

# Montana NRCS 2019 CSP Application Prioritization Tool

**Instructions:** Complete this worksheet for CSP 2019 applications in:

- 1. Beginning Farmer/Rancher fund codes**
- 2. Socially Disadvantaged/Tribal fund codes**

Eligible applications for veteran farmers or ranchers (VFR) will be assigned “High Priority” in the appropriate beginning farmer or rancher (BFR) and socially disadvantaged (SD) farmer or rancher ranking pools. This completed worksheet will be filed with the application and subsequent contract if selected for funding.

<b>Section 1 - Application Information</b>	
Applicant Name:	County:
Application Number:	Field Office:
Evaluator Name:	Date:
Primary Resource Concern to be addressed:	Primary Land Use to be addressed:
<b>Section 2- To be completed for Ranking Prioritization in ProTracts</b>	
<b>Answer question 1 for applications in the Beginning Farmer/Rancher fund pools.</b>	
<p>1. Did the applicant self-certify as “Veteran Farmer or Rancher” on the NRCS-CPA-1200?</p> <p>“Veteran Farmer or Rancher” is a producer who served in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard, including the reserve components thereof, and was released from the service under conditions other than dishonorable, and has not operated a farm or ranch; or has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years (meets the definition of Beginning Farmer or Rancher).</p>	<p><b>Yes - Application is a HIGH priority and will be considered for funding first.</b></p> <p><b>No – Application is a MEDIUM priority and will be ranked after all HIGH priority applications in the fund pool are funded. The ASTC-Programs MUST approve the ranking of eligible MEDIUM priority applications.</b></p>
<b>Answer question 2 for applications in the Socially Disadvantaged fund pools (All Tribal and Non-Tribal).</b>	
<p>2. Did the applicant self-certify as “Veteran Farmer or Rancher” on the NRCS-CPA-1200?</p> <p>“Veteran Farmer or Rancher” is a producer who served in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard, including the reserve components thereof, and was released from the service under conditions other than dishonorable, and</p> <p>1) Has not operated a farm or ranch; or has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years (meets the definition of Beginning Farmer or Rancher), <b>OR</b></p> <p>2) Who first obtained status as a veteran during the most recent 10-year period, (10/01/2008 to 09/30/2019).</p>	<p><b>Yes - Application is a HIGH priority and will be considered for funding first.</b></p> <p><b>No – Application is a MEDIUM priority and will be ranked after all HIGH priority applications in the fund pool are funded. The ASTC-Programs MUST approve the ranking of eligible MEDIUM priority applications.</b></p>

**Additional Information:**

A legal entity or joint operation may be considered VFR only if all the individual members independently qualify as VFR.

VFR is self-certified at time of application, and subject to 5% administrative review (512.55 D. Annual Administrative Review of Certifications).

<b>Veteran Preference Matrix Determination Table</b>			
(A) If Veteran Status was Obtained...	(B) And Certifies as Beginning F/R	(C) And Certifies as Socially Disadvantaged F/R	(D) Then Veteran Preference Applies
During the most recent 10- year period prior to the fiscal year of obligation	Yes	No	Yes
	No	Yes	Yes
	Yes	Yes	Yes
	No	No	No
<b>OR</b>			
More than 10 years prior to the fiscal year of obligation	Yes	No	Yes
	No	Yes	No
	Yes	Yes	Yes
	No	No	No

**Most Recent 10 Year Period** - The term *most recent 10-year period* is 10 years from the date of discharge through the last day of the fiscal year in which obligation occurs, not to exceed 10 years and 364 days from discharge.

<b>Farm Bill 2018</b>	
Program Obligation Fiscal Year	Discharge falling within this timeframe qualifies for " <i>most recent 10-year period</i> "
2019	10/01/2008 - 09/30/2019
2020	10/01/2009 - 09/30/2020
2021	10/01/2010 - 09/30/2021
2022	10/01/2011 - 09/30/2022
2023	10/01/2012 - 09/30/2023