

For: AK, FL, HI, and PR State and County Offices

**Announcing Signup for FY 2015 Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment (RTCP-VI)
Program for Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers in Alaska, Hawaii, and
Insular Areas**

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 FY 2015 RTCP-VI Signup

A Background

The Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2015 authorized \$1.996 million for FY 2015 to assist geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers according to the Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill), Section 1606. The 2014 Farm Bill re-authorized the RTCP-VI program for each succeeding FY through 2018 subject to appropriated funding.

To be eligible for RTCP-VI program benefits, the geographically disadvantaged farmer or rancher must meet the eligibility requirements provided in 7 CFR 755.4 and submit FSA-218 during the announced FY 2015 signup period.

The following are forthcoming:

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

B Purpose

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

Disposal Date	Distribution
December 1, 2015	Above State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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1 FY 2015 RTCP-VI Signup (Continued)

C Contact

If there are questions about this notice, contact either of the following:

IF located in the...	THEN contact...
County Office	State Offices.
State Office	either of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Danielle Cooke at:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• e-mail to danielle.cooke@wdc.usda.gov• telephone at 202-720-1919• Angela Payton at:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• e-mail to angela.payton@wdc.usda.gov• telephone at 202-720-0482.

D Period for Accepting FSA-218's

County Offices shall begin accepting FSA-218's on **July 20, 2015**. The signup period will end on **September 11, 2015**. Eligible applicants may file FSA-218 for benefits any time during the application period.

Completed FSA-218's must be submitted to either of the following:

- County Office where the agricultural operation is located
- producer's administrative County Office.

Note: Multi-county producers must return the completed FSA-218's to their administrative County Office.

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

FSA-218's received by mail after the application deadline date must have a postmark date no later than **September 11, 2015**, to be considered timely filed.

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

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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-VI policy and procedures
- follow 2-SP, paragraph 42 to complete the State Master worksheet by the deadline

Note: Ensure that the most current version of the State Master worksheet is being used.

- forward RTCP-VI 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-VI Program signup period
- follow 2-SP, paragraph 41 to complete FSA-218-1 as FSA-218's are completed
- forward questions about the contents of this notice to the State Office Price Support specialist.