

12. How many years have you been a farmer, rancher and/or forest manager?

- ☐ 0-10
- ☐ 11-20
- ☐ More than 20 years
- ☐ I am not a farmer, rancher, and / or forest land manager

13. Would you consider yourself in any of the following groups? (Select all that apply)

If desired, you may reference the following web page for more information on the following groups: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/getting-assistance/underserved-farmers-ranchers>

- ☐ Beginning Farmer, Rancher, or Forest Land Manager (Farming less than 10 years)
- ☐ Belonging to a group that has been subject to racial or ethnic prejudice such as American Indians or Alaskan Natives, Asians, Blacks or African Americans, Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders, or Hispanics
- ☐ Limited-Resource (Having low farm sales and low household income for 2 years in a row)
- ☐ Member of a Tribe (Belonging to a federally recognized Tribe)
- ☐ Woman Farmer, Rancher, or Forest Land Manager
- ☐ Veteran Farmer, Rancher, or Forest Land Manager (Served honorably on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces)
- ☐ Urban (Land is located in a landscape predominated by residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation uses)
- ☐ Small Scale
- ☐ None of the above applies to me

14. If you have any suggestions for NRCS regarding the EQIP application process, please add them below:



Thank you for your feedback!

Please return your survey response in the postage-paid envelope at your convenience.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. If you wish you obtain further information on filing a program discrimination complaint, you can call (866) 632-9992 or e-mail CR-INFO@usda.gov. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0503-0024. The expiration date is 04/30/2026. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to fpac.customerexperience@usda.gov.



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Application
Customer Satisfaction Survey

SURVEY INSTRUCTIONS: Thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback to USDA! This anonymous survey asks questions about your experience when applying for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Please select the response that best describes any interactions you have had so we can improve our process and services.

1. What is your level of knowledge about the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) application process and required documents?

- ☐ I am fully aware of the program
- ☐ I have a general awareness
- ☐ I have no knowledge about the program (Skip to question 10)

2. Have you previously applied to EQIP?

- ☐ Yes, I have applied in prior years
- ☐ Yes, I have applied in the current year
- ☐ Yes, I have applied both in prior and current years
- ☐ No, I started to apply, but did not complete the process (Skip to question 4)
- ☐ No, I have not applied (Skip to question 10)

3. Have your current and/or prior year EQIP application(s) been selected for funding?

- ☐ Yes, my application(s) have been funded
- ☐ Yes, some of my application(s) have been funded
- ☐ No, my application(s) have not been funded
- ☐ I don't know or have not received application approval/disapproval notification yet

4. Please tell us how much experience you have had with the EQIP application process:

- ☐ None at all (I don't know, or I am not a program participant) (Skip to question 10)
- ☐ Minimal (I have received information for the program, but not applied)
- ☐ A little experience (I had a business partner, consultant, or Power of Attorney complete the application for me)
- ☐ A moderate amount (I have applied or participated in the program)
- ☐ A lot (I have participated in the program multiple times)

5. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has simplified the application process for conservation programs, resulting in a single application for most conservation programs. Have you noticed a reduction in the amount of paperwork you are required to complete when applying for multiple NRCS conservation programs?

☐ Yes

☐ Somewhat

☐ No

☐ Not Sure or Not Applicable

6. Did you experience any challenges when completing the EQIP program application form (NRCS-CPA-1200) in the past year? (Select all that apply)

☐ Yes, the form is too complex

☐ Yes, the time required to complete the form was unreasonable

☐ Yes, the form lacks clear directions

☐ No, I did not experience challenges

☐ Not Sure or Not applicable

☐ Other, please specify: _____

7. Did you experience any challenges when submitting eligibility forms (including the AD-1026 Highly Erodible Land Conservation, CCC-902 Farm Operating Plan, and CCC-941 Average Adjusted Gross Income) to support your application for NRCS programs? (Select all that apply)

☐ Yes, forms are too complex

☐ Yes, the time required to complete the eligibility process was unreasonable

☐ Yes, the forms lack clear directions

☐ No, I did not experience challenges

☐ Not Sure or Not Applicable

☐ Other, please specify: _____

8. Overall, how satisfied were you with your most recent EQIP application process?

☐ Extremely satisfied

☐ Somewhat satisfied

☐ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied

☐ Somewhat dissatisfied

☐ Extremely dissatisfied

9A. Based on your experience with applying for EQIP, you trust that NRCS is working in the best interests of American farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners to conserve the nation’s soil, water, air, and other natural resources.

☐ Strongly agree

☐ Somewhat agree

☐ Neither agree nor disagree

☐ Somewhat disagree

☐ Strongly disagree

9B. What contributed to your level of trust in NRCS? (Mark Yes or No for statements that apply to your experience, leave blank if the statement does not apply.)

Yes	No	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	My need was addressed
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	It was easy to complete
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	It took a reasonable amount of time
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I understood what was being asked of me during the process
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The employee(s) I interacted with were helpful
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I was treated fairly

10. How do you prefer to access information about EQIP? (Select all that apply)

☐ Online

☐ Email for requesting and receiving information, applications, and documents

☐ In-person-visit to the USDA Service Center

☐ In-person visit at your farm, ranch or forest

☐ Mail for requesting and receiving information, applications, and documents

☐ Community-held town hall meetings or other local meetings

☐ Other, please specify: _____

11. When you access information online, which website provides the most information about EQIP? (Select all that apply)

☐ NRCS.USDA.gov website

☐ Farmers.gov website

☐ Farmers.gov by logging in with my eAuthentication account

☐ State NRCS website

☐ I do not currently access information online

☐ Other, please specify: _____