

**For:** State and County Offices

**Payment Limitation for Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA)**

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



**1 Overview**

**A**

**Background**

The Agricultural Management Assistance program was authorized by the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000. The objective of the program is to provide cost-sharing assistance to producers for various conservation measures completed on private lands. This assistance is available in 15 States in which Federal Crop Insurance Program participation is historically low. The amount of cost-share assistance is limited to \$50,000 per "person" as defined in regulations at 7 CFR Part 1400 and 1-PL.

**B**

**Responsibilities**

NRCS has the primary responsibility for program coordination and implementation.

FSA has the responsibilities of:

- making the required "person" determinations for all AMA program applicants
- disbursing program payments according to Notice FI-2498.

**C**

**Purpose**

This notice provides the procedures for:

- the timely exchange of information between FSA and NRCS regarding the required "person" determinations
- the control by NRCS of the payment limitation applicable to AMA.

<p><b>Disposal Date</b></p> <p>January 1, 2002</p>	<p><b>Distribution</b></p> <p>State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices</p>
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## Notice PL-106

### 2 General Information

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#### A

##### **AMA Payment Limitation**

The total AMA payments to a “person” shall not exceed \$50,000 per fiscal year. A contract with more than 1 “person” may earn more than \$50,000 per fiscal year. All “person” determinations shall be made by FSA according to the regulations at 7 CFR Part 1400 and instructions in 1-PL, Part 4.

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#### B

##### **Payment Limitation Control**

FSA will not control the payment limitation for AMA program participants.

NRCS has the responsibility to:

- control the maximum payment limitation for participants
- contact other NRCS offices within the State where participants have farming interests to determine the maximum amount participants may receive.

When participants have farming interests in other States, the items in this subparagraph will be completed through the applicable State NRCS Offices.

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#### C

##### **Documentation of Decisions**

The NRCS State Conservationist, or designee, is responsible for making payment limitation decisions for AMA and informing the participant(s) and the designated conservationist(s) in writing of the decision(s).

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## Notice PL-106

### 3 Exchange of Data

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#### A

#### County Office Action

COC's and County Office personnel are instructed to do the following:

- accept a copy of the completed CCC-1200 AMA application from NRCS and make the appropriate "person" determination for the applicant

**Note:** Use "person" determination currently on file for other programs. Obtain a new CCC-502 Farm Operating Plan for those applicants that are not on FSA eligibility records. Provide written notice of the "person" determination to the new producers using the letter format in 1-PL, paragraph 468.

- provide NRCS with a copy of the written notice of the "person" determination for each referral.
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#### B

#### State Office Action

State Offices shall:

- ensure that all County Offices follow provisions of this notice
  - monitor County Office actions as needed.
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