Part 780 and 7 CFR Part 11.

Sincerely,

Name
Title

Farm Service Agency
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

National Spot Check Checklist

The following checklist must be completed for each designated Spot Check and provided to SED Designee upon completion of COC determination.

FBA National Spot Checks

Complete this review per Spot Check and provide to SED Designee.

State: _____	
Service Center Name: _____	
County Name: _____	
Producer Name & CCID: _____	
Spot Check Application Questions	
1. Was CCC-555 signed prior to April 17, 2026	Yes or No
1.1 If no, no additional action is needed.	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
2. Was applicant notified by letter of spot check selection within 30 days of enrolled application?	Yes or No
2.1 If yes, date of letter	
Comment/Corrective Action:	
Spot Check Documentation Question	
3. Did applicant select measurement service or provide documentation?	Measurement Service, Documentation
Measurement Service Questions	
4.1 Did applicant pay measurement fee according to 2-CP	Yes, No
4.2 Was measurement fee entered in software accordingly?	Yes, No
4.3 If yes, enter remittance number.	
4.3 Date measurement service was completed	(MM/DD/YYYY)
4.4 Did measurement service substantiate both the commodities and acreage certified on the CCC-555?	Yes, No
4.5 If no, was the discrepancy the commodity or acreage?	Commodity, Acreage
4.6 What Commodity(s) contained the discrepancy?	
4.7 How many acres were over reported on the CCC-555 for the applicable commodity(s)?	


National Spot Check Checklist (Continued)

State: _____
Service Center Name: _____
County Name: _____
Producer Name & CCID: _____

Documentation Provided Questions	
5.1 If provide documentation was selected, what date was documentation received?	(MM/DD/YYYY)
5.2 Did documentation provided substantiate both the commodities and acreage certified on the CCC-555?	Yes, No
5.3 If no, was the discrepancy the commodity or acreage?	Commodity, Acreage
5.4 What Commodity(s) contained the discrepancy?	
5.5 How many acres are over reported on the CCC-555 for the applicable commodity(s)?	
COC Action Questions	
6. If a discrepancy was found, has COC entered reduction in item 13 (COC Adjustment) of CCC-555 both on paper and in software?	Yes, No, N/A
6.6 If no, when will adjustment be loaded in software?	(MM/DD/YYYY)
Note: Action in item 6 and 9 must be completed prior to submission of this checklist.	
7. Has COC issued spot check determination letter	Yes or No
7.2 If yes, what date was letter issued?	(MM/DD/YYYY)
8. Are spot check review, documentation, and results recorded in COC minutes?	Yes or No
8.1 Date of COC minutes or action between minutes	(MM/DD/YYYY)
9. If discrepancy was found and final determination letter issued, has applicant shown up on the FBA Pending Overpayment Report?	Yes, No, N/A
9.1 If yes enter the overpayment amount.	
9.2 If yes, has pending overpayment been transferred to a receivable?	Yes or No
9.2.1 If yes, enter the receivable ID number.	
Additional Comments:	

Letter Notifying Applicant of Spot Check Results

The following is an example of a letter for applicant notification of completed spot check.

 **Farm Service Agency**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[State/County Name Here] State Office / County Service Center
Street Address
Street Address
City, State, ZIP Code
PHONE: xxx.xxx.xxxx

TO NAME
Street Address
City, State, ZIP Code

Month XX, 20XX

Dear Name Here,

Thank you for your participation in the Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) program. You were notified on (insert date) that you were selected for a spot check for the commodities and acreage certified on the CCC-555, FBA application. Thank you for responding and providing the required documentation for review.

The spot check has been completed. The records you provided substantiated all of the commodities and acres reported on the CCC-555. There will be no reduction in acres or refunds required.

If you have additional questions concerning this review, please contact us at the number above.


Sincerely,

Name
Title

Farm Service Agency
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Letter Notifying Applicant of Spot Check Results with Reduction Applied

The following is an example of a letter for applicant notification of completed spot check with a reduction applied.

 **Farm Service Agency**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[State/County Name Here] State Office / County Service Center
Street Address
Street Address
City, State, ZIP Code
PHONE: xxx.xxx.xxxx

TO NAME
Street Address
City, State, ZIP Code

Month XX, 20XX

Dear Name Here,

Thank you for your participation in the Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) program. You were notified on (insert date) that you were selected for a spot check for the commodities and acreage certified on the CCC-555, FBA application. Thank you for responding and providing the required documentation for review.

The spot check has been completed. The records you provided did not substantiate all the commodities and acreage certified on the CCC-555. The CCC-555 will be adjusted for (insert commodity or acres) determined not eligible for FBA. You will be notified by separate letter of any amounts owed as a result of the adjustment.

If you believe we have not properly reviewed your application, you may appeal this determination to the County Committee by filing a written request no later than 30 calendar days after you receive this notice in accordance with the FSA appeal procedures found at 7 CFR Part 780. If you appeal to the County Committee, you have the right to an informal hearing which you or your representative may attend either personally or by telephone. If you appeal this determination to the County Committee, you may later appeal an adverse determination of the County Committee to the FSA State Committee or the National Appeals Division or request mediation. To appeal, write to the County Committee at the following address and explain why you believe this determination is erroneous.

Any County FSA Committee
1235 Street Name.
City, State 11111

If you do not timely file an appeal of this determination, this shall be the final administrative determination with respect to this matter in accordance with regulations at 7 CFR Part 780 and 7 CFR Part 11.

Sincerely,

Name
Title

Farm Service Agency
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

