

For: State and County Offices

NAP Interim Rule - 7 CFR Part 1437

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A

Background

The Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (ARPA 2000), Pub. L. 106-224 dated June 20, 2000, made significant changes in the way producers will qualify or retain eligibility for NAP. ARPA 2000 amended the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, Section 196, to remove the area crop loss requirement. In addition, the statute was amended to require an application and collection of a service fee.

An amendment of the Federal regulations in 7 CFR Part 1437 is required as a result of the statutory amendments.

B

Purpose

This notice:

- notifies State and County Offices of the publication of the interim rule in the Federal Register on March 19, 2002
- provides instructions for retrieval of the interim rule document through the internet
- reminds State and County Offices of the exception for accepting 2001 and 2002 applications for coverage after the established application closing dates
- instructs the State and County Offices to publicize the deadline of COB April 18, 2002, for filing 2001 and 2002 applications for coverage.

Disposal Date June 1, 2002	Distribution State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices
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2 Action

A

Retrieving the Interim Rule Through the Internet

State and County Offices shall:

- retrieve a copy of the interim rule at <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr>
 - click on “Federal Register” in the left column
 - checkmark “2002 Federal Register, Vol 67” and “Final Rules and Regulations”
 - enter “03/19/2002” in the lower date box and “noninsured crop disaster assistance program” in the Search Terms box
 - press “SUBMIT”
- provide copies of the interim rule to all interested parties
- remind all interested parties that comments must be received by COB April 18, 2002, to be assured of consideration
- instruct interested parties to submit comments according to the “ADDRESSES” paragraph in the rule.

Note: Comments incorrectly submitted to the State and County Offices about the interim rule should be forwarded to Steve Peterson, Chief, Noninsured Assistance Programs Branch, FSA, USDA, STOP 0517, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250-0517.

B

Exceptions for Filing Applications for Coverage for 2001 and 2002 Crops

As a result of the date of publication of the interim rule and because applications for coverage must be submitted not later than 30 days before the beginning of the coverage period, an exception is made for producers filing an application for coverage for 2001 and 2002 crops. The exception allows producers to submit an application for coverage within 30 calendar days after publication of the interim rule for a crop for which the coverage period would normally have begun before publication of the interim rule, or within 60 calendar days after publication of the interim rule.

COC shall ensure applications for coverage are accepted according to the exception.

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2 Action (Continued)

C

**Deadline for
Filing
Applications for
Coverage**

COC shall:

- identify the crops for which the exception in subparagraph B applies
 - publicize, by the most expeditious means, the deadline (COB April 18, 2002) by which producers of the identified crops must:
 - file an application for coverage and pay service fees
 - certify 2000 and 2001 crop year production for the crop.
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