

Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers

Toolkit for Stakeholders

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is providing up to \$200 million to provide relief to timber harvesting and timber hauling businesses that have experienced losses due to COVID-19. The new program, <u>Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers (PATHH)</u>, is part of USDA's <u>Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative</u>.

Timber harvesting and hauling businesses that have experienced a gross revenue loss of at least 10% during the period of January 1 and December 1, 2020, compared to the period of January 1 and December 1, 2019, are encouraged to apply. Eligible loggers and truckers can submit their application through USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) July 22 through October 15, 2021. PATHH is administered by FSA in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service.

We need your help. We want to ensure timber loggers and truckers are aware of this program and the available resources to apply, including how to contact the FSA office at their local USDA Service Center and FSA's call center. This toolkit is meant for partners and stakeholder groups to use and share information in their networks. It includes:

- Key messages
- Newsletter article
- Social media posts
- <u>Poster</u>

Answers to frequently asked questions can be found at <u>farmers.gov/pathh/faq</u>. Program definitions can be found at <u>farmers.gov/pathh/definitions</u>.

Please contact us at <u>fpac.bc.press@usda.gov</u> with any additional questions.



Key Messages

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is providing up to \$200 million to provide relief to timber harvesting and timber hauling businesses that have experienced losses due to COVID-19. This is part of USDA's Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative.
- Timber harvesting and hauling businesses that have experienced a gross revenue loss of at least 10% during the period of Jan. 1 and Dec. 1, 2020, compared to the period of Jan. 1 and Dec. 1, 2019, are encouraged to apply for the Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers program (PATHH).
- Eligible loggers and truckers can apply for PATHH through USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) July 22 through Oct. 15, 2021. PATHH is administered by FSA in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service.
- The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, authorized this critical assistance for the timber industry.
- To be eligible for payments, individuals or legal entities must be a timber harvesting or timber hauling business where 50% or more of its gross revenue is derived from one or more of the following:
 - Cutting timber.
 - Transporting timber.
 - Processing of wood on-site on the forest land (chipping, grinding, converting to biochar, cutting to smaller lengths, etc.).
- PATHH payments will be based on the applicant's gross revenue received from Jan. 1, 2019, through Dec. 1, 2019, minus gross revenue received from Jan. 1, 2020, through Dec. 1, 2020, multiplied by 80%.
- FSA will issue an initial payment equal to the lesser of the calculated payment amount or \$2,000 as applications are approved. A second payment will be made after the signup period has ended based upon remaining PATHH funds.
- The maximum amount that a person or legal entity may receive directly is \$125,000.
- Loggers and truckers can apply for PATHH by working with the FSA office at their local USDA Service Center once the application period opens on July 22. Visit <u>farmers.gov/pathh</u> for more information on how to apply. Applications can be submitted by mail, fax, hand delivery or via electronic means.
- To find a local FSA office, loggers and truckers can visit <u>farmers.gov/service-locator</u>. They can also call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer assistance.



Newsletter Article

USDA Announces Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers

Farm Service Agency Will Begin Accepting Applications on July 22

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is providing up to \$200 million to provide relief to timber harvesting and timber hauling businesses that have experienced losses due to COVID-19 as part of USDA's Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative. Loggers and truckers can apply for assistance through USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) July 22 through Oct. 15, 2021. The Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers program (PATHH) is administered by FSA in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, authorized this critical assistance for the timber industry. Timber harvesting and hauling businesses that have experienced a gross revenue loss of at least 10% during the period of Jan. 1 and Dec. 1, 2020, compared to the period of Jan. 1 and Dec. 1, 2019, are encouraged to apply.

Program Details

To be eligible for payments, individuals or legal entities must be a timber harvesting or timber hauling business where 50% or more of its gross revenue is derived from one or more of the following:

- Cutting timber.
- Transporting timber.
- Processing of wood on-site on the forest land (chipping, grinding, converting to biochar, cutting to smaller lengths, etc.).

Payments will be based on the applicant's gross revenue received from Jan. 1, 2019, through Dec. 1, 2019, minus gross revenue received from Jan. 1, 2020, through Dec. 1, 2020, multiplied by 80%. FSA will issue an initial payment equal to the lesser of the calculated payment amount or \$2,000 as applications are approved. A second payment will be made after the signup period has ended based upon remaining PATHH funds.

The maximum amount that a person or legal entity may receive directly is \$125,000.



United States Department of Agriculture

Applying for Assistance

Loggers and truckers can apply for PATHH beginning on July 22 by completing form FSA-1118, Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers Program application, and certifying their gross revenue for 2019 and 2020 on the application. Additional documentation may be required. Visit <u>farmers.gov/pathh</u> for more information on how to apply.

Applications can be submitted to the FSA office at any USDA Service Center nationwide by mail, fax, hand delivery or via electronic means. To find a local FSA office, loggers and truckers can visit <u>farmers.gov/service-locator</u>. They can also call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer assistance.



Sample Posts for Facebook and Twitter

Below are social media posts for use on Facebook, Twitter, and other platforms. Be sure to tag us on Twitter: @FarmersGov and @usdaFSA.

For Use Before July 22

- .@USDA's new program supports timber loggers and truckers who experienced losses due to the coronavirus pandemic. Signup opens 7/22. Learn more: <u>Farmers.gov/pathh</u> [+ graphic option below]
- Did your timber harvesting or hauling business suffer losses due to COVID-19? You may be eligible for @USDA's new Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers program. <u>Farmers.gov/pathh</u> [+ graphic option below]

For Use on or After July 22

- .@USDA's Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers program supports loggers and truckers who experienced losses due to the coronavirus pandemic. Sign up today! <u>Farmers.gov/pathh</u> [+ graphic option below]
- Did your timber harvesting or hauling business suffer losses due to COVID-19? You may be eligible for @USDA's newest pandemic assistance program. Sign up before the 10/15 deadline. <u>Farmers.gov/pathh</u> [+ graphic option below]



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PANDEMIC ASSISTANCE FOR TIMBER HARVESTERS AND HAULERS



Accepting Applications July 22 to October 15, 2021 www.farmers.gov/PATHH or 877-508-8364





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ATTENTION LOGGERS AND TIMBER HAULERS: WAS YOUR BUSINESS IMPACTED BY THE PANDEMIC?

USDA's Farm Service Agency may be able to help.

Through the Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers (PATHH) program, USDA is providing financial assistance to timber loggers or truckers whose operations experienced losses in 2020 due to COVID-19. If your business experienced a gross revenue loss of at least 10% during the period of Jan. 1 and Dec. 1, 2020, compared to the period of Jan. 1 and Dec. 1, 2019, you are encouraged to apply through your local USDA Farm Service Agency.

Visit **farmers.gov/PATHH** to learn more about program eligibility and how to apply. Contact **your local Farm Service Agency office** or our call center at **877-508-8364** for one-on-one application support.

PANDEMIC ASSISTANCE FOR TIMBER HARVESTERS AND HAULERS

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