

Kentucky Soil & Water Quality State Cost Share Program

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Kentucky Division of Conservation

Kentucky State Cost Share Program

What is this program?

The Kentucky State Cost Share Program provides financial assistance to agricultural producers to install agricultural best management practices (BMPs). These BMPs are designed to maximize natural resource protection while allowing farming operations to continue, and often improve, as a result of their installation.

The program offers 75% reimbursement of BMP installation costs for eligible practices, not to exceed \$20,000 per application.

There is a competitive application process for the dispersal of cost share funds statewide.

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Eligible Practices

The 2019 Kentucky Soil & Water Quality State Cost Share Practice Handbook details the eligible practices and corresponding information.

2019 Kentucky Soil & Water
Quality State Cost Share
Practice Handbook



Kentucky State Cost Share Program

Program Objectives

The broad objective of the program is to provide the previously described cost share funding to allow agricultural operations to maximize conservation BMPs so that sound natural resource practices are implemented on a large scale across the Commonwealth.

The resource concerns are outlined in 416 KAR 1:010. Practices are available for a variety of agricultural types and are prioritized based on the criteria in the regulation.

The scoring of the applications for approval are primarily based on the type of BMP applied for. Each BMP is given a score based on the effect to the natural resource concern in question. By regulation, BMPs dealing with animal waste receive priority within the program.

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The “Who” of the Program

The Kentucky Soil & Water Conservation Commission (SWCC) has broad oversight over the program. The Kentucky Division of Conservation (KDOC) administers SWCC programs on a statewide basis.

Conservation districts are the front line of the program in the field. The conservation districts solicit applications, keep case files, and approve and make payments.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is a partner federal agency that often conducts technical field work for the program.

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General Practice Organization

As described earlier, the 2019 Kentucky Soil & Water Quality State Cost Share Practice Handbook contains the listing and descriptions of eligible BMPs.

The BMP's are separated into four "categories" of BMP/agricultural operation type. Each category then has a subset of eligible BMPs for that specific category. Some BMPs may be found in multiple categories, and some may be unique to only one.

The four BMP categories are: Livestock: Animal Feeding Operation
Livestock: Pastureland
Cropland
Forestland

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General Practice Organization

From the previous list, there are two BMP categories for livestock. The primary difference in the two are stocking rate or density. When a certain stocking density is exceeded, the characteristics of the operation change, and waste handling, feeding, etc. often require different types of BMPs to be utilized.

Both the 2019 Kentucky Soil & Water Quality State Cost Share Practice Handbook and the form *Practice Worksheet* have the descriptions/requirements for each of the Practice Categories and when they should be utilized.

BMPs from only one Practice Category may be used per application, and each applicant is limited to one application per funding cycle.

Kentucky State Cost Share Program Application

Kentucky Soil and Water Cost Share Program Application

Applicant Information

Application ID:

First Name Last Name

Address

City/State Zip Code

Cell Phone Home Phone

Application Date Email

County Conservation District

Are you the owner of the land on which the BMP will be installed? ☐

BMPs Requested

Livestock AFO BMP ☐

Livestock Pastureland BMP ☐

Cropland BMP ☐

Forestland BMP ☐

Location Information

Latitude (N) Longitude(W) Farm No.

County where practice will be installed Tract No.

Additional Consideration

☐ The applicant has a current Kentucky Agricultural Water Quality Plan on file. **Note:** A current AWQP is required to apply for Kentucky State Cost Share funding.

☐ The land, where the practice(s) will be located, is within the boundaries of a Kentucky Division of Conservation approved Agricultural District. Agricultural District ID Number:

☐ The applicant has received state cost share funds within the last 3 years. Year(s) funded

☐ The applicant has failed to comply with practice lifespans or complete previous cost share projects within five (5) years prior to the application date. If this has occurred, the applicant is not eligible for cost share funding.

Agricultural Operation Information

What type of agricultural operation do you have? (check all that apply)

Livestock: ☐ Beef ☐ Equine ☐ Cropland ☐ Forestland

☐ Dairy ☐ Poultry

☐ Swine ☐ Other:

If this is a livestock operation, how many head (animals) are currently on your operation?

If livestock are present, how many acres are grazed? Do you currently have a nutrient management plan? ☐ Yes ☐ No

What types of resource concerns are you attempting to improve upon by applying for Kentucky State Cost Share?

☐ Animal Waste ☐ Nutrient Loss

☐ Erosion (Sediment) ☐ Pesticide Contamination

☐ Water Quality/Quantity

Potential BMPs that may interest you in resolving the above resource concerns:

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Applicant Agreement

I request cost share assistance under this program to install BMPs to help solve natural resource problems. The practice(s) needed to conserve soil and water resources on the farm identified above could not be performed to the extent requested without cost share assistance. I understand that in order to receive state cost share funds, the practices must be installed to approved design standards and specifications and may need to be certified by an NRCS engineer. If cost-sharing is approved for the practice(s) requested, I agree to refund all or part of the cost share assistance paid to me, as determined by the local conservation district, if before the expiration of the specified practice life span I (a) destroy the approved practice, (b) cease to use the practice for its intended purpose or (c) voluntarily relinquish control of title to the land on which the approved practice has been established and the new owner and/or operator of the land does not agree in writing to properly maintain the practice for the remainder of its life span. I also authorize conservation district staff to enter the contents of this application into the online Kentucky Eform system on my behalf.

Applicant Signature: Date:

Conservation District Approval or Disapproval (Completed by the Conservation District Board)

We have reviewed this cost share request and make the following recommendations based on the program guidelines of the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share program.

☐ Approve application for cost share submittal and ranking.

☐ Disapprove the application for cost share submittal and ranking due to ineligibility criteria in 416 KAR 1:010.

Chairman: Date:

County Conservation District

Questions?

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Kentucky Division of Conservation