

**Agricultural Conservation Easement Program—Agricultural Land Easement (ACEP-ALE)  
Parcel Eligibility and Ranking Form-Kansas**

Fiscal year:	
Landowner name and address:	
Eligible entities names and addresses:	
Parcel location:	Locality (town/township):
County:	State:
Are all landowners of record AGI eligible? (Y/N)	
Are all landowners of record HEL eligible? (Y/N)	
Are all landowners of record WC eligible? (Y/N)	
NRCS employee confirming landowner eligibility:	
Name:	Signature:
Is the entity eligible? (Y/N)	
NRCS employee confirming entity eligibility:	
Name:	Signature:
Does the eligible entity have a written pending offer for the parcel? (Y/N)	
NRCS employee confirming written pending offer:	
Name:	Signature:
Does the land (enter a response for each):	
_____ Have 50% prime, unique, and important farmland? (Y/N)	
_____ Have historical or archeological resources? (Y/N)	
_____ Protect grazing uses and related conservation values by restoring and conserving land? (Y/N)	
_____ Have land that supports the policy of a State or local farm and ranch land protection program? (Y/N)	
Is the land eligible? (Y/N)      Which land eligibility criteria is the land being enrolled under?	
<i>(Identify only one eligibility category)</i> _____	
NRCS employee confirming land eligibility:	
Name:	Signature:

Does the parcel meet criteria for Grasslands of Special Environmental Significance? (Y/N)		
NRCS employee confirming land eligibility:		
Name:		Signature:
<b>National Ranking Criteria (Must be 200 points Maximum)</b>		
<b>National Ranking Factors and Scoring</b>	<b>Maximum Points</b>	<b>Points</b>
Percent of prime, unique, and important farmland in the parcel to be protected. (0 points for 49% or less; 0.4 points for every percent above 50%)	20	
Percent of cropland, pastureland, grassland, and rangeland in the parcel to be protected. (<33% = 5 points; 33% - 50% = 10 points; 51%+ = 20 points)	20	
Ratio of the total acres of land in the parcel to be protected to average farm size in the county according to the most recent USDA Census of Agriculture. <a href="#">(USDA—NASS—Census of Agriculture)</a> (0 points for a ratio of less than 1.0; 7 points for ratios of 1.0 to 2.0; 15 points for ratios of greater than 2.0)	15	
Percentage decrease of acreage of farm and ranch land in the county between the last two USDA Censuses of Agriculture. <a href="#">(USDA—NASS—Census of Agriculture)</a> (0 points for decrease of 0% or less; 1 point for decreases of 0.1 to 5%; 5 points for decrease of 5.1 to 10%; 9 points for decreases of 10.1 to 15%; 15 points for decreases of more than 15%) <small>National Mandate—0 points for 0% or less</small>	15	
Decrease in the percentage of acreage of permanent grassland, pasture, and rangeland, other than cropland and woodland pasture, in the county in which the parcel is located between the last two USDA Censuses of Agriculture ( <a href="#">USDA-NASS - Census of Agriculture</a> ) (0 points for decrease of 0 percent or less, 3 points for decreases of greater than 0 and less than or equal to 5 percent, 5 points for decrease of greater than 5 and less than or equal to 10 percent, 8 points for decreases of greater than 10 and less than or equal to 15 percent, 10 points for decreases of more than 15 percent)	10	
Percent population growth in the county as documented by the most recent United States Census. ( <a href="#">Census Bureau Home Page</a> ) (0 points for growth rate less than the state growth rate; 4 points for growth rate	15	

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<p>of one to two times the state growth rate; 7 points for growth rate of two to three times the state growth rate; 15 points for growth rate of more than three times the state growth rate)</p> <p>National Mandate—0 points growth rate less than the state growth rate</p>		
<p>Population density (population per square mile) as documented by the most recent United States Census. (<a href="#">Census Bureau Home Page</a>)</p> <p>(0 points for population density less than the state population density; 4 points for population density 1 to 2 times the state population density; 7 points for population density 2.1 to 3 times the state population density; 15 points for population density of greater than 3.1 times the state population density)</p>	15	
<p>Existence of a farm or ranch succession plan or similar plan established to address farm viability for future generations.</p> <p>(0 points for no plan; 2 points for a plan; 5 points for plan documented and performed by industry professional)</p>	5	
<p>Proximity of the parcel to other protected land, such as compatible military installation; land owned in fee title by the United States or an Indian Tribe, State or local government, or by a nongovernmental organization whose purpose is to protect agricultural use and related conservation values; or land that is already subject to an easement or deed restriction that limits the conversion of the land to nonagricultural use or protects grazing uses and related conservation values.</p> <p>(0 points easement offer area [EOA] boundary greater than 3 miles from the protected land boundary; 5 points EOA is greater than 1 miles but less than 3 miles from protected land; 10 points EOA is within 1 mile of protected land boundary; 20 points EOA boundary adjoins protected land boundary)</p>	20	
<p>Proximity of the parcel to other agricultural operations and agricultural infrastructure.</p> <p>(0 points if EOA boundary greater than 3 miles in proximity; 6 points if EOA is greater than 1 miles but less than 3 miles in proximity; 12 points EOA is within 1 mile in proximity; 15 points EOA boundary adjoins)</p>	15	
<p>Parcel's ability to maximize the protection of contiguous or proximal acres devoted to agricultural use.</p> <p>(20 points if the larger parcel is being offered as a whole parcel and does not have any carved outs. 0 points if parcel is a portion of the larger parcel and/or has carve outs not included in the easement offer area)</p>	20	
<p>The grassland in the parcel will benefit from the protection under the long-term easement by meeting state requirements for grasslands of special environmental significance.</p> <p>(15 points if Yes; 0 points if No)</p>	15	
<p>Parcel is currently enrolled in CRP in a contract that is set to expire within a year and is grassland that would benefit from protection. (15 points for Yes; 0 points for No)</p>	15	
<p>Total points for national ranking factors</p>	200	

<b>State Ranking Factors (Maximum of 200 Points)</b>		
Parcel enrollment maximizes environmental benefits per dollars expended.  Easement value <\$200/ac = 20 points; \$201-\$400/ac = 10 points; >\$400/ac = 5 points	20	
The parcel is located in an area zoned for agricultural use.  (5 points for Yes; 0 points for No)	5	
Eligible entity has demonstrated performance in managing and enforcing easements by monitoring 80% or more of its easements each year and closing within timeframes set in original Cooperative Agreements.  (30 points for Yes; 0 points for No or if there is no documentation to support a “Yes” determination)	30	
Contains state-specific factors for grasslands of special environmental significance.  (30 points for Yes; 0 points for No.)	30	
Parcel contains habitat for species of interest.  (30 points for federally listed threatened and endangered species with critical habitat identified; 15 points for state species in need of conservation critical habitat identified; 0 points for no species)	30	
Parcel is within Kansas designated Grassland Region of Concern and is > 95% native grass sod, never broke.  (20 points if Yes; 0 points if No)	20	
Parcel is in a geographic region where enrollment achieves landscape or other conservation goals and objectives within a Category 1 watershed under the Kansas Unified Watershed Assessment.  (10 points Yes; 0 points No)	10	
Enrollment of parcel will provide diversity of natural resource protections.  (15 points for parcel that has a conservation plan approved by NRCS at the time of application that addresses 3 or more primary resource concerns; 8 points for parcel that has a conservation plan approved by NRCS at the time of application that addresses 1-2 primary resource concerns; 0 points if no plan exists with NRCS)	15	
Land evaluation and site assessment system or equivalent for grassland enrollments indicates a viable agricultural area for parcel.  (<50% of parcel is comprised of soils that are in land capability classes I-III = 15 points; 50% or more of the parcel is comprised of soils that are in land capability classes I-III = 30 points)	30	

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Landowners are a historically underserved group, small scale farmer, limited resource landowner, new or beginning farmer or rancher, or veteran landowner  (5 points for Yes; 0 points for No)	5	
Parcel contains historical or archaeological resources that will be protected by easement area.  (5 points if Yes; 0 points if No)	5	
Total points for state ranking factors	200	
Total points for national ranking factors	200	
<b>Total points for national and state ranking factors</b>	400	