

ACEP-ALE Application Support Information

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service Agricultural Land Easement Program – Application Support Information	
Entity Information (an entity or combination of entities submitting multiple parcels for consideration are only required to submit entity information once each year)	
Primary Entity Information (the entity that will be accepting the Federal contribution)	
Information Required (required attachments in boldface type)	Include Data Here or Check and Attach Information
Evidence of an established a farmland Protection program (State, Tribal, or local government statute or ordinance or nongovernmental organization mission statement attached).	
Evidence of a commitment to long-term conservation of agricultural or ranch lands through the use of voluntary conservation easements that protect farm or ranch lands from conversion to nonagricultural uses (list of easements acquired and held by the cooperating entity).	
Evidence of the authority and demonstrated capability to acquire conservation easements or their equivalent (State, Tribal, or local government statute or ordinance or nongovernmental organization mission statement with specific authority to acquire easements attached).	
Evidence of the authority and demonstrated capability to hold, manage, or enforce conservation easements or their equivalent (State, Tribal, or local government statute or ordinance or nongovernmental organization mission statement with specific authority to manage and enforce easements attached) (list of easements held, managed, and enforced by the cooperating entity).	
Evidence of title and appraisal policies or standards (attach policies or standards).	
Evidence of staff capability dedicated to easement monitoring and stewardship (number of easements held and managed and current staff available).	
Evidence of the availability of funds equal to at least 50 percent of the estimated fair market value of the conservation easement (including landowner donation) (State, Tribal, or local government appropriation or statement from nongovernment organization that funds are available attached).	

ACEP-ALE Application Support Information

Secondary Entity Information (IF applicable) (not the entity that will be accepting the Federal contribution; entities that are only contributing funds or are monitoring the easement and enforcing the terms of the easement deed)	
Information Required (required attachments in bold letters)	Include Data Here or Check and Attach Information
Evidence of an established a farmland protection program (State, Tribal, or local government statute or ordinance or nongovernmental organization mission statement attached).	
Evidence of a commitment to long-term conservation of agricultural or ranch lands through the use of voluntary conservation easements that protect farm or ranch lands from conversion to nonagricultural uses (list of easements acquired and held by the cooperating entity).	
Evidence of the authority and demonstrated capability to acquire conservation easements or their equivalent (State, Tribal, or local government statute or ordinance or nongovernmental organization mission statement with specific authority to acquire easements attached).	
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Evidence of title and appraisal policies or standards (attach policies or standards).	
Evidence of staff capability dedicated to easement monitoring and stewardship (number of easements held and managed and current staff available).	
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Parcel (Farm) Information Required Data	
Entity or entities associated with the parcel	
State	
County or parish	
Map of the parcel showing the proposed protected area (Map attached)	
All landowners listed on the property deed	
Address of the parcel	
Phone number of landowner(s)	
Location map of the parcel (Map attached)	
Legal description of the parcel (Document attached)	
Size of the parcel, in acres	
Pending offer for the parcel (Signed written offer attached)	
Acres of the prime, unique, or statewide and locally important soil in the parcel (one of three eligibility criteria)	
Map and table of the prime, unique, or statewide or locally important soils for the parcel (Map and table attached)	
Historical or archaeological resources proposed to be protected, a brief description of the sites' significance, and documentation of the site's listing on the Federal, Tribal, or State register. The listing document that describes the significance of the site must be included in the application to compare with the cooperating entity's ability to manage and enforce the easement for historic preservation of the site (one of three eligibility criteria) (Listing document attached).	
Manner that each parcel supports a State or local farm or ranch land protection program, if applicable (one of three eligibility criteria) (Evidence of how parcel supports the policy such as location within a focus area of statement from the unit of government indicating that the parcel supports the unit of government's policy, map, or statement attached)	
Acres of cropland	
Acres of forested land	
Acres of grazing land	
Acres of incidental land (including farmstead)	
Acres of grassland that would benefit from easement enrollment	
Acres or Percentage of contiguous agricultural use	
Map showing Zoning or unique agricultural area that parcel is located within (if applicable)	

Proximity to agricultural operations and infrastructure located within 3 miles, 2 miles and 1 mile of the parcel boundary. (Map attached - scale shows these distances)	
Proximity to other protected land, such as compatible military installations, other federal, state, or local easements or NGO whose purpose is to protect agricultural land use and related conservation values. Located within 3 miles, 2 miles and 1 mile of the parcel boundary. (Map attached - scale shows these distances)	
Map showing the location of other protected parcels in relation to the land parcels proposed to be protected (Map attached)	
Estimated value of the easement of the parcel (should equal the sum of the estimated cooperating entity contribution, landowner donation, and Federal contribution)	
Estimated contribution by the cooperating entity (dollars)	
Estimated landowner donation, in dollars (the appraised fair market value minus the amount that the landowner will accept for the easement) (Not a cash donation)	
Expected Federal contribution, in dollars (cannot be more than 50 percent of the appraised fair market value of the land)	
Estimated cooperating entity's recommended stewardship fee to be paid by the landowner, in dollars	
Indication of the accessibility to markets for the parcel (miles to grain elevators, livestock markets, milk processors, cotton gins, etc.)	
Indication of an existing agricultural infrastructure, on- and off-farm, and other support systems (miles to tractor dealers, agricultural chemical, feed and fertilizer dealers)	
Statement regarding the level of threat from urban development for the parcel (Attached)	
Percent impervious surface	
Parcel is located in an air quality non-attainment area with high development pressure. (documentation attached).	
Percent impervious surface requested (limited to 2 percent of the easement area without an approved waiver)	
Impervious surface waiver procedure (Attached)	

<p>Ownership of subsurface mineral rights for each parcel (owner of surface rights or a third party). Subsurface mineral rights owned by third parties must be subordinated or a mineral remoteness test conducted to assess the chance of the minerals being extracted by the third party. Parcels that have a high potential of being mined will not be accepted into ACEP-ALE in Pennsylvania.</p>	
<p>Desire of landowners to subdivide each parcel. Subdivision is generally prohibited. Parcels for which landowners know the exact locations and dimensions of the subdivided parcels should submit the parcels as separate parcels to be ranked at their subdivided size. If a landowner wants the option to subdivide at a date after the application is submitted, permission must be written into the conservation easement deed. The size of the subdivided parcels must be an economically viable size for a farm the county in which the parcel is located. Lot sizes less than the size of the average farm in the county at the time of deed approval will not be permitted.</p>	
<p>Desire of the landowner to construct additional residences on the easement parcel. Construction of new residences is generally prohibited. If a landowner wants the option to construct additional residences for relatives or employees working on the farm or ranch full time after the application is submitted, permission must be written into the conservation easement deed. The size and location of the residences must also be specified in the conservation easement deed.</p>	
<p>Is the land enrolled in CREP or CRP that will expire within one year? (Provide documentation of CREP/CRP enrollment and expiration date)</p>	
<p>Has an Agricultural Land Succession Plan been developed for the parcel? (If yes, attach succession plan)</p>	
<p>Does the parcel contain a state or federal threatened or endangered species? (if yes, provide documentation)</p>	

Does the parcel have a conservation plan reflecting the current agricultural operation? (If yes, attach conservation plan)	
Are the landowners a historically underserved group, small scale farmer, limited resource landowner, new or beginning farmer or rancher or veteran landowner? (If yes, attach documentation)	
Is the parcel in a geographic region where enrollment achieves landscape, regional, or other agricultural or conservation goals and objectives? (If yes, attach documentation)	
If not a certified entity, the entity agrees to append the NRCS minimum deed terms to or into their conservation easement deed or the entity already has an approved entity-specific deed template that they will use for the parcel. (Yes/No)	
Notes/Additional Information:	