



# Coronavirus Food Assistance Program Additional Assistance

## Toolkit for Stakeholders

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is providing additional assistance through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), expanding eligibility for some agricultural producers and commodities as well as updating payments to accurately compensate some producers who already applied for the program. Producers who are now eligible and those who need to modify existing applications due to these updates can contact USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) between Jan. 19 and Feb. 26, 2021.

**We need your help.** We want to ensure producers are aware of this program and the available resources, including the call center. This toolkit is meant for producers and agricultural organizations to use and share information in their networks. This toolkit includes:

- Key messages
- Newsletter article
- Social media posts
- Social media story posts
- Posters

Frequently Asked Questions can be found at [farmers.gov/cfap/faq](https://farmers.gov/cfap/faq).

If you have questions, you can reach us at [fpac.bc.press@usda.gov](mailto:fpac.bc.press@usda.gov).



## Key Messages

- The scope and depth of impact felt by the agriculture industry in 2020 was tremendous, and the goal of the assistance through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program was to help ease some of the financial burden.
- USDA is utilizing remaining Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act and Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funds to implement this additional CFAP assistance.
- Some of these changes are being made pursuant to the recently enacted Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, as well as discretionary changes in response to ongoing evaluation of CFAP and the ability to provide additional assistance, where needed.
- The additional assistance expands eligibility for some producers and commodities as well as makes changes to more accurately compensate producers who already applied for the program. Assistance includes:
  - **CFAP 2 assistance for contract livestock growers**
    - Contract livestock producers must:
      - Have raised broilers, pullets, layers, chicken eggs, turkeys, hog, or pigs under a contract in 2019 and 2020.
      - Demonstrate a drop in revenue for the period from Jan. 1, 2020, through Dec. 27, 2020, as compared to the period from Jan. 1, 2019, through Dec. 27, 2019.
      - Provide a copy of their contract and documentation to support the information provided on their application, if requested by FSA.
    - Payments are based on eligible revenue for Jan. 1, 2020, through Dec. 27, 2020, minus eligible revenue for Jan. 1, 2019, through Dec. 27, 2019 multiplied by up to 80%.
    - Producers can apply between Jan. 19, 2021, and Feb. 26, 2021, by contacting their local USDA Service Center.
      - One-on-one support with applications is also available by calling 877-508-8364.
  - **CFAP 2 assistance for pullets and turfgrass sod**
    - Pullets and turfgrass sod are now eligible.
    - These two commodities experienced COVID-19 market disruptions but had not been explicitly included in the initial CFAP 2 rule.
    - Industry sources demonstrated these products suffered similar COVID-19 disruptions as other eligible products.
    - Payments are based on eligible sales in calendar year 2019, and the new provision includes crop insurance indemnities, Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program Plus (WHIP+) payments received for the 2019 crop year.

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- Producers will be able to apply (or modify an existing CFAP 2 application) between Jan. 19, 2021, and Feb. 26, 2021, by contacting their local USDA Service Center.
  - For new applicants, one-on-one support with applications is also available by calling 877-508-8364.
- **CFAP 1 top-up payments for swine**
  - Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES Act) funding is being used to increase the CFAP 1 payment rate for swine from 25 percent to 50 percent.
  - This top-up payment aims to rectify large difference between CFAP 1 payments between the first quarter sales loss rates and the inventory payment rates that were set based on expected second and third quarter sales.
    - Swine was different than those for non-specialty crops, where the payment rates were more similar. Additionally, this additional assistance is also intended to help swine producers who face continuing market disruptions from changes in U.S. meat consumption due to the pandemic. These disruptions are reflected in futures prices.
  - Payments will be based on hog and pig inventory owned between April 16, 2020, to May 14, 2020, multiplied by a payment rate of \$17 per head.
  - A new application for the top-up payment is not needed.
  - Producers who did not apply by the CFAP 1 deadline are not eligible for the swine top-up payment.
  - Cattle will be addressed under the formulas included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act in the weeks ahead.
- **Updated calculation for sales commodities to more accurately represent what producers would expect to have marketed in 2020 under CFAP 2**
  - FSA has also adjusted the sales commodities calculation to take into account crop insurance indemnities, NAP and WHIP+ payments to more accurately represent what a producer would have marketed if not for a cause of loss.
  - Payments will now use the producer's eligible sales in calendar year 2019, plus crop insurance indemnities, NAP and WHIP+ payments for the 2019 crop year, multiplied by the applicable payment rate.
  - Sales commodities include specialty crops, aquaculture, tobacco, specialty livestock, nursery crops and floriculture.
  - This change was made to ensure 2019 calculations are representative of a "normal" year, taking into account impacts from natural disasters.

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- Producers will be able to modify an existing CFAP 2 application between Jan. 19, 2021, and Feb. 26, 2021, by contacting their local USDA Service Center.
- **Updated calculation for price trigger row crops to treat all producers with crop insurance more equitably, regardless if Actual Production History is available under CFAP 2**
  - For CFAP 2, payments for price trigger row crops were calculated using the 2019 Agriculture Risk Coverage-County Option (ARC-CO) benchmark yield multiplied by 85% when FSA is unable to obtain a 2020 Actual Production History (APH) approved yield.
  - In situations when FSA does not have a 2020 APH yield for the CFAP 2 applicant because the insurance plan does not require calculation of an APH approved yield or because the record of the APH approved yield would not be associated with the CFAP 2 applicant, the calculation will use 100% of the ARC-CO benchmark yield.
  - Eligible producers include those who produce barley, corn, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, upland cotton and all classes of wheat.
  - This change is intended to treat producers with crop insurance coverage but without an available 2020 APH approved yield more similarly to other producers who had crop insurance.
  - Producers will be able to modify an existing CFAP 2 application between Jan. 19, 2021, and Feb. 26, 2021, by contacting their local USDA Service Center.



## Newsletter Article

### USDA Offers Additional Assistance for Certain Producers Through Coronavirus Food Assistance Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is providing additional assistance through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), expanding eligibility for some agricultural producers and commodities as well as updating payments to accurately compensate some producers who already applied for the program. Producers who are now eligible and those who need to modify existing applications due to these updates can contact USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) between Jan. 19 and Feb. 26. Some of these changes are being made to align with the recently enacted Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 while others are discretionary changes being made in response to ongoing evaluation of CFAP.

#### Expanded Eligibility for CFAP 2

- Contract producers of swine, broilers, laying hens, chicken eggs and turkeys who suffered a drop in revenue in 2020 as compared to their 2019 revenue because of the pandemic are now eligible for assistance.
- Producers of pullets and turfgrass sod are also now eligible for CFAP payments.

#### Updated Payment Calculations for CFAP 2

- FSA has also adjusted the sales commodities calculation to take into account crop year 2019 crop insurance indemnities, Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program-Plus (WHIP+) payments to more accurately represent what a producer would have marketed if not for a cause of loss. This change impacts specialty crops, aquaculture, tobacco, specialty livestock, nursery crops and floriculture, for CFAP 2.
- Additionally, FSA adjusted the payment calculation for certain row crops for CFAP 2, specifically those where a producer had crop insurance coverage but not an available 2020 Actual Production History (APH) approved yield.

#### CFAP 1 'Top-up' Payments for Swine

- FSA is providing an additional CFAP 1 inventory payment for swine to help producers who face continuing market disruptions from changes in U.S. meat consumption due to the pandemic.
  - Swine producers with approved CFAP 1 applications will soon automatically receive an additional \$17 per head "top-up" payment.

#### More Information

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Newly eligible producers can submit a new CFAP 2 application or producers who need to modify an existing one can do so between Jan. 19 and Feb. 26, 2021, by contacting their local USDA Service Center. New applicants can also obtain one-on-one support with applications by calling 877-508-8364. Learn more at [farmers.gov/cfap](https://farmers.gov/cfap).

In addition to the changes being made to CFAP, per language in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, FSA will extend 2020 Marketing Assistance Loans to provide additional flexibilities for farmers. FSA is also preparing to move forward on implementation of the remaining provisions of the recently passed Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

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## Sample Posts for Facebook and Twitter

Below are social media posts for use on Facebook, Twitter, and other platforms. Click on graphic to download. Be sure to tag us: @USDA, @FarmersGov, @usdaFSA, and @USDA\_AMS

- .@USDA will provide additional assistance through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program. #CFAP has expanded eligibility along with other program changes. [farmers.gov/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/CFAP) [+ graphic option below]
- .@USDA has a call center available to help with producers' questions on #CFAP additional assistance. Call 877-508-8364. #CFAP [+ graphic option below]



### Livestock/Poultry Focused (To Be Used Only After 1/19):

- Swine producers participating in #CFAP 1 will automatically receive an additional payment soon on their April 16 – May 14, 2020 inventory. [Farmers.gov/cfap](https://Farmers.gov/cfap) [+ graphic option below]



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- Producers who raised livestock or poultry under contract in 2019 and 2020 may be eligible for @USDA’s Coronavirus Food Assistance Program. Signup runs through Feb. 26, 2021. Visit [farmers.gov/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/CFAP) or call 877-508-8364. #CFAP  
[+ graphic option below]



- Producers of pullets may now be eligible for #CFAP 2 for #COVID19 market disruptions. Apply now through Feb. 26, 2021. Visit [farmers.gov/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/CFAP) or call 877-508-8364. [+ graphic option below]



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### Specialty Crop Focused:

- .@USDAFSA adjusted the #CFAP 2 calculation for sales commodities. If you received a crop insurance, NAP or WHIP+ indemnity for the 2019 crop year, you have until Feb. 26, 2021 to modify your existing CFAP 2 application. [+ graphic option below]



- Turfgrass sod is now eligible for #CFAP 2 to provide assistance for #COVID19 market disruptions. Apply now through Feb. 26, 2021. Visit [farmers.gov/cfap](https://farmers.gov/cfap) or call 877-508-8364. [+ graphic option below]



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## Row Crop Focused:

- .@USDAFSA adjusted the payment calculation for #CFAP 2 price trigger commodities where a producer had crop insurance coverage but not an available 2020 APH approved yield. Producers have until Feb. 26, 2021 to modify applications. [Farmers.gov/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/CFAP) [+ graphic option below]

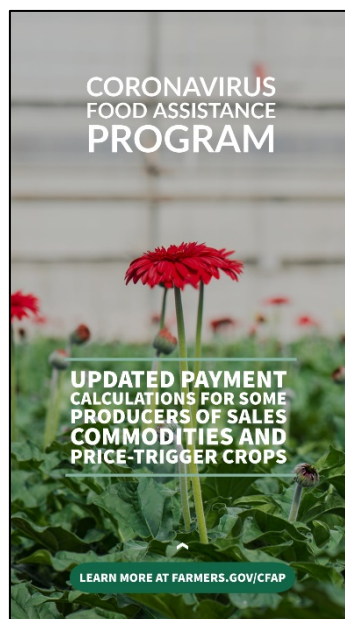
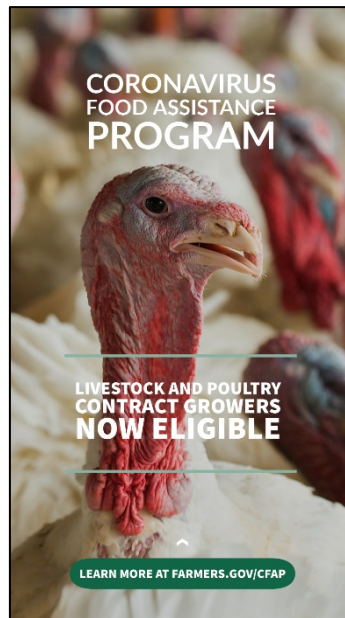


*Updated 1-15-2021*



## Sample Posts for Instagram Story and Facebook Story

Below are graphics for use on Instagram Story and Facebook Story. Click on graphic to download. If your account is enabled to include links, please include [farmers.gov/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/CFAP). Be sure to tag us: @USDA and @FarmersGov, @USDA\_AMS.



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United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

CORONAVIRUS  
FOOD ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM

APPLY, OR MODIFY EXISTING  
APPLICATIONS,  
NOW THROUGH  
FEB. 26, 2021.

LEARN MORE AT [FARMERS.GOV/CFAP](https://farmers.gov/cfap)

The advertisement features a background image of a golden wheat field under a dramatic, cloudy sky at sunset or sunrise. The text is centered and uses a clean, sans-serif font. A small white arrow points upwards from the bottom text box.

*Updated 1-15-2021*

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