

Applying for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) South Dakota FY2013

Helping People Help the Land

What is CSP?

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) is a voluntary USDA program that encourages agricultural and forestry producers to address resource concerns by:

1. Undertaking additional conservation activities, and
2. Improving and maintaining existing conservation systems.

What are the benefits of CSP?

CSP pays participants for conservation performance—the higher the performance, the higher the payment.

Two types of payments:

1. An annual payment is available for installing new conservation activities and maintaining existing practices.
2. A supplemental payment is available to participants who also adopt a resource-conserving crop rotation.

For more information, contact your local NRCS field office or the program manager:

Jessica Michalski
CSP Coordinator
(605) 532-3686
jessica.michalski@sd.usda.gov
www.sd.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp

Protection of our natural resources:

The CSP addresses the following resource concerns: soil quality, soil erosion, water quality, water quantity, air quality, plant resources, animal resources and energy.

Deadline for signing an application to be considered for a contract for Fiscal Year 2013 is November 16, 2012.

What do you the producer need to prepare a 2013 application?

- 1. Complete Form NRCS-CPA-1200, Conservation Program Application. Your local NRCS field office will assist you in completing the application. Please stop in before the deadline of November 16, 2012!**
 - Copy of the CCC-901 or CCC-902E (from Farm Service Agency) for entities (joint ventures, corporations, limited liability corporations, limited liability partnerships, trusts, etc.).
 - Copy of the corporate charter, bylaws, court order of appointment, etc., identifying who has authority to sign documents for all United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) programs.
 - Power of Attorney (form FSA-211, dated 12/17/2008) when documents are signed on behalf of another.
- 3. Complete Direct Deposit Sign-Up Form (Standard Form 1199A). This form is also provided by your local NRCS field office.**
- 4. Obtain Evidence of Land Control.**

Obtain FSA-156EZ and Producer Farm Data Report to identify operator and landowner(s). If you are not the landowner, one of the following must be provided to establish control for the life of the contract period:

 - Lease showing control.
 - Written documentation from the landowner with signature and legal description or farm and tract number(s) assuring control of land for the life of the contract and, if applicable, permission to install, operate, and maintain the conservation practice(s) (an example of this document is available at your local NRCS Field Office).
 - All landowners sign form NRCS-CPA-1202 (Conservation Program Contract) and the Appendix to Form NRCS-CPA-1202.
- 5. Gather Farm Service Agency (FSA) aerial maps** or other form of map, aerial photograph, or overlay for land listed on the FSA-156EZ and/or Producer Farm Data Report that you are interested in enrolling in CSP.

Payments:

Through five year contracts, NRCS makes payments after October 1 for contract activities installed and maintained in the previous fiscal year (October 1—September 30). Payment limitations are \$40,000 per year for a person or legal entity and \$80,000 per year for joint operations.