DISASTER ASSISTANCE

ELAP - Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program

Overview

The Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) provides financial assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease, certain adverse weather events or loss conditions, including blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary.

ELAP assistance is provided for losses not covered by other disaster assistance programs authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill, such as losses not covered by the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) and the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP).

The Working Families Tax Cuts Act amended certain provisions related to ELAP starting with the 2026 and subsequent program year, including:

- Set the normal mortality for honeybee colonies at 15% per year.
- Expanded assistance for freshwater farm-raised fish producers who suffer losses due to birds that feed on fish.

ELAP is administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

What Is Eligible?

Eligible Losses

ELAP provides assistance for livestock feed and grazing losses that are not due to drought or wildfires on federally managed lands; losses resulting from the cost of transporting water to livestock due to an eligible drought; losses resulting from the additional cost associated with gathering livestock for treatment and/or inspection related to cattle tick fever, milk production decreases for dairy cows that suffer losses due to H5N1 for commercial dairy cattle, honeybee feed, colony and hive losses; and farm-raised fish feed and death losses. ELAP also helps ranchers cover above normal costs of hauling feed to livestock and hauling livestock to forage or other grazing acres due to a qualifying drought.

Eligibility Requirements and Payment Calculations

For additional information regarding eligibility requirements and payment calculations for a specific type of livestock, honeybee and/or farm-raised fish loss, see the ELAP - Farm-Raised Fish Assistance, ELAP - Honeybee Assistance or ELAP – Livestock Assistance fact sheet at **fsa.usda.gov/ELAP**.

Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, Beginning, or Veteran Farmers or Ranchers

An eligible livestock, honeybee or farm-raised fish producer who certifies they are socially disadvantaged, limited resource, beginning, or a veteran farmer or rancher will receive 90 percent of the payment rate for the losses under ELAP.

Payment Limitations

Payment limitation does not apply to ELAP benefits. The average adjusted gross income (AGI) limitation relating to limits on payments for persons or legal entities, excluding joint ventures and general partnerships, with certain levels of AGI will apply.

Specifically, a person or legal entity with an AGI (as defined in 7 CFR Part 1400) that exceeds $900,000 will not be eligible to receive ELAP payments.

Producers are exempt from the $900,000 AGI cap for ELAP if at least 75% of their average gross income is from farming, ranching, or silviculture, including agri-tourism, direct-to-consumer sales, and certain equipment sales. Producers must complete the CCC-943, 75% of Average Gross Income from Farming, Ranching or Forestry Certification, to be eligible for the AGI exception.

Direct attribution provisions also apply to ELAP. Under direct attribution, any payment to a legal entity will also be considered for payment limitation purposes to be a payment to persons or legal entities with an interest in the legal entity or in a sub-entity. To learn more, visit the Payment Eligibility and Payment Limitations fact sheet at **fsa.usda.gov/payment-limitations**.

How it Works

Applying for Assistance

Producers can apply to receive ELAP assistance at local FSA service centers. The ELAP program year ends Dec. 31 of each calendar year.

In addition to submitting an application for payment, producers who suffered losses must submit a notice of loss to the local FSA service center that maintains the farm records for their business.

The following table provides the final dates to file a notice of loss and application for payment for losses.

Date of Loss	Final Date to File Notice of Loss	Final Date to Submit an Application for Payment
For program year 2024 and subsequent years, within Jan. 1 – Dec. 31.	March 1 after the program year in which the loss occurred.	March 1 after the program year in which the loss occurred.

More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other restrictions may apply. For more information about ELAP, visit **fsa.usda.gov/ELAP** or contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA office, visit **farmers.gov**.

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