



USDA – NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Financial Assistance Process

This program is only financial assistance which can range from ~40%-80% of cost of practices, this program is reimbursement and you typically can't start practices prior to having an obligated contract. Funding is not guaranteed. Practices must meet our specifications to qualify for reimbursement.

- Call NRCS office 209 223-6528 express interest in Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and/or technical assistance.
- Complete application (contact Leslie Boydston, Farm Bill Assistant 209 223-6528)
- Arrange site visit with NRCS field staff
- Field staff makes site visit and evaluates property, possible eligible practices and offers technical assistance
- Field staff makes recommendations, screens and ranks application
- Batching period ends – (1st one November/December) – evaluation and prioritization of who gets funded
- If application funded – develop contract documentation
- Sign Contract
- Obligate Contract
- Install practices to our specifications
- Request site inspection for field staff to evaluate installed practices and if they meet our specifications
- Sign payment request form
- Process payment - reimbursement directly deposited into account

Submitting and being approved for a waiver allows you to start a practice prior to getting an obligated contract but DOES NOT guarantee funding. You are taking a gamble when installing practices to our specifications prior to getting an obligated contract. Anything completed prior to getting an approved waiver (if application is later funded) cannot be reimbursed.