

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Notice ELAP-27

For: State and County Offices

2026 ELAP Payment Rates

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

ELAP provides emergency assistance to eligible livestock, honeybees, and farm-raised fish producers with losses from disease, adverse weather, or other conditions, including losses from blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary. ELAP assistance is for losses **not** covered under other Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Programs, specifically LFP and LIP, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, as amended. Eligible losses **must** have occurred in the same program year for which benefits are being requested.

Program payment rates are adjusted each year to reflect the fair market value of each type of reimbursement for eligible losses or transportation costs.

Starting in 2026 and in future years, once the rates are approved they will be posted on the external ELAP website at <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/resources/disaster-recovery/emergency-assistance-livestock-honeybees-farm-raised-fish-elap>. These payment rates are typically approved in March or April and will be posted for reference moving forward.

B Purpose

This notice provides the following updated rates for program year 2026:

- daily payment rates per AU for eligible livestock grazing and feed losses
- payment rates for eligible livestock and livestock feed transportation mileage
- payment rates for water transportation
- payment rates for honeybee colonies and honeybee hives
- normal mortality rates for honeybee colonies.

Disposal Date	Distribution
January 1, 2027 4-22-26	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

2 2026 ELAP Payment and Honeybee Normal Mortality Rates

A Overview

ELAP covers the following types of losses:

- livestock:
 - grazing loss
 - feed loss for:
 - purchased and produced feed
 - additional feed purchased above normal
 - increased cost for feed delivery
 - transportation:
 - livestock
 - feed
 - water
 - treatment assistance for cattle tick fever
- honeybees:
 - colony
 - hive
 - feed loss for:
 - purchased and produced feed
 - additional feed purchased above normal
- farm-raised fish:
 - physical loss (death loss)
 - purchased feed loss
- dairy cow milk production losses from H5N1.

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2 2026 ELAP Payment and Honeybee Normal Mortality Rates (Continued)

A Overview (Continued)

To be eligible for ELAP, livestock, honeybees, and farm-raised fish producers are required to file FSA-578.

Rates are established for ELAP on a yearly basis to help provide coverage for each type of loss that is eligible under the ELAP program.

B Payment Rates for Eligible Livestock for Grazing Losses and Feed Losses

The daily livestock payment rates per AU for eligible livestock is based, in part, on the number of pounds of corn equivalent per head, as established by FSA, determined necessary to provide the energy requirements for the specific kind/type of livestock for 1 calendar day.

The daily payment rate per AU for all eligible livestock kinds/types is \$1.1885 for 2026.

C Payment Rate for Livestock Feed and Livestock Transportation

The established national average price to transport a truckload of feed or livestock that will be used in the payment calculation is \$3.75 per mile per truckload for 2026.

D Payment Rates for Livestock Water Transportation

The established national average prices to transport a gallon of water is \$0.11 for 2026.

DAFP may consider approving higher average prices per gallon to transport water for a State or region of a State, based on a recommendation from STC, if the State can document a higher rate for transportation exists.

E Payment Rates for Honeybee Colonies

The payment rate for honeybee colonies is based on the average fair market values of honeybee colonies in the program year in which the loss occurred. FSA has established the following average fair market values for honeybee colony losses.

Program Year	Honeybee Colonies
2026	\$130

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2 2026 ELAP Payment and Honeybee Normal Mortality Rates (Continued)

F Payment Rates for Honeybee Hives

The payment rates for honeybee hives are based on the average fair market values of honeybee hives in the program year in which the loss occurred. FSA has established the following average fair market values for honeybee hive losses.

Program Year	Honeybee Hives
2026	\$270

G Normal Mortality for Honeybee Colonies

ELAP compensates eligible honeybee producers for eligible honeybee colony losses that occur in excess of normal mortality because of an eligible loss condition during the program year. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act established a statutory rate for normal mortality for honeybee colonies. This rate will not be adjusted in the future without a statutory change. The normal mortality rate for honeybee colony losses is:

Program Year	Normal Mortality Rate
2026 and future years	15%

3 Action

A State Office Action

State Offices must:

- ensure that County Offices are aware of the contents of this notice
- assist County Offices with questions about this notice
- contact Seth Cross with any questions about this notice.

B County Office Action

County Offices must:

- review the contents of this notice
- accept 2026 ELAP applications according to this notice
- contact DD or State Office, as applicable, with questions about this notice.