

For: Alaska, Florida, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico State and County Offices

**Announcing Signup for FY 2012 Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment (RTCP-III)
Program for Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers in
Alaska, Hawaii, and Insular Areas**

Approved: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 FY 2012 RTCP-III Signup

A Background

The Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2012 authorizes \$1.996 million for FY 2012 to assist geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers according to Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill), Section 1621. The 2008 Farm Bill authorized the RTCP Program for each FY through 2012, subject to appropriated funding.

To be eligible for RTCP-III Program benefits, the geographically disadvantaged farmer or rancher must meet the eligibility requirements provided at 7 CFR 755.4 and submit FSA-218 during the announced FY 2012 signup period.

The following are forthcoming:

- 2-SP, containing updated RTCP-III policy and procedures
- software to enter calculated payment amount and process RTCP-III payments.

B Purpose

This notice provides State and County Offices with the signup period for RTCP-III.

C Contact

If there are questions about this notice, State Offices shall contact Dani Cooke, PSD by either of the following:

- e-mail to danielle.cooke@wdc.usda.gov
- telephone at 202-720-1919.

Disposal Date	Distribution
December 1, 2012	AK, FL, HI, and PR State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice SP-67

1 FY 2012 RTCP-III Signup (Continued)

D Period for Accepting FSA-218's

Accepting FSA-218's will begin **July 23, 2012**, and will end **September 10, 2012**. Eligible applicants may file FSA-218 for benefits any time during the application period. Completed FSA-218's must be submitted to either the County Office where the agricultural operation is located or in the producer's administrative County Office. Multi-county producers must return completed FSA-218's to their administrative County Office. FSA-218's received by mail after the application deadline date must have a postmark date no later than **September 10, 2012**, to be considered timely filed.

For areas where FSA County Offices do not exist, FSA-218's may be submitted to the respective State Office.

Note: Late-filed provisions will **not** apply to the RTCP-III Program. FSA-218's received after the deadline date will **not** be approved. This includes FAXed FSA-218's.

2 Action

A State Office Action

State Offices shall ensure that County Offices:

- are immediately informed of the contents of this notice
- immediately publicize the contents of this notice by all available means
- see 2-SP, for RTCP-III policy and procedure
- forward any RTCP-III Program questions to the National Office according to subparagraph 1 C.

B County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- immediately notify producers, by all available means, of the RTCP-III Program signup period
- forward questions about the contents of this notice to the State Office Price Support specialist.