

Increased Loan Opportunities (Continued)

- Microloans will not count toward direct operating loan term limits for veterans and beginning farmers.

Additional modifications must be implemented through the rule-making processes. Visit the FSA Farm Bill website for detailed information and updates to farm loan programs. <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/fbapp?area=home&subject=landing&topic=landing>

Farm Service Agency Is Hiring!

After years of a hiring freeze and declining staff due to attrition, the Farm Service Agency is hiring in Washington State. FSA is looking for qualified applicants who are interested in living in rural communities and assisting farmers and ranchers. As vacancies arise, they are posted on the USAJobs website.

<https://www.usajobs.gov/JobSearch/Search/GetResults?OrganizationID=AGFA&ApplicantEligibility=All&CountrySubDivision=Washington>

Or call Mitzi Stephens at the FSA State Office at (509) 323-3007.

Outlook for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) During 2015

The 2014 Farm Bill continued the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) with modifications. A Secretarial announcement as to whether there will be a general CRP signup in 2015 is expected to happen in spring or summer. When an announcement occurs, it will be posted on the FSA website (www.fsa.usda.gov/wa) and included in the monthly electronic FSA newsletters. Due to the Farm Bill's gradual lowering of the acreage cap to 24 million acres nationwide, a general signup is expected to be competitive.

Producers with **Continuous** CRP contracts that expire in 2015 may begin the re-enrollment process now by contacting your local FSA office.

The CRP Transition Incentives Program (TIP) program pays retiring farmers with CRP contracts an additional two years of CRP payments as incentive to sell or lease CRP land to a beginning or traditionally underserved farmer who return the land to sustainable grazing or cropping operations. The CRP TIP now includes eligibility for military veterans who farm.

A new CRP provision allows producers with irrigation center pivots to enroll pivot corners in CRP even when the corners are disconnected. Previously, the corners had to be connected by a grass strip. For more information about CRP provisions or signup, contact your county FSA office.

Stay Informed—Subscribe to Receive Electronic Farm Service Agency Newsletters

The USDA Farm Service Agency offices have moved to a paperless news distribution system. You may enroll in the *GovDelivery* system, which provides notices, newsletters and electronic reminders instead of a hard copy through the mail. FSA, like many other organizations, is trying to work smarter and be more efficient. Moving to electronic notifications via email helps conserve resources and save taxpayer dollars. You can subscribe to receive free email updates by going to www.fsa.usda.gov/ and click on "Sign up for updates" in the Stay Connected box.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Washington State FSA
316 W. Boone, Ste. 568
Spokane, WA 99201



United States
Department
of Agriculture

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
USDA-FSA
PERMIT NO. G-96

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 27, 2015	Deadline to reallocate base acres and yields for ARC/PLC programs	Mid-April through summer 2015	ARC/PLC enrollment for 2014 and 2015 crop years
March 16, 2015	Deadline to purchase 2015 crop year NAP coverage for beet seed or fresh, buckwheat, camelina, carrots fresh or processing, mustard, radish for seed or fresh, small grain forages (wheat, barley, oats, peas), and other spring planted crops.	June 1, 2015	Deadline to request a commodity loan or LDP for 2014 harvested crops of corn, dry peas, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, safflower seed, chickpeas, soybeans, or sunflower seed crop.
March 31, 2015	Deadline to request a commodity loan or LDP for 2014 harvested crops of barley, canola, crambe, flaxseed, honey, oats, rapeseed, wheat, or sesame seed crop.	July 15, 2015	NAP production reporting deadline for 2014 crops
		July 15, 2015	2015 crop acreage reporting deadline
March 31, 2015	Deadline to elect ARC or PLC programs for life of the 2014 Farm Bill	Aug. 1, 2015	Deadline to submit nominations for county committee elections