



# Inflation Reduction Act Assistance for Producers Who Experienced Discrimination in USDA Farm Loan Programs

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Visit [www.22007apply.gov](https://www.22007apply.gov), for detailed information about application procedures, available assistance, and more.

## Overview

Section 22007 of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), signed by President Biden in August 2022, provides \$2.2 billion in financial assistance for farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners who experienced discrimination in USDA's farm lending programs prior to January 1, 2021.

Following signing of the law, USDA took immediate steps to convene listening sessions and seek public comment about the design of the program to ensure that farmers, advocates, academics, legislators, tribal governments, and other experts were heard. USDA has committed to making payments to farmers no later than early 2024; this timeline means that producers receive payment as soon as possible and early in the tax year to allow for sufficient planning.

## Where We Are Now

With this public feedback taken into account, in March 2023, USDA announced the basic structure of the program. The IRA specifies this assistance must be delivered to impacted producers by nongovernmental program administrators. As a result, the process for implementing this program was carefully designed in accordance with the IRA, Federal Acquisition Regulation, and significant stakeholder input.

In early May, USDA signed contracts with three vendors who, together, constitute a national administrator and four regional hubs. The vendors are working together to solicit applications from eligible farmers, provide technical assistance, and make decisions about each case (following rules set by USDA).

The vendors include [Midtown Group](#), serving as the national administrator; [Windsor Group](#), serving producers in the eastern regions of the U.S.; and [Analytic Acquisitions](#), serving the western regions. The national administrator will manage all aspects of the application process including making determinations on applications, while the regional hubs will conduct outreach and technical assistance in addition to providing recommendations on applications.

The vendors are opening regional locations; they and USDA are working closely with community-based organizations across the country who are known and trusted by producer communities, including [AgrAbility](#), [Farmer Veteran Coalition](#), [Farmers' Legal Action Group](#), [Federation of Southern Cooperatives](#), [Intertribal Agriculture Council](#), [Land Loss Prevention Project](#), [National Young Farmers Coalition](#), and [Rural Coalition](#). These organizations will conduct outreach and technical assistance, ensuring potential applicants are informed about the program and have the opportunity to apply.

The application process is open from July 7–October 31, 2023. Applications for this program are **free, and the program does not require a lawyer**. Application is **not** on a first come, first served basis; all applications received by the deadline will be reviewed and considered. Visit [www.22007apply.gov](https://www.22007apply.gov), for detailed information about application procedures, available assistance, and more. Further assistance can be obtained by calling

the program's National Call Center at 1-800-721-0970 or emailing [info@22007apply.gov](mailto:info@22007apply.gov). Also, program-specific regional offices have been set up around the country so that potential applicants can visit, get help, and apply in-person; help will also be available at mobile events. [\[find regional resources by clicking here\]](#)

Applications are due October 31, 2023—there will be no extensions. The specifics depend on the application submission method:

- ♦ **U.S. or overnight mail** must be postmarked by **October 31, 2023**
- ♦ **E-filing**; by 11:59 p.m. Pacific time **October 31, 2023**
- ♦ **In person**, at a regional office: by 8 pm local time on **October 31, 2023**

USDA is aware of some lawyers and groups spreading misleading information about the discrimination assistance process, advocating for retainer agreements as well as requesting private and sensitive information.

## What's Next

Additional details concerning the application process, timing, and assistance is available at [22007apply.gov](https://www.22007apply.gov). National Call Center 1-800-721-0970 and email [info@22007apply.gov](mailto:info@22007apply.gov).

**What if I am currently experiencing discrimination in USDA programs or need to find answers about a previously filed complaint?**

If you are currently experiencing discrimination, you may contact the Office of Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (OASCR) at <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer>, Information Research Service, at (866) 632-9992 (toll free) or send an email to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at [CR-INFO@usda.gov](mailto:CR-INFO@usda.gov).

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities may contact OASCR through the Federal Relay Service on 711. Those who prefer Spanish can use (800) 845-6136.

USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack:

"In providing this financial assistance, our goal is to make sure eligible people have adequate, understandable information about what is available to them, how to apply, and what to expect from USDA at each step. As we work to make all our programs more equitable, accessible and accountable, we are applying these same principles to make sure all Americans know how to engage with USDA services so, we can prevent more inequities and build new levels of trust with the People's Department going forward."