

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers (TAAF) Program (Second Petition)

SHRIMP

October 2010

Texas Farm Service Agency



Program Availability

Congress has determined that assistance will be made available to commercial shrimpers in Texas, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Purpose

With TAAF, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, (USDA) will provide technical assistance and cash benefits to eligible producers of raw agricultural commodities and fisherman who have been hurt by import competition.



Trade Adjustment Assistance

- TAAF is not a disaster assistance program
- TAAF assistance is not related to losses or damages from the Gulf oil spill.

Trade Adjustment Assistance

- If you applied in the previous program, you are not eligible to apply in this sign up period.

Trade Adjustment Assistance

TAAF provides:

- free technical training for developing and implementing business plans
- cash benefits to eligible fisherman who were hurt by import competition in calendar year 2008.



Cash Benefits

Total benefits are limited to \$12,000 per “person”:

- Up to \$4,000 for developing an initial business plan
- Up to \$8,000 for developing an approved long term business plan

Cash Benefits

- Payments for business plans are:
 - Fixed amounts that do not depend on the applicant's level of production
 - May be reduced from the maximum rates based on total number of approved applicants.

Application Deadline

All applications for TAA benefits
for shrimp must be filed by
December 23, 2010.



Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for TAA assistance, you must meet several eligibility requirements:



Eligibility Requirements

- be a producer of a TAAF certified commodity
- submit a completed FSA-229-1 and required documentation to the County Office within the announced 90-day application period – **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 23, 2010.**
- have a taxpayer ID that is not temporary
- be a U.S. citizen or Permanent Resident Alien (possess I-551)



Eligibility Requirements

- Comply with USDA rules regarding highly erodible land and wetlands (form AD-1026)
- Not have been convicted of planting, cultivating, growing, producing, harvesting or storing a controlled substance
- Not have been convicted of fraud with the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

Eligibility Requirements

- Average adjusted gross income (AGI) for 2005-2007 must be less than \$2.5-million.
- Applicants exceeding the AGI limits are ineligible for:
 - Technical training
 - Reimbursement of travel expenses
 - Business plan payments.

Eligibility Requirements

APPLICANT MUST DOCUMENT PRODUCTION OF SHRIMP IN BOTH:

- 2008, and
- At least 1 of the 3 marketing years of 2005-2007

Eligibility Requirements

You must be able to show:

- You were a commercial fisherman in 2008 **and** at least 1 of the 3 marketing years of 2005, 2006 or 2007
- Shrimp were marketed in your name

Eligibility Requirements

CERTIFY ELIGIBILITY UNDER 1 OF 3 OPTIONS:

- Option 1: Production in 2008 was less than production in the most recent production year of the 3 prior years, or
- Option 2: Price received in 2008 was less than the average price received in the 3 most recent years of production, or
- Option 3: USDA's posted county price is less than the average of such price for the 3 MYs preceding the petition filing date.

Eligibility Requirements

To document that you are a commercial shrimper:

We will ask you to provide the serial number of your commercial shrimp boat license or commercial shrimp boat captain's license, or prove that you worked for a share of the catch on a licensed vessel or permitted aquaculture facility.



TAA Eligibility

To document your loss, you must provide:

- *Documentation of total production for 2008 **and** total production for the most recent production year of the 3 prior years (2007, 2006, or 2005)*
- *Or, documentation to show the price received in 2008 was less than the average price received in the 3 most recent years of production*

TAA Eligibility

You must be able to show *with your documentation* that you produced **less** than the most recent production year **or** the price you received was **less** than the average price received in the 3 most recent years of production

TAA Eligibility

To document that shrimp were marketed in your name:

*You must provide acceptable sales receipts or settlement sheets showing the proceeds **you** received for the sale of shrimp between January 1 and December 31, 2008.*

TAA Eligibility

Also:

These marketing documents must specifically show that YOU received payment when the shrimp were sold.

In other words, YOUR NAME must be on the sales documents.



TAA Eligibility

To document that you meet the adjusted gross income (AGI) requirements:

You must certify that you meet the AGI limit on form CCC-526 or provide a statement from a certified public accountant or attorney showing that your 3-yr average adjusted gross income did not exceed \$2.5-million.



TAA Eligibility

To apply for any assistance through the Farm Service Agency (FSA), we will ask you to provide important information about yourself, including:



TAA Eligibility

- Your full name
- Your address
- Your social security number
- Your gender
- Your citizenship, or US Resident status
- Your date of birth
- Your marital status

TAA Eligibility

- Your language preference
- Your race
- Your disability status
- Your federal employment status
- Your employer ID, if you have one
- For general partnerships, corporations or other entities (organizational papers or partnership agreements)

Applying for Benefits

To apply for TAA you must complete several forms:



Required Forms

- **FSA-229-1**, Application for TAA
- **CCC-502**, Farm Operating Plan for Payment Eligibility
- **CCC-526**, 2008 AGI Certification
- **AD-1026**, Highly Erodible Conservation and Wetland Conservation
- **SF-1199A**, Direct Deposit Signup

Required Forms

You might also use forms:

- **CCC-501A**, Members Information (for business entities)
- **FFAS-12**, Electronic Funds Transfer Hardship Waiver Request

Form FSA-229-1

The TAA Application requires you to provide the following information:

- Name, Address, Phone Number
- ID number (SS#, or other tax ID number)
- Whether benefits were received under another TAA for Farmers Program, TAA for Workers or FIRMS Programs

Form FSA-229-1

You must certify whether:

- You produced/marketed shrimp in 2008
- You produced/marketed shrimp in 2005, 2006 or 2007

Form FSA-229-1

To Qualify under OPTION 1, you must show:

- The amount of shrimp you marketed in 2008
- The amount of shrimp you marketed in the most recent year prior to 2008: 2007, 2006 or 2005

Form FSA-229-1

To qualify under OPTION 2, you must provide documentation of 4 years of price data:

- The average price you received for shrimp production in 2008
- The average prices you received for shrimp production in each of the 3 most recent years prior to 2008



Example Using Option 2:

- 2008 Price = \$4.00
 - 2007 = \$3.75
 - 2006 = no production
 - 2005 = \$4.25
 - 2004 = \$4.00
- Compute the average for years prior to 2008 as:

$$\frac{3.75+4.25+4.00}{3} = \$4.00$$

You would not compute an average using \$0 for 2006.

Form FSA-229-1

To Qualify under OPTION 3:

- The county price for the commodity (shrimp) on the petition filing date
- The average county price for marketing years 2005-2007

Note: The producer must provide documents to support these prices.

Form FSA-229-1

With your signature on the TAA Application, you certify that:

- Your information on the application is true and correct
- You have not received cash benefits from the TAA for Workers or TAA for Firms Programs
- You meet adjusted gross income requirements

Form FSA-229-1

Your signature also certifies that:

- You understand that before payments can be made, you must provide acceptable documentation of your marketings
- You understand that before payment, you must attend training and establish approved business plans

Form FSA-229-1

Your signature certifies that:

- You understand that all documentation must be provided before December 23, 2010 or benefits will be denied.

Form FSA-229-1

With your signature on the TAA Application, you certify that:

- You understand FSA will conduct spot checks for this program and that FSA is authorized to contact third parties to verify the information you submit.

Form FSA-229-1

With your signature on the TAA Application, you certify that:

- You understand the maximum payment you will receive will not be more than \$12,000, and your total payments for TAA and counter-cyclical payments cannot exceed \$65,000.

Form FSA-229-1

With your signature on the TAA Application, you certify that:

- You understand you must retain your records regarding this program for two years after benefits are paid and you may be required to provide these records to FSA during that time.

Form FSA-229-1

With your signature on the TAA Application, you certify that:

- You understand that providing false information, either on the application or in the supporting documentation, is punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

CCC-502

Completing Payment Eligibility Forms For Trade Adjustment Assistance Program (TAA)



CCC-502

This form is used to determine which “persons” are eligible for payment.

Remember:

Benefits are limited to \$12,000 per “person.”

CCC-502

Each eligible “person” must meet 3 requirements:

- 1) Have a separate and distinct interest in the marketed shrimp
- 2) Exercise separate responsibility for this interest

And...

CCC-502

To be considered a “person” you must:

- 3) Maintain funds or accounts separate from anyone else

CCC-502

- Individuals use form CCC-502A
- Partnerships use form CCC-502B
- Corporations and Other Entities use form CCC-502C

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 1 **County:**

Where is your operation headquartered?

Block 2 **Crop Year:**

For TAA-Shrimp, the crop year is 2008.

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 3 **State:**

Where is the operation headquartered?

Block 4 **Producer's Name and Address:**

Print your complete name and mailing address.

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 5 Identification Numbers:

Enter your Social Security number and/or your employer ID number, if you have one.

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 6 Citizenship:

*If you are a U.S. citizen, check “yes” and
got to Block 7.*

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 6 Citizenship (continued):

If you are not a U.S. citizen, check “no” and go to Block 6B.

Note: If you are not a U.S. citizen, you will need to show your Alien Registration Receipt Card (I-551).

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 7 Producers Who are Minors:

Were you less than 18 years old on April 1, 2008? If “yes,” give your parents’ names, address(es) and social security numbers.

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 8 **Farming Interests:**

Indicate whether you, your spouse or minor children have agricultural or shrimping interests under another name.

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 9 **Your Other Farming Interests:**

If you have agricultural or shrimping interests operated under a different name or ID number, give the information here.

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 10 **Other Farming Interests of Spouse:**

If your spouse has agricultural or shrimping interests operated under a different name or ID number, give the information here.

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 11 Other Farming Interests of Minor Children:

If your minor children have agricultural or shrimping interests operated under a different name or ID number, give the information here.

Individuals (CCC-502A)
Skip Blocks 12 through 17.

You are not required
to answer these questions.
Leave them blank.



CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 18 Person Status for Payment Limitation Purposes:

Check the box that best applies to you...

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Remember:

To be considered a ***separate “person”***
you must meet three requirements:

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 18 Person Status for Payment Limitation Purposes:

- 1) Have a separate and distinct interest in the shrimp that are marketed
- 2) Exercise separate responsibility for this interest

And...

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 18 Person Status for Payment Limitation Purposes:

- 3) Maintain funds or accounts separate from anyone else

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 18 **Remarks:**

- Type and number of your commercial fishing license
- The registration number of the commercial fishing vessel
- (Add any additional information or explanations about the shrimping operation.)

CCC-502

What information do we need?

Block 19 Certification:

**THIS IS
VERY IMPORTANT**



CCC-502

What information do we need?

You must CERTIFY that

- **All answers are true and correct**
- **You'll notify FSA in writing of any changes**
- **You understand that incorrect information could result in penalties or loss of payments**

Forms Completion

(CCC-502B and CCC-502C)

Joint Operations, Corporations and other entities must provide some additional information.

CCC-502B & CCC-502C

What information do we need?

Block 6 Type of Operation:

What kind of business is your shrimping operation?

(Is it a joint venture, general partnership, corporation, limited partnership, or other? Check the applicable box.)

CCC-502B & CCC-502C

What information do we need?

Block 7 Date Operation/Entity Formed:

When was this operation established?

CCC-502B & CCC-502C

What information do we need?

Block 8 Members:

- *Who are the members?*
- *What are their shares?*
- *Are they paid salaries/bonuses?*
- *Are family members involved?*

CCC-502B & CCC-502C
What information do we need?

Skip blocks 15 through 20.

You are not required to answer these questions.

CCC-502B & CCC-502C

What information do we need?

Block 21 Person Status for Payment Limitation Purposes:

*This is the same as on the CCC-502 for
an individual.*

CCC-502B & CCC-502C

What information do we need?

Block 22 CERTIFICATION:

This is very important!



CCC-502B & CCC-502C

What information do we need?

Each member must sign and **CERTIFY** that:

- All answers are true and correct
- Written notification will be provided for any changes
- Incorrect information could result in forfeiture of payments and assessment of penalties

CCC-501A

What information do we need?

A CCC-501A must be completed for any corporation, limited partnership or other type of entity.

