

Background

Authorized by the *American Relief Act, 2025*, the Supplemental Disaster Relief Program provides more than \$16 billion in disaster relief payments to eligible producers who suffered revenue, quality, or production losses to crops, trees, bushes, or vines due to qualifying disaster events in calendar years 2023 and 2024.

Overview

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is delivering SDRP assistance to eligible producers in two stages. Producers can receive payments in both stages, if applicable, and for one or both years, depending on losses.

Stage 1: Indemnified Losses

Leverages existing Federal Crop Insurance or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) data as the basis for calculating payments.

Stage 2: Uncovered & Non-Indemnified Losses Provides payments to eligible producers for losses of crops, trees, bushes, and vines that were not indemnified. These losses are also known as uncovered or shallow losses.

Key Takeaways for SDRP Stage 2

- SDRP Stage 2 builds on the basic framework deployed under Stage 1 to deliver disaster assistance in a manner consistent with previously indemnified losses compensated under Stage 1.
- Stage 2 leverages existing federal crop insurance or NAP data, where available, to calculate disaster assistance in the same manner as the producer elected insurance policy.
- Due to varied federal crop insurance policies and NAP coverage options and to align with assistance delivered under Stage 1:
 - There are unique application and documentation requirements based on the type of coverage purchased.
- Insured and NAP covered Stage 2 payments will include the refund of premiums and fees when the SDRP Stage 2 disaster loss payment calculated is greater than zero.
- For uninsured losses, FSA will leverage existing data previously reported by producers, when available.
- Any missing data for insured, NAP covered or uninsured losses must be provided by the producers at the time of enrollment.
- Additionally, SDRP Stage 2 compensates for quality losses and tree, bush, and vine losses.



Eligibility

Eligible losses must be due to wildfires, hurricanes, floods, derechos, excessive heat, tornadoes, winter storms, freeze (including a polar vortex), smoke exposure, excessive moisture, qualifying drought, and related conditions occurring in calendar years 2023 and/or 2024. Related conditions, include:

- Excessive wind that occurred as a direct result of a derecho.
- Silt and debris that occurred as a direct result of flooding.
- Excessive wind, tornadoes, storm surges, tropical storms, and tropical depressions that occurred as a direct result of a hurricane.
- Excessive wind and blizzards that occurred as a direct result of a winter storm.

Drought losses must have occurred in a county rated by the **U.S. Drought Monitor** as having a D2 (severe drought) for eight consecutive weeks, D3 (extreme drought) or greater intensity level during the applicable calendar year. A list of counties that are eligible for SDRP due to drought for 2023 and 2024 is available at **fsa.usda.gov/sdrp**.

The American Relief Act authorized \$220,000,000 to provide block grants to eligible States to provide compensation to

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producers for necessary expenses related to crop, timber, and livestock losses, including on-farm infrastructure resulting from adverse weather events in 2023 or 2024 that a State determines warrants such relief. FSA is establishing block grants with Connecticut, Hawaii, Maine, and Massachusetts that will cover crop losses; therefore, producers with losses in these states will not be eligible for SDRP program payments.

Eligible Producers

To be eligible for SDRP, persons or legal entities must be a U.S. citizen, resident legal alien, partnership consisting solely of U.S. citizens, a legal entity organized under State law, or an Indian tribe or tribal organization defined in the Indian Self-determination and Education Assistance Act. Producers must also have an ownership share and share in the risk of producing the crop.

Quality Losses

Stage 2 incorporates quality losses into the application and payment calculation, when applicable. Quality discounts will be addressed by adjusting production to count using a producer certified quality loss percentage. Verifiable evidence of quality factors must be provided to support the claimed quality loss percentage. The following two methods will be used to calculate the quality loss percentage.

- Quality reductions for all crops, except forage, will be calculated using a decrease in value based on discounts provided at the point of sale due to the physical condition of the crop indicated by an applicable grading factor.
- Quality reduction for forage crops will be based on nutritional value (Similar to NAP). This approach provides a range of specified values and calculates a percentage. FSA will establish a range of Relative Feed Value (RFV) which will be the same range already established under NAP, Total Digestible Nutrients (TDN), or some other measure of forage feed quality can be used to document the quality factors.

Calculators for both methods to assist producer can be found at: **fsa.usda.gov/sdrp**.



How to Apply

For Stage 2, FSA is using a streamlined process for eligible crop, tree, bush and vine losses leveraging existing NAP data as well as data on file with RMA for losses covered by certain federal crop insurance policies. Other FSA crop data, such as producer acreage reporting data and general crop data will be used when not available under crop insurance records and for uninsured applications. SDRP applicants must work with a FSA county office to complete an FSA-504, Supplemental Disaster Relief Program (SDRP) Stage 2 Application. Producers will submit the complete and signed FSA-504 to their FSA county office by one of the following methods:

- In-person
- Electronically using Box and One-span
- Email
- Fax
- Visit a local FSA county office to request an application.

In addition to submitting the FSA-504, Supplemental Disaster Relief Program (SDRP) Stage 2 Application, producers must have the following forms on file with FSA:

- Form AD-2047, Customer Data Worksheet
- Form CCC-902, Farm Operating Plan for an individual or legal entity
- Form CCC-901, Member Information for Legal Entities (if applicable)
- Form FSA-510, Request for an Exception to the \$125,000 Payment Limitation for Certain Programs (if applicable). This form must be on file for all applicable program years to be eligible for the payment limitation exception.
- SF-3881, Direct Deposit
- **FSA-578**, Report of Acreage, if applicable
- AD-1026, Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification

Most producers who have previously participated in FSA programs, likely have these forms on file. However, those who are uncertain and want to confirm the status of their forms, can contact their local FSA county office.

Stage 2 Payment Calculation

Stage 2 payments are based on the SDRP adjusted NAP or Federal crop insurance coverage level the producer purchased for the crop. For uncovered participants the Stage 2 payment will be calculated using an adjusted SDRP coverage level of 70 percent. The net NAP or net Federal crop insurance payments (NAP or crop insurance indemnities minus administrative fees and premiums) will be subtracted from the SDRP calculated payment amount. Administrative fees and premiums will only be included if the calculated SDRP payment is greater than zero.

The following tables show the adjusted SDRP coverage level based on the producer's selected crop insurance or NAP coverage level.

SDRP COVERAGE LEVEL		
CROP INSURANCE LEVEL	ADJUSTED SDRP COVERAGE LEVEL (PERCENT)	
Catastrophic coverage	75	
More than catastrophic coverage but less than 55 percent	80	
At least 55 percent but less than 60 percent	82.5	
At least 60 percent but less than 65 percent	85	
At least 65 percent but less than 70 percent	87.5	
At least 70 percent but less than 75 percent	90	
At least 75 percent but less than 80 percent	92.5	
At least 80 percent	95	

NAP ASSISTANCE STAGES		
NAP COVERAGE LEVEL	ADJUSTED SDRP COVERAGE LEVEL (PERCENT)	
Catastrophic coverage	75	
50 percent	80	
55 percent	85	
60 percent	90	
65 percent	95	

UNCOVERED (UNINSURED)		
UNINSURED/NOT COVERED BY NAP	ADJUSTED SDRP COVERAGE LEVEL (PERCENT)	
Uncovered (Uninsured) Commodities	70	

The total SDRP, Stages 1 and 2, payment to indemnified producers will not exceed 90 percent of the loss and an SDRP payment factor of 35 percent will be applied to all SDRP payments. If additional SDRP funds remain, FSA may issue a second payment.

Payment Limitation

The payment limitation for SDRP, (Stage 1 and Stage 2 combined) for 2023, 2024, and/or 2025 is determined by the person's or legal entity's average adjusted gross farm income (income derived from farming, ranching, and forestry operations). Specifically, a person or legal

entity, other than a joint venture or general partnership, cannot receive, directly or indirectly, more than \$125,000 in payments for each year (2023, 2024, and/or 2025) under SDRP if their average adjusted gross farm income is less than 75 percent of their average AGI for the applicable base period. (2023 tax years are 2021, 2020, and 2019. 2024 tax years are 2022, 2021, and 2020.)

If at least 75 percent of the person or legal entity's average AGI is derived from farming, ranching, or forestry related activities and the participant provides the required certification and documentation as outlined below, then the person or legal entity, other than a joint venture or general partnership, is eligible to receive, directly or indirectly, up to:

- 900,000 for each program year for specialty and highvalue crops; and
- \$250,000 for each program year for all other crops.

To request the increased payment limitation, participants must file form FSA-510 complete with participant's certification their average adjusted gross farm income is at least 75 percent of their average AGI and a certification from a Licensed Certified Public

Accountant (CPA) or Attorney that the participant meets the requirements. This form is required to be on file for each year the payment limit exception is requested.

To request the increased payment limitation, participants must file form FSA-510 complete with participant's certification their average adjusted gross farm income is at least 75 percent of their average AGI and a certification from a Licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or Attorney that the participant meets the requirements. This form is required to be on file for each year the payment limit exception is requested.

Future Insurance Coverage Requirements

All producers who receive SDRP payments are required to purchase **federal crop insurance** or **NAP** coverage for the next two available crop years at the 60 percent coverage level or higher. Producers who fail to purchase crop insurance for the next two available crop years will be required to refund the SDRP payment, plus interest, to USDA.

For More Info

USDA launched the 2023/2024
Supplemental Disaster Assistance
public landing page where the status of
USDA disaster assistance and block grant
rollout timeline can be tracked. Additional
USDA disaster assistance information
can be found on farmers.gov, including



the <u>Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool</u>, <u>Disaster-at-a-Glance fact sheet</u>, and the <u>Loan Assistance Tool</u>.

To learn more, scan the QR Code.

