#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington, DC 20250 Notice AO-1855

For: State and County Offices

**Upcoming Program Payment Schedule and Authorized Overtime** 

Approved by: Administrator

Sach Duchenson

### 1 Overview

# A Background

This week, Farm Programs will be processing several program payments that are crucial for supporting producers financially. These payments will be made available for certifying and signing in NPS. Given the approaching end of the fiscal year and the potential for a lapse in government funding, it is imperative to expedite the processing of these payments to ensure they reach producers promptly.

# **B** Purpose

This notice:

- provides the programs for which payments have been or will be processed
- instructs County Offices to finalize approved applications for payment processing
- instructs County Offices to prioritize certifying and signing payments in NPS
- authorizes overtime on Friday, September 29, 2023, and Saturday, September 30, 2023, as necessary, to get payments certified and signed.

| Disposal Date    | Distribution   |
|------------------|--|
| November 1, 2023 | State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices |

9-28-23 Page 1

## 2 Program Payments

## **A Existing Program Payments**

Several program payments have had payment runs within the last few weeks. Those programs include, but are not limited to:

- ODMAP
- MLP
- RPP
- ERP Phase One.

These payments are either currently or will be in NPS as applications are approved by COC. County Offices are requested to certify and sign these payments before 1:00 pm CT on Saturday, September 30, 2023, to expedite payment processing to producers. Additionally, County Offices should immediately take steps to finalize any approved applications to support payment processing on or before Friday, September 29, 2023. Payments will process the night of Friday, September 29, 2023, for any applications approved that day and will be available in NPS for certifying and signing on Saturday, September 30, 2023.

# **B** Upcoming Payments

The following are programs payments being processed this week and estimated dates:

- ELRP Phase 2 Wednesday, September 27 (evening run)
- ELRP 2022 Wednesday, September 27 (evening run)
- ERP Phase 2 Thursday, September 28 (morning run)
- DMC Friday, September 29 (afternoon run).

These payments will appear in NPS as payments process. County Offices are guided to certify and sign these payments as they appear in NPS, but no later than 1:00 pm CT on Saturday, September 30, 2023, to expedite processing to producers.

### C Authorized Overtime and Compensatory Time

County Offices are authorized overtime or compensatory time, as needed, to ensure staff are available to process payments before 1 p.m. CT on Saturday, September 30, 2023. Employee's may choose between overtime or compensatory time, in accordance with premium pay policy, when completing activities related to this notice.

The employee will request premium pay in WebTA in advance of working overtime or compensatory time, if possible. The employee's supervisor will approve all premium pay requests in WebTA for compensatory or overtime related to the payment activities outlined in this notice.

9-28-23 Page 2

# **3** Contact

# **A State Office Contact**

State Offices will direct questions according to this table.

| IF the question is about    | THEN contact                                  |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Program payments or payment | Alison Groenwoldt by either of the following: |
| schedules                   |   |
|                             | • e-mail to <u>alison.groenwoldt@usda.gov</u> |
|                             | • telephone at 202-720-4213.                  |
| Overtime                    | Kimberly Floehr by either of the following:   |
|                             |   |
|                             | • e-mail to Kimbely.Floehr@usda.gov           |
|                             | • Telephone at 202-720-9693                   |

# **B** County Office Contact

County Offices will direct questions to the applicable DD or State Office Program Specialist.

9-28-23 **Page 3**