



Organic Certification Cost Share Program and Farm Loan Programs

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OCCSP Background



- OCCSP is not new
- Oregon Department of Agriculture has successfully administered the program since crop year 2015
- Farm Service Agency started administering the program with crop year 2017
- Producers have the option to apply with one group but not both



OCCSP

- Basic cost share program for fees paid to accredited organic certifiers for organic certification services (new and/or renewal)
- Funds are not for production costs
- Producer must have organic certification

OCCSP Payment Limitation



- Cost shares are limited to the lesser of
 - 75 percent of the total allowable certification cost per scope
 - \$750 per scope
- Scopes
 - Crops, Wild Crops,
 - Livestock, Processing/Handling

Applying for OCCSP



To apply for OCCSP you will need:

- Copy of organic certificate
- Itemized invoice from accredited organic certifier showing expenses paid for certification services
- Bank account routing numbers
- Social Security / Tax Identification Number

What is eligible for cost share



Allowable cost include:

- Application Fees
- Inspection Fees
- USDA organic certification costs
- User fees or sale assessments
- Postage

When to apply



For costs paid within a fiscal year (10/1/XX - 9/30/XX) applications are due the following October 31st

Late filed applications will be accepted but funding is subject to availability (FSA only).

Where to Apply



Producer's Choice

Contact ODA

or

Contact County FSA Office

Farm Loan Programs



Review three loan programs:

- General Loans
- Micro Loans
- Farm Storage Facility Loans

General Farm Loans



- Low interest loans limited to \$300,000 (Direct) (3.00 to 3.75%) or \$1,399,000 (Guaranteed) (Lender's interest rate)
- Can be used for purchasing a farm or ranch, improvements, and operating expenses
- Eligibility Requirements
 - Credit Test
 - Farm Management Experience
 - Feasible Plan
 - Sufficient Collateral
 - Supervised Credit

Micro Loans



- Less paperwork than General Farm Loans
- Easier to apply but limited to \$50,000
- More flexibility to meet farm experience
- Requires
 - Credit Test
 - Feasible Plan
 - Sufficient Collateral

Farm Storage Facility Loans - FSFL



- Low interest loans focused on storing, handling, and/or transporting eligible commodities (food and fiber)
- Limited to \$500,000 per loan with a minimum of 15 percent down payment
- Loan term can range up to 12 years
- Size of facility based on last 3 years of production
- Microloan Option (\$50,000)
- Requires
 - Feasibility Test
 - Sufficient Collateral

FSFL – Eligible Commodities



Includes

- Grains
- Pulse Crops
- Hay
- Fruits
- Floriculture
- Milk, Cheese, Butter
- Yogurt
- Eggs
- Meat / Poultry
- Aquaculture



Examples of Facility Loans:

- Grain Bins
- Covered Flat Storage
- Electric Handling Equipment
- Concrete Pits and Slabs
- Bulk Tanks
- Cold Storage Buildings
- Storage and Handling Trucks

Farm Loan Programs



- Need to call your local FSA office and talk to a Loan Officer
- The Loan Officer can help determine which loan program best fits the needs of the producer

Questions





OCCSP

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Farm Loan Programs

Bob Perry, Farm Loan Program Chief

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Local County FSA Office