

General Questions	Yes	Priority
(1) Is the applicant self-certifying as a Beginning Farmer (BF) and/or Socially Disadvantage Farmer (SDF)? OR The applicant's AgLand operation is eligible for funding under the Mississippi River Basin Initiative-West Indian Creek, or 75% of the applicants AgLand operation is organic/transitioning to organic? (For Non-Industrial Private Forestland (NIPF) applications, answer only if the applicant is BF and/or SDF)	100	HIGH
(2) CSP Applicant had a CSP contract terminated (within participant's control) in the last 6 calendar years (2018-2023)?	-100	LOW
(3) Does the application include pasture and applying grazing methods that meets the needs? (examples: rest period, diverse vegetation, water tanks, paddocks) (The pasture does NOT need to meet Conservation Practice Standard 528; Ideal Pasture Condition Score should be 3 or more)	Yes	Max pts
Yes	25	25
No	-130	
Applicant doesn't have pasture	0	
Cropland	Yes	Max pts
(1) Does the applicant manage concentrated flow erosion so that there are no visible signs of ephemeral or classic gullies on the operation for all eligible land uses?	50	50
(2) Does the applicant have current soil tests less than or equal to 4 years for ALL crop fields? (exclude perennial hay) (1 per 40 acres)	40	40
(3) Select the choice that best represents the tillage system used on the applicant's operation		30
Moldboard plow-Applicant uses a moldboard plow on any fields of the operation during any part of the crop rotation	0	
Mulch till-Applicant only uses a mulch till system on the operation (no moldboard plowing allowed)	10	
Mulch till/No till/Strip till-Applicant uses a combination of mulch till and no till/strip till on the operation (no moldboard plowing allowed)	20	
No till/Strip till-Applicant uses no till/strip till on all acres of the operation every year.	30	
(4) Choose 1 of the following (include cover crops in rotation): Consider these as <u>high residue crops</u>: corn grain, small grains (residue remains in field), sorghum, sudan grass, hay/alfalfa; <u>low residue crops</u>: corn silage, small grain (straw removed), sugar beets, soybeans, vegetable crops, sunflower		20
At least 2/3 of the rotation is high residue	20	
At least 1/2 of the rotation is high residue	10	
Less than 1/2 of the rotation is high residue	0	
(5) How many crops in rotation? (include cover crops)		20
3 or more	20	
2 or less	0	
(6) Does the applicant have perennial crops on their operation?		25
Yes	25	
No	0	
(7) Livestock graze on cropland after harvest? (doesn't have to be the applicants' livestock, could be other producers)	20	20
NIPF	Yes	Max pts
(1) The applicant has completed any of the following CP in the last 10 years on any of the eligible NIPF acres (select all that apply)		75
(CP338) Prescribed Burning; (CP394) Firebreak; (CP490) Tree/Shrub Site Preparation; (CP612) Tree/Shrub Establishment; (CP655) Forest Trails and Landings; (CP660) Tree/Shrub Pruning; (CP666) Forest Stand Improvement	75	
(CP314) Brush Management; (CP315) Herbaceous Weed Treatment; (CP327) Conservation Cover; (CP391) Riparian Forest Buffer; (CP472) Access Control; (CP560) Access Road; (CP383) Fuel Break; (CP381) Silvopasture	50	
None of the above	0	