

For: State and County Offices

Eligibility Issues With CRP Cost Share

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

Currently, Cost Share Software (CSS) is returning eligibility error messages when a CRP Cost Share agreement is attempted to be “approved” or “paid”. CSS may not be reading Subsidiary or AGI eligibility determinations according to the applicable rules. Errors have been reported for the following eligibility determinations:

- Actively Engaged
- Person Determination
- Cash Rent Tenant
- FCIC Fraud
- AGI.

This issue is currently being researched. Additional guidance will be provided when the problem has been contained and a resolution has been reached.

B Purpose

This notice provides:

- instructions for handling CSS approval errors or CSS payment errors
- guidance on manipulating eligibility data to make payments
- current procedure for updating AGI and obtaining applicable forms.

Disposal Date	Distribution
January 1, 2014	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice CRP-746

2 Procedure for CRP Eligibility

A Handling CSS Approval or Payment Errors

If County Office users are **not** able to **approve or pay** a CRP cost share agreement because of eligibility or AGI, the County Office shall contact the State Office and the State Office shall log the issues on the Conservation Payment Problem SharePoint web site at https://fsa.sc.egov.usda.gov/mgr/dafp/PECD/Payment_Issues/Lists/Conservation%20Payment%20Problems/AllItems.aspx.

Ensure to:

- include:
 - cost share agreement control number
 - CRP contract number
 - applicable screen shots
 - error message received
 - County Office contact name and telephone number

- designate whether you are trying to approve or pay by choosing the payment type of "Cost Share - Approval" or "Cost Share - Payment".

B Manipulating Subsidiary and AGI Determinations

State Offices shall remind County Offices that manipulating subsidiary eligibility or AGI determinations to get a payment issued is not permitted and may result in an improper payment.

Note: Follow instructions in subparagraph A until further guidance is provided.

C Procedure for Obtaining AGI Certification

According to 2-CRP, subparagraph 131 C, all producers with a share greater than zero, including members of entities and joint operations, **must** provide a certification of average AGI according to 1-PL or 4-PL, as applicable. For CRP, certifications of average AGI are binding for the life of CRP-1. CCC-526, CCC-926, CCC-931, or CCC-933, as applicable, must be filed **before** CRP-1 is approved. AGI determinations for CRP are for the contract period.

For further policy on AGI provisions, see 2-CRP, subparagraphs 131 A through H; 1-PL, Part 6.5; and 4-PL, Part 6.

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3 Contact

A State Offices

State Offices shall ensure that County Offices follow the procedure provided in this notice.

If there are questions about:

- policy, contact Beverly Preston, CRP Program Manager, by either of the following:
 - e-mail at **beverly.preston@wdc.usda.gov**
 - telephone at 202-720-9563
- automation, contact Shanita Landon, Program Specialist, by either of the following:
 - e-mail at **shanita.landon@wdc.usda.gov**
 - telephone at 202-690-1612.

B County Offices

County Offices shall contact the State Office for questions about this notice.