

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program 1-SURE	Amendment 28
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Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



Amendment Transmittal

A Reasons for Amendment

Subparagraph 4 E has been amended to clarify COC responsibilities.

Subparagraph 4 H has been amended to clarify CED responsibilities.

Paragraph 6 has been amended to clarify how FSA meets its obligation of publicizing program information.

Page Control Chart		
TC	Text	Exhibit
	1-9 through 1-16	

4 Responsibilities (Continued)

E General COC Responsibilities

*--Within the authority and limitation of this handbook and 7 CFR Part 760, Subpart G, COC's shall:

- adhere to all SURE provisions
- ensure that CED's administer SURE according to handbook and regulatory provisions
- follow paragraph 5 for redelegation of authority
- handle suspected misrepresentation, scheme or device, or fraud cases according to applicable procedure
- develop quality adjustment factors based on weather, crop conditions, etc., document their findings, and send recommendations to STC
- ensure that an applicant's claimed share reflects the participant's ownership interest in the crop at the time of loss

Note: If a person claiming a share of SURE has entered into any agreement or contract to grow or produce the crop for another, without retaining any ownership share and risk in the crop, the participant **cannot** be considered to have a valid claim to a share of SURE payment.

- process appeals according to 1-APP and 7 CFR Parts 11 and 780--*
- thoroughly document all actions taken in COC meeting minutes

Important: All of the following **must** be thoroughly documented for **all** SURE determinations made by COC:

- factors reviewed or considered
- documentation reviewed
- references to applicable handbooks, notices, and regulations
- sources of information obtained for review or consideration.

4 Responsibilities (Continued)

E General COC Responsibilities (Continued)

- notify participants in writing, if their FSA-682 is disapproved

Note: Notifications shall include the following information:

- reason for FSA-682 denial
 - factors reviewed or considered in making determination
 - appeal rights
 - copy of FSA-682.
- *--ensure that SURE general provisions and other important items are publicized as resources permit according to paragraph 6
 - ensure that a record of publicity efforts, including postings in the Service Center, is maintained--*
 - reduce CEY's according to paragraph 123, if necessary.

4 Responsibilities (Continued)

F Recording County Responsibilities

The recording county for SURE shall be the producer's recording county according to 3-PL. If the producer is involved in only 1 county, then that county is considered to be both the recording and administrative county for the purposes of this paragraph.

COC in a recording county is responsible for:

- producer eligibility determinations according to Part 1
- ensuring that FSA-217, if applicable, is completed according to 1-CM
- ensuring that FSA-682 is completed according to Part 11
- assuring producer signatures follow 1-CM procedure
- approving or disapproving FSA-682, Parts A through D, for their county's data
- adjusting production on FSA-682, Part D, for crops in their county
- overall FSA-682 approval or disapproval
- ensuring that other administrative counties are notified when FSA-682 is approved/disapproved
- ***--2008 only**, ensuring that FSA-683 is completed according to paragraph 353.--*

G Other Administrative County Responsibilities

COC's in nonrecording counties are responsible for:

- approving or disapproving FSA-682, Parts A through D for their county's data
- adjusting production on FSA-682, Part D, for crops in their county
- ensuring that recording county receives data from their county, including COC determinations.

4 Responsibilities (Continued)

H CED Responsibilities

*--Within the authority and limitation of this handbook and 7 CFR Part 760, Subpart G, CED's shall:

- adhere to and follow SURE program provisions and regulations
- ensure that County Office employees administer SURE provisions according to FSA directives
- handle and process appeals according to 1-APP and 7 CFR Parts 11 and 780
- ensure that data provided by an applicant is not modified unless the applicant initials--* and dates the modification

* * *

- immediately notify SED, through DD, of software problems and incomplete or incorrect procedures
- ensure that general provisions and other important items are publicized according to paragraph 6
- ensure that RMA data on SIR (Exhibit 4) for land administered in another county is sent to the applicable county.

I Program Technician Responsibilities

Within the authorities and limitations in this handbook and 7 CFR Part 760, Subpart G, program technicians shall:

- *--adhere to and follow established FSA procedures governing SURE provisions--*
- immediately notify CED of problems including incomplete or incorrect procedures.

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5 COC Delegation of Authority

A COC Responsibilities

COC is responsible for acting on all FSA-682's. This authority **cannot** be delegated beyond routine determinations, as provided in subparagraph C.

B COC Responsibilities That May Be Delegated

COC may delegate responsibility to CED for approving routine FSA-682's. Following are examples of routine FSA-682's:

- all information is accounted for and completed on FSA-682 with RMA data
- NAP covered crops for which CCC-576's have already been approved for the disaster crop year.

C COC Responsibilities That Shall Not Be Delegated

Under no circumstances shall COC delegate responsibility to CED for determinations involving any of the following:

- AGI in situations where certifications are questionable
- assigning production
- * * *
- ineligible loss conditions
- maximum loss level for the county or area
- normal marketing percentages for crops with multiple markets
- reducing yields.

Notes: COC employees making what could be interpreted as adverse decisions not mentioned herein **must** provide a right of appeal to COC **only** according to 1-APP.

--Under no circumstances shall COC delegate responsibility for requesting a county average quality adjustment factor from STC according to subparagraph 233 A.--

6 Outreach

***--A Publicizing Program Information or Details**

FSA will assist persons by providing as much program information it can in a variety of ways. However, because of limits on FSA resources, 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 the press, print and electronic media, Federal register documents, radio and television announcements, and through posting program information in USDA Service Centers.

Limited FSA resources have increased the participant's responsibility for being aware of program provisions. FSA **cannot** be responsible for reaching out to every potential program participant with all program information. Participants must seek information on program details and **not** wait for FSA to individually write or communicate with them about program provisions.--*

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