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Farm Service Agency

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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## USDA Extends Deadline for Producers to Enroll in Conservation Stewardship Program Grassland Conservation Initiative

| **October 23, 2019**

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**WASHINGTON, October 23, 2019** – USDA is extending the deadline to November 8, 2019, for eligible agriculture producers to enroll in the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Grassland Conservation Initiative, which was created by the [2018 Farm Bill](#). The original deadline was October 25, 2019. This program is available to producers with base acreage that has been in grass or grasslands over a nine-year period, rather than planted with commodity crops.

Eligible producers received letters from USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) earlier this year, which included information on how to apply through field offices of USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

When enrolling in the CSP Grassland Conservation Initiative, producers must meet or exceed the stewardship threshold for one priority resource concern by the end of their five-year contract. Producers receive \$18 per acre per year for the next five years.

This initiative has different rules than the rest of CSP and is administered separately. Eligible producers who apply are accepted into the initiative. There is no ranking period, and CSP payment limitations do not apply.

Eligible operations have base acres, which are lands where producers have historically grown commodity crops, where crops have not been grown from January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2017, and the land has returned to grass or grasslands. Formerly, these producers would have been available for assistance through the Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage programs administered by FSA. Now, this assistance is made available through the CSP Grassland Conservation Initiative.

For more information, contact your local [NRCS field office](#).

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