

## Important Update: New \$12B Farmer Bridge Assistance Program - What You Need to Know



Dear Valued Farm Customer,

We want to make you aware of a newly announced federal assistance opportunity that may directly benefit your operation. In December 2025, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) introduced a \$12 billion Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) Program designed to provide short-term financial relief to U.S. producers facing elevated

input costs, market volatility, and cash-flow challenges. This "bridge payment" program will support farmers until the next farm bill provisions take effect in 2026.

## **%** Key Program Highlights

- Purpose: Immediate financial support for producers dealing with rising fertilizer, fuel, and operating expenses, as well as market disruptions.
- Total Funding:
  - o \$12 billion overall
  - o \$11 billion allocated to row crops
  - \$1 billion reserved for specialty crops (details forthcoming)
- Administered By: USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) under the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).
- Eligibility: Primarily row crop farmers corn, soybeans, wheat, cotton, rice, and others. Specialty crop details will be released soon.
- No Application Required: Payments are calculated using your 2025 FSA acreage report already on file.

## 💆 Critical Deadlines & Timing

- Acreage Reports: Must be accurate and submitted to FSA by December 19, 2025.
- Payment Rate Announcements: Expected by late December 2025.

• Payments Issued: Targeted for February 28, 2026.

## **✓** What You Need to Do Now

- Confirm Your 2025 Acreage Report:
   Make sure it is accurate and filed with FSA before the December 19 deadline. This is essential payments will be based solely on that information.
- 2. Watch for Rate Announcements: Crop-specific payment rates will be released later this month.
- 3. Prepare for February Payments:
  Disbursements are scheduled to begin by the end of February 2026.

We are committed to keeping you informed of opportunities that support your farming operation. If you have questions about how this program may impact you or need assistance reviewing your financial strategies heading into 2026, please reach out anytime. Thank you for your continued trust in us. Wishing you a safe and successful season ahead.

To submit questions, justification for USDA farmer bridge aid, or to request a meeting on farmer bridge aid, producers can reach out to <a href="mailto:farmerbridge@usda.gov">farmerbridge@usda.gov</a>.

**Learn More:** Trump Administration Announces \$12 Billion Farmer

Bridge Payments for American Farmers Impacted by Unfair Market

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