

Part 512 – Conservation Program Contracting

Subpart C – Application for Assistance

ME512.23 Submitting Applications

A. Submitting Applications

- (3) A conservation plan is NOT a requirement for the acceptance of an application for program assistance.

ME512.25 Evaluating Applications

C. Evaluating Applications

- (1) A Statewide screening process for sorting applications into high or low priority will be utilized for all EQIP, WHIP and AMA applications. In ProTracts, set the Application Priority as follows:
 - (i) **High** priority designation will be for applications that are supported by a fully developed conservation plan.
 - (ii) **Low** priority designation will be for applications that are not supported by a conservation plan.

E. Managing Applications

- (1) The statewide screening tool criterion for Conservation Program Contract (CPC) applications in Maine to be included in the high priority category is a fully developed conservation plan (including a Wildlife Habitat Development Plan (WHDP) for WHIP applications). All CPC applications that are in the High Priority will be ranked using the applicable Application Evaluation and Ranking Tool (AERT) by the end of the announced Application Evaluation and Ranking Period.
- (2) Applications that have not had a conservation plan developed will fall into the low priority category of CPC applications and may not be ranked.
- (3) The program specific ranking list at the end of each ranking period will be memorialized in hard copy, filed, and retained in the appropriate case file according to Title 120, General Manual, Part 408.