

Farm Service Agency
**Farm Bill
Overview**



The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides leadership on food, agriculture, natural resources, rural development, nutrition, and related issues.

We have a vision to:

- Provide economic opportunity through innovation
- Help rural America to thrive
- Promote agriculture production that nourishes Americans and the world
- Preserve our Nation's natural resources



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FSA Programs and Loans



What does FSA offer?

Farm Programs

Disaster Assistance

Conservation Programs

Safety Net

Risk Management

Farm Loan Programs

Ownership Loans

Operating Loans

Microloans

Loan Guarantees



Farm Programs

Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP)

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFL)

Disaster Programs- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP); Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP); Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP); Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP); Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

Crop Acreage Reporting

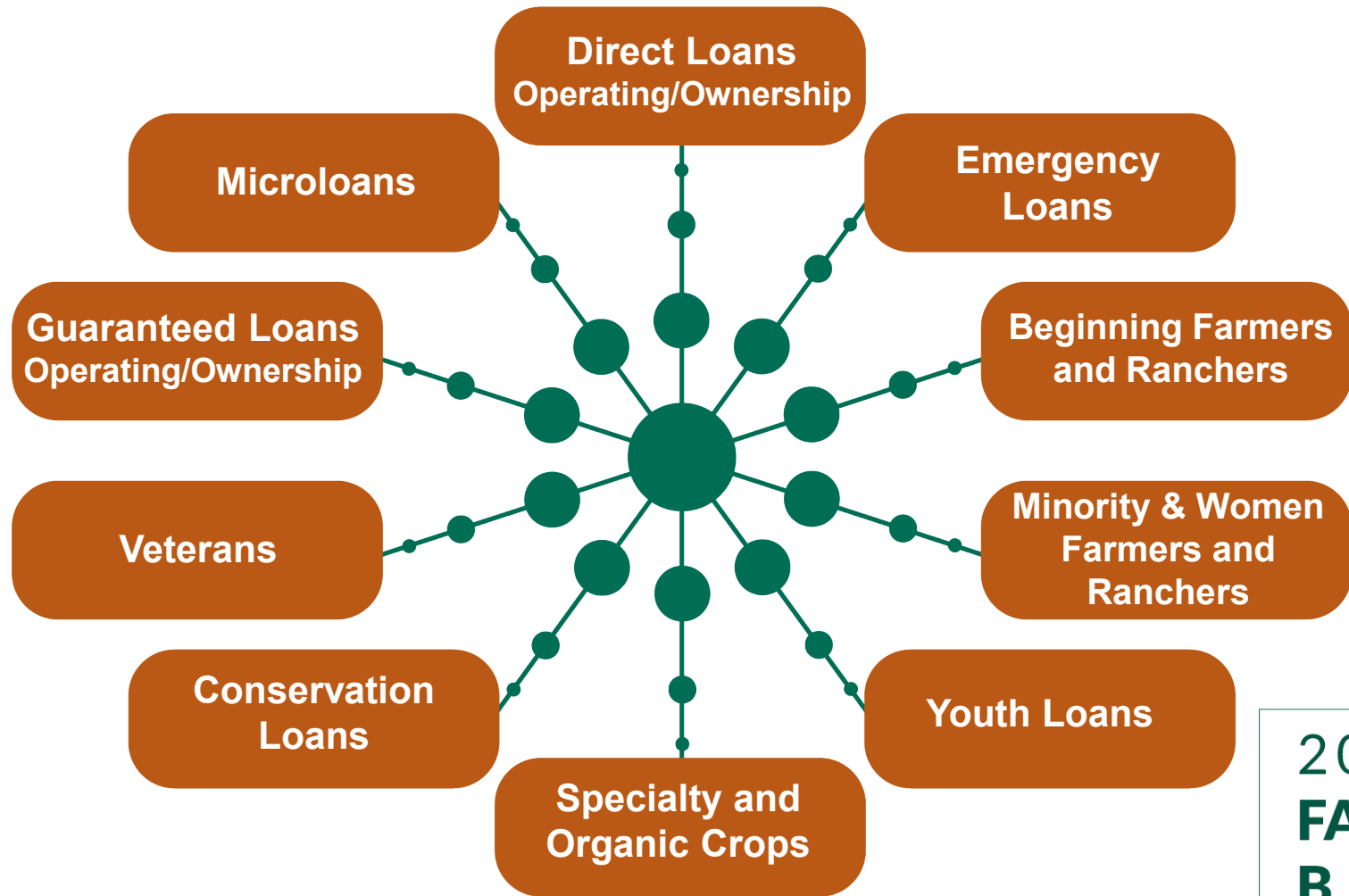
Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Market Assistance Loans

ARC/PLC

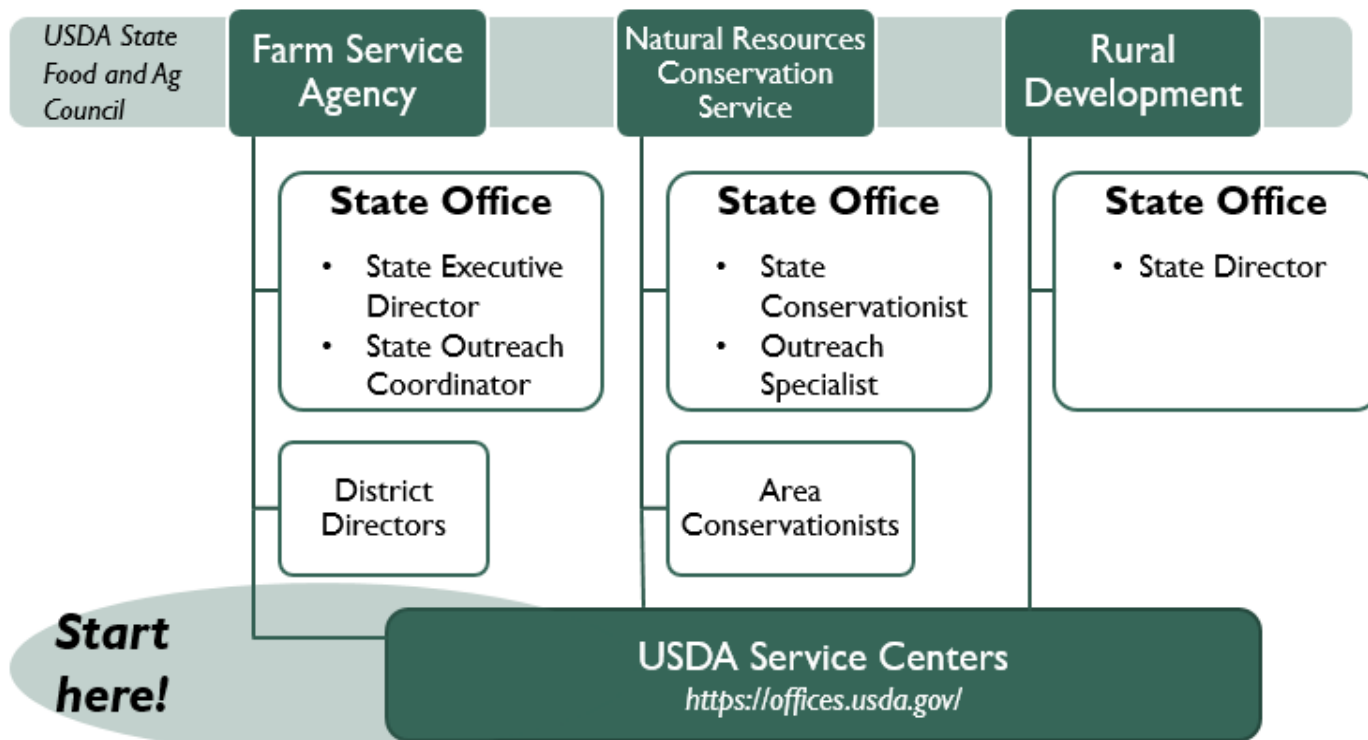


Farm Loan Programs



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ACCESSING USDA IN YOUR COMMUNITY



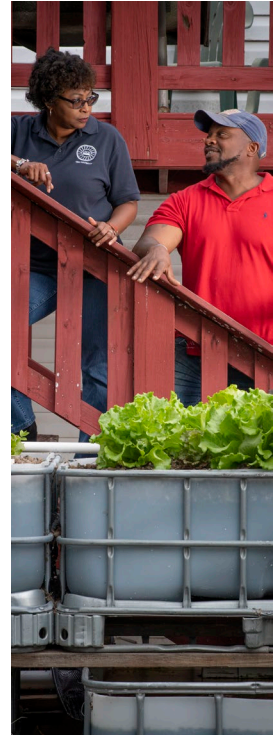
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Farm Bill Basics



What is a Farm Bill?

- **Omnibus, multiyear law that governs ag & food programs.**
- **Enacted every 5 years.**
- **Started with farm commodities (1930s), expanded to nutrition (1970s) and from there added more (horticulture, bioenergy, conservation, research, rural development).**



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What is included in the Farm Bill?

Title I, Commodities

Title II, Conservation

Title III, Trade

Title IV, Nutrition

Title V, Credit

Title VI, Rural Development

Title VII, Research, Extension & Related Matters

Title VII, Forestry

Title IX, Energy

Title X, Horticulture

Title XI, Crop Insurance

Title XII, Miscellaneous (poultry & livestock assistance, beginning farmers & ranchers, general provisions)



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Who is involved?

Congress

National level farm groups

Commodity associations,

Nutrition and public health officials

Advocacy groups

Faith based interests

Local food systems

State organizations



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Implementing a Farm Bill



Handbooks, handbooks, handbooks

- After a Farm Bill is made into law, USDA hits the ground running!
- Each change requires handbooks updates, and sometimes entirely new rules and regulations to be written.
- National office trains state staff, then state staff train county staff.
- All involved provide outreach to stakeholders & customers.
- The Farm Bill looks different in each state, and even in different areas of the state.



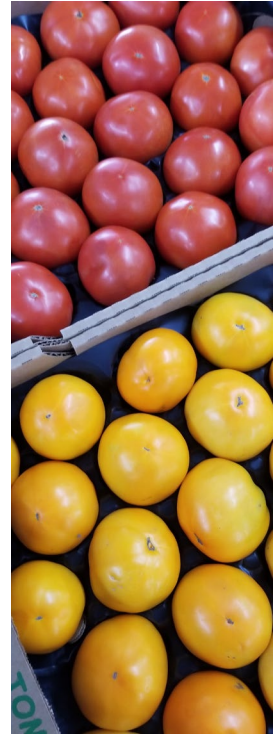
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Please be patient!


Each new Farm Bill includes many changes.

This could involve updating handbooks, forms, software, and training hundreds of employees.

Employees sincerely want to help, but may have limitations beyond their control.



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The Farm Bill is an important tool. But it doesn't work without the dedication of the folks in the field, most importantly, the farmers and ranchers that use it to make the best decisions for their land and operations.

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