
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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COVID-19 — USDA WEBINAR ON CORONAVIRUS FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Program Information. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) held a webinar that provided basic information on the new [Coronavirus Food Assistance Program](#) (CFAP) on May 14, 2020. The Program will provide \$19.000 billion for losses experienced by producers related to COVID-19, maintain the food supply chain, and ensure that citizens have access to food.

Producer Payments. The CFAP provides up to \$16.000 billion in payments for losses due to lower market prices from the lost demand for products as a result of COVID-19. In addition, payments will be made for losses resulting from the disruption of the supply chain. Persons interested in applying for assistance must contact their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) by telephone or online to see if they are eligible. The producer will have to provide basic contact information and complete portions of the Farm Operating Plan, Form [CCC-902](#).

Food Distribution. The CFAP provides up to \$3.000 billion to purchase fresh produce, dairy, and meat that would have been sold to restaurants and hotels. The USDA will work with local and regional food distributors to distribute the purchased food to food banks and other nonprofit organizations that serve food to persons in need.

Application Process. The application process has not begun, but producers are encouraged to read the information in the [Stakeholder Toolkit](#) under the "Resources" section of the CFAP website to become familiar with the Program.

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