### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington, DC 20250

**Notice CM-644** 

For: State and County Offices

Revised Policy for CCC-770 or FSA-770 Checklists for FY 2009 and Future Years

**Approved by:** Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs

#### 1 Overview

## A Background

After FSA completed reviews of 2005 payments, the National Office prescribed a series of checklists (CCC-770's or FSA-770's) for County Offices to use before issuing various farm program payments.

**Note:** Notice CM-632 provided policy on CCC-770 or FSA-770 checklists.

Recent reviews completed for 2009 payments concluded that:

- estimated errors rates have improved
- most County Offices have performed well in ensuring that accurate data has been used in all programs.

### **B** Purpose

This notice provides revised policy on CCC-770 or FSA-770 checklists for FY 2009 and future years.

Disposal Date	Distribution
July 1, 2010	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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### **Notice CM-644**

## 2 Revised CCC-770 or FSA-770 Checklist Policy

## A New Policy on Required Use of CCC-770 or FSA-770 Checklists

CCC-770 or FSA-770 checklists:

 are no longer required based upon policies and procedures issued previously by the National Office

**Note:** This revised policy is effective immediately.

shall be considered as management tools to help address deficiencies identified by a
review or spot check of whether program policies or procedures are being followed
before issuing various farm program payments.

**Note:** A National Report providing for a State's summary of the applicable CCC-770 or FSA-770 checklists completed within the State is no longer required to be submitted to the National Office.

### **B** Policy for CCC-195

State and County Offices shall continue to follow 1-FSFL, paragraph 43 for FSFL's.

### C Action

SED, STC or designee, DD, or CED shall determine:

- when County Offices are to complete CCC-770 or FSA-770 checklists if apparent internal control deficiencies are found during CED, STC representative, or DD reviews
- whether the applicable CCC-770 or FSA-770 checklist is necessary to avoid findings indicated by CORP reviews
- when additional internal controls are necessary to reduce improper payments.

# **D** Proper Payments

This new policy does **not** negate STC, SED, State Office, DD, COC, and County Office responsibility for administering all provisions applicable before disbursing a program payment.

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