

Programs

Farm Bill

Financial Assistance

Easements

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

Healthy Forests Reserve Program

Landscape Initiatives

Landscape Planning

Agricultural Land Easements



NRCS provides financial assistance to eligible partners for purchasing Agricultural Land Easements that protect the agricultural use and conservation values of eligible land. In the case of working farms, the program helps farmers and ranchers keep their land in agriculture. The program also protects grazing uses and related conservation values by conserving grassland, including rangeland, pastureland and shrubland. Eligible partners include Indian tribes, state and local governments and non-governmental organizations that have farmland or grassland protection programs.

Under the Agricultural Land component, NRCS may contribute up to 50 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land easement. Where NRCS determines that grasslands of special environmental significance will be protected, NRCS may contribute up to 75 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land easement.



Eligibility

Land eligible for agricultural easements includes cropland, rangeland, grassland, pastureland and nonindustrial private forest land. NRCS will prioritize applications that protect agricultural uses and related conservation values of the land and those that maximize the protection of contiguous acres devoted to agricultural use.

To enroll land through agricultural land easements, NRCS enters into cooperative agreements with eligible partners. Each easement is required to have an agricultural land easement plan that promotes the long-term viability of the land.

Program Application Forms and Appraisal Specifications

- [Entity Application for Agricultural Land Easement \(ALE\) Agreement](#)
- [Parcel Application for Agricultural Land Easement \(ALE\) Agreement](#)
- [ALE Appraisal Specifications](#)
- [ALE Eligible Entity Cash Contribution Requirement Waiver Request Worksheet](#)
- [2018 ALE Cooperative Agreement Statement of Work](#)
- [2018 ALE Cooperative Agreement Statement of Work Attachment A](#)
- [2018 ALE Entity Workbook](#)
- [2018 ALE Ranking Sheet](#)
- [2018 ALE RCPP Ranking Sheet](#)
- [2018 ALE Parcel Workbook](#)
- [Cash Waiver Worksheet for Parcels of Special Significance](#)
- [Cash Waiver Letter for Parcels of Special Significance](#)
- [ALE Minimum Deed Terms](#)

Prior year ALE, FRPP and GRP Archives

For questions, contact [Sue Knight](#) at 603-868-9931 x118.

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