

# FACTSHEET



## You've Decided to Apply for the Conservation Security Program (CSP)... Now What?

To apply for CSP, first determine if you meet the basic eligibility criteria.

### Basic eligibility:

- \* CSP applicants must share in the risk of producing crops or livestock on the operation. (Landowners receiving cash rent are not eligible.)
- \* Have control of the land for the life of the contract.
- \* Land must be private agricultural land or Tribal land.
- \* Have a highly erodible land and/or wetland determination. If you have not participated in USDA programs before, visit the Farm Service Agency office and ask for Form 1026. **This process must occur before your application is completed...it is part of the eligibility criteria.** If you have HEL and/or wetlands, you must be in compliance with Federal regulations regarding this land.

### Complete the Self-Assessment Workbook.

CSP is designed to provide stewardship and enhancement payments to the best conservationists. A self-assessment is required to apply. The self-assessment workbook helps you determine your basic eligibility for CSP, and walks you through several steps to determine whether you qualify. Self-assessment workbooks are available at your local NRCS office or online at [www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov).

### Gather records and documentation.

Many of the questions in the self-assessment require documentation. For example, if you have rangeland, you are required to provide grazing records.

### Meet with your local NRCS staff.

You will need to mail or drop-off your self-assessment and required documentation to your local NRCS office, and make an appointment with NRCS staff to review your information and help confirm whether you qualify for CSP. Field visits may be required to evaluate pasture and range condition. Your local NRCS staff will then determine the category for which you are eligible.

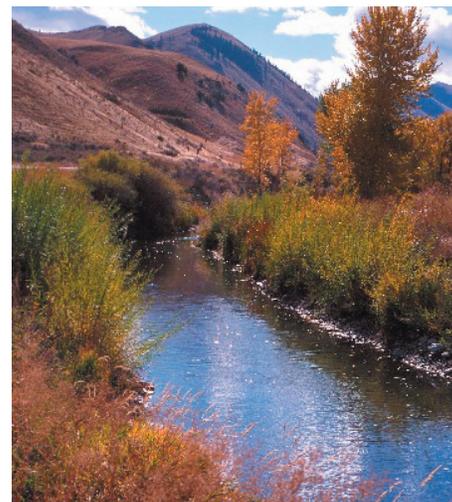
### Submit your application.

NRCS will take your CSP application and other supporting documents when you apply. You will need to provide your Social Security Number or Tax Identification number on your application (NRCS calls it the Vendor Identification Number). NRCS tracks payments through this vendor number.

Payments will be reported to the IRS and you will receive a Form 1099 reflecting contract payments.

### Direct deposit or waiver:

Producers will receive their payments electronically. When you apply, you must complete a Direct Deposit Form.



**Application:** Based upon the information you provide, NRCS will determine if your application is eligible for enrollment into the CSP program. If your application is funded, you will be notified by mail.

### Complete your Conservation Stewardship Contract.

If you are selected, your local NRCS office will contact you to finalize and sign your Conservation Stewardship Contract.

**For more information:**  
USDA-NRCS Office  
125 S. Water Street  
Arco, ID 83213  
208-527-8557  
[www.id.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.id.nrcs.usda.gov)