


NRCS Financial Assistance Programs Crosswalk

Alaska

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offers financial and technical assistance programs for agricultural producers and private land owners across Alaska. NRCS programs are designed to improve and conserve natural resources such as soil, water, air, plants, animals and energy. This chart provides a brief crosswalk of NRCS conservation programs available in Alaska. To learn more and to apply for assistance, contact your local NRCS Field Office.

	EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program)	EQIP-CIC (Environmental Quality Incentives Program-Conservation Incentives Contract)	CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)	CIG (Conservation Innovation Grants)	ACEP-ALE (Agricultural Conservation Easement Program-Agricultural Land Easements)	ACEP-WRE (Agricultural Conservation Easement Program-Wetlands Reserve Easements)	RCPP (Regional Conservation Partnership Program)
 Duration	1-10 years	5 years	5 years	Varies, but typically 3 years	Perpetual	Perpetual, 30-year easement, 30-year contract	5 years (with possible extension to 6 years)
Payments For:	Management, structural and vegetative practices	Limited list of management practices (and any supporting practices)	Management, structural and vegetative practices and enhancements	Payments issued upon completion of specific deliverables throughout the grant period.	Up to 50% purchase of the easement.	Purchase of the easement and possible restoration costs.	Both NRCS and project partners provide funding and expertise to increase conservation implementation through public/private partnerships.
Payment Timing:	Upon completion of practice	Management practices annually after October 1 and supporting practices as installed.	One payment per year after October 1.	Upon deliverables	Upon closing on deed	Upon closing on deed and completion of restoration activities.	Varies
Payment Limit:	\$450,000, \$900,000 (General Partnership and Joint Venture), No payment limitation for Tribes.	\$200,000, \$400,000 (General Partnership and Joint Venture), No payment limitation for Tribes.	\$200,000, \$400,000 (General Partnership and Joint Venture), No payment limitation for Tribes.	Varies annually; 2 different competitions - national and state	Dependent on appraisal	30-year contract is 75% deed value and restoration activities.	Payment limits may vary from year to year; minimum and maximum payments are established in the RCPP funding opportunity announcement.
Extent of Coverage:	Client choice	Client choice	Entire operation (Separate contracts for Ag and Forestry operations)	Client Choice	Client Choice	Client Choice	RCPP projects may vary in size and scope and address the lead partner's resource concerns and natural resource priorities.
Ideal Participants:	New or existing clients with many resource concerns they would like to address. May be implementing a single practice to address a single resource concern or multiple practices to address multiple resource concerns.	People who have worked with NRCS before (not required) and have done a good job with management practices in the past. Past EQIP clients that exceeded their payment limit. Clients who are willing to address priority resource concerns in high priority areas. They may have installed structural and management practices in the past and are willing to take adopted management to the higher level of conservation or those who wish to adopt new management (and supporting structural practices).	Generally someone who has worked with NRCS with few resource concerns and/or have installed the majority of practices they are willing to adopt. This program is for clients who are willing to take their existing stewardship to higher levels of conservation.	Entities and individuals with the capacity to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies.	Clients who are passionate about their land staying in agriculture or an undeveloped condition or as working lands. Clients must work through a third party land trust to secure the easement.	Clients who would like to restore their agricultural land back to wetland conditions and preserve habitat values for those lands.	Partners that offer value-added contributions to expand our collective ability to address on-farm, watershed, and regional natural resource concerns.

