

LGP RCPP Application Instructions & Additional Information

Application Assistance: If you need assistance completing the LGP RCPP EQIP application for funding, please contact the local District Manager at the Shavano Conservation District (102 Par Place, Suite #4, Montrose, CO 81401 / Phone (970) 249-8407 Ext. 115), Delta Conservation District (690 Industrial Blvd, Delta, CO 81416 / Phone (970) 399- 8194) or Colorado River District at (970) 945-8522.

Application Submittal: Once your application is complete, please make an extra copy for yourself. You have several options for submitting your application by the identified closing dates:

- 1) Take the original signed copy of your application to the District Manager at your local Conservation District office;
- 2) Mail an original signed copy of your application to the attention of your local Conservation District Manager (must be postmarked on or before the application closing date);
- 3) Mail an original signed copy of the application to the Colorado River District (must be postmarked on or before the application closing date):
Colorado River Water Conservation District
Attention: LGP RCPP EQIP
P.O. Box 1120
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
- 4) E-mail a copy of your application to info@gunnisonriverbasin.org and include the following SUBJECT line: LGP RCPP EQIP Application Submittal

Question 1: Please visit your local USDA Service Center for assistance:

- Montrose: 102 Par Place, Suite 4, Montrose, CO 81401 (Phone: (970) 249-8407)
- Delta: 690 Industrial Blvd, Delta, CO 81416 (Phone: (970) 874-5726)

Question 2: If you need assistance answering this question, please consult your tax advisor.

Question 3: A Dun & Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and current registration in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) System for Award Management (SAM) database are required for receiving payment under an Employer Identification Number (EIN). An EIN is also known as a Federal Tax Identification Number and is used to identify a business entity. Please note that the entity-applicant must obtain a DUNS number, register it under the legal business name which matches the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) records for the applicable EIN and that such legal business name must match the name identified in the LGP RCPP EQIP application.

If your entity does not have a DUNS number, more information is available at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>.

To register with CCR, go to <https://www.sam.gov/portal/SAM/##11>

Question 4: No additional instructions. Please contact the CO River District if you need application assistance (970-945-8522).

Question 5: No additional instructions. Please contact the CO River District if you need application assistance (970-945-8522).

Question 6: No additional information provided. Please contact the CO River District if you need application assistance (970-945-8522).

Question 7: No additional information provided. Please contact the CO River District if you need application assistance (970-945-8522).

Question 8: No additional information provided. Please contact the CO River District if you need application assistance (970-945-8522).

Question 9: Definitions

Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher - The term "Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher" means a participant:

- With direct or indirect gross farm sales not more than the current indexed value in each of the previous two years, and
- Who has a total household income at or below the national poverty level for a family of four or less than 50 percent of the county median household income in each of the previous two years.

A legal entity or joint operation can be a Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher only if all individual members independently qualify. A Self-Determination Tool is available to the public and may be completed on-line or printed and completed hardcopy at: <http://www.lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov/>

Beginning Farmer or Rancher - The term "Beginning Farmer or Rancher" means a participant who:

- Has not operated a farm or ranch, or who has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 consecutive years. This requirement applies to all members of a legal entity, and who
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch.

In the case of a contract with an individual, individually or with the immediate family, material and substantial participation requires that the individual provide

substantial day-to-day labor and management of the farm or ranch, consistent with the practices in the county or State where the farm is located.

In the case of a contract made with a legal entity, all members must materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch. Material and substantial participation requires that the members provide some amount of the management, or labor and management necessary for day-to-day activities, such that if the members did not provide these inputs, operation of the farm or ranch would be seriously impaired.

Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher- The term "Socially Disadvantaged" means an individual or entity who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group. For an entity, at least 50 percent ownership in the farm business must be held by socially disadvantaged individuals. A socially disadvantaged group is a group whose members have been subject to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities.

These groups consist of the following:

- American Indians or Alaskan Natives
- Asians
- Blacks or African Americans
- Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders
- Hispanics

Note: Gender alone is not a covered group for the purposes of NRCS conservation programs. The term entities reflect a broad interpretation to include partnerships, couples, legal entities, etc.

Veteran Farmer or Rancher - The term "veteran farmer or rancher" means a farmer or rancher who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released from the service under conditions other than dishonorable.

On the farm(s) identified the LGP RCPP EQIP, the Applicant agrees to participate in the identified program if the offer is accepted by the NRCS. The undersigned person shall hereafter be referred to as the "Participant." The participant understands that starting a practice prior to contract approval causes the practice to be ineligible for program financial assistance. The participant will obtain the landowner's signature on the contract or provide written authorization to install structural practices. The Participant agrees not to start any financially assisted practice or activity or engage the reimbursable services of a certified Technical Service Provider before a Contract is executed by CCC. The Participant may request, in writing, a waiver of this requirement for financially assisted practices by the NRCS State Conservationist.

All participants that certify eligibility as a Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher, Beginning Farmer or Veteran Farmer or Rancher will provide all records necessary to justify their claim as requested by a NRCS representative. It is the responsibility

of the Participant to provide accurate data to support all items addressed in this application at the request of NRCS. False certifications are subject to criminal and civil fraud statutes.

The Participant acknowledges that highly erodible land conservation/wetland conservation, adjusted gross income certifications, and member information for entities and joint operations are on file with the appropriate USDA Service Center Agency.

Each participant that is a non-individual is required to be registered in SAM before submitting this application and must provide a valid DUNS number on this application. Each participant must continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has a conservation program contract/agreement or an active application under consideration. NRCS may not enter into a conservation program contract/agreement with a non-individual until the all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements have been met. If a non-individual has not fully complied with these requirements by the time NRCS is ready to award the conservation program contract/agreement, NRCS may determine that the non-individual is not qualified to receive a conservation program contract/agreement and use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Question 10: Conservation Program Contract RCPP EQIP

Please indicate that you have received a copy of *Appendix to Form NRCS-CPA-1202, Conservation Program Contract for EQIP RCPP* along with your EQIP application and sign to certify receipt.